

FOR THE RECORD

SBC candidates

Alabama pastor Fred Wolfe says he's a candidate for president of the Southern Baptist Convention this year, and Florida pastor Jim Henry says he's thinking about running. *See page 2.*

Russia needs

Volunteers are urgently needed for some of the first partnership missions teams to go from Kentucky to Russia. *See page 3.*

Editorial

Casinos won't be the next messiah of our economy. *See page 5.*

Mother Teresa speaks

Mother Teresa delivered a pointed message against abortion in the presence of President Bill Clinton at the National Prayer Breakfast. *See page 8.*

School prayer

Some Baptists are unhappy with a new movement calling for school-sponsored prayer in Texas. *See page 9.*

After the wall

Despite the fall of communism, Baptists in Eastern Europe still face difficult barriers to growth. *See page 10.*

FMB trustees

Trustees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board have decided to hold more of their meetings and appointment services away from the Richmond, Va., headquarters. *See page 12.*



SEA OF NEEDS Somali children surround missionary Ken Perkins who, along with his wife, Beth, has been bringing physical and spiritual relief in a four-country region. The Perkinses currently are missionaries-in-residence at Georgetown College.

Don't tune out Somalia, couple asks

By Sarah Myers
Georgetown College

GEORGETOWN—When footage of starving Somali children and adults began to dominate the evening news, Americans were shocked by the video. At times, the images were so strong viewers would change channels or turn off their TVs.

But Kentucky natives Ken and Beth Perkins could not turn off those images. They have lived amid the horrors of the Somali people every day for the last three years.

As representatives of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, the Perkinses and their three children

have been fighting the starvation battle one day at a time.

The 1975 and 1976 Georgetown College graduates have returned to Kentucky for a six-month furlough, during which they will serve as missionaries-in-residence at their alma mater. She is a Middletown native, and he is from Owen County.

They are taking every opportunity to tell Georgetown students and Kentucky Baptists about the needs in Somalia.

"The need there is overwhelming," Perkins said. "Deciding where to begin was the hardest part."

The missionaries began their ministry with three major relief efforts: medical assistance, irrigation

systems and feeding centers. They established feeding centers in parts of Somalia, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Kenya, feeding 40,000 Somalis each day.

The ultimate goal was to help the people help themselves. The Perkinses said they encouraged the Somalis to return to their villages by providing them with food and shelter and helping them dig wells and plow fields.

Nurses also provided primary care to 27 villages, seeing more than 200 patients per day.

Because of security concerns, the missionaries lived in a complex in Nairobi, Kenya. Armed guards es-

□ *See Georgetown ... , page 3*

Baptists giving aid in former Yugoslavia

By Mike Creswell
SBC Foreign Mission Board

DORFWEIL, Germany (BP)—Southern Baptist aid is the only thing keeping many Serbians and Croatians from hunger as war drags on in the former Yugoslavia.

Serbian Baptists say the war and United Nations-imposed sanctions have destroyed their economy. A

retired person's entire monthly pension check buys only one or two eggs, said Avram Dega, a Baptist pastor in Vrsac, near the Romanian border. Some people have had no meat for months.

"There is a lack of almost everything now," Dega said while attending a Baptist conference on human rights and religious freedom Jan. 26-30 in Dorfweil, Germany.

The United Nations and other organizations are having problems getting food and medical supplies into Serbia. But Southern Baptists have just launched their third major aid program in the region, and it is delivering tons of food to Christians and thousands of refugees, said Southern Baptist missionary Bill Steele.

□ *See Baptists give aid ... , page 11*

Americans seek good health & 'modest comfort' in '90s

GLENDALE, Calif.—Americans in the 1990s seek "modest comfort" rather than the "power lifestyle" of the 1980s, according to pollster George Barna.

"Publicly, at least, a substantial number of Americans have forsaken the dream of attaining a 'power lifestyle,'" he said of a recent nationwide poll by the Barna Research Group. "They are happy to disengage from the country's most powerful institutions and enjoy their lives on a smaller scale."

The four things Americans now

say they seek the most are good health, a purpose for living, a comfortable lifestyle and close relationships, the poll found.

Good health is the thing coveted most by modern Americans, with 99 percent finding that goal "desirable" and 92 percent saying it is "very desirable."

This may explain why the debate over health-care reform is so intensely felt, Barna said. "These attitudes suggest what a minefield the Clinton Administration faces in altering the health care of Americans who are sat-

isfied with their own personal care in order to control costs and bring care to uninsured people.

"Nothing on our list of values even comes close to good health. On the desirability scale, it is beyond even relationships with family, friends and God. You can say that Americans consider their personal health to be sacred."

Beyond good health, Americans overwhelmingly say they most desire a purpose for living, a comfortable lifestyle and close relationships with others and with God. Each of these

Will morals appeal stop casino bill?

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

The race is on to put casino gambling at Kentucky's horse tracks, and Baptists are among the leading voices saying it's a bad bet.

However, if the experience of Baptist leadership in other states holds true in Kentucky, not all Baptists will join the anti-gambling crusade.

"The worst mistake you can make is to assume that all your Baptist people and all your

Christian people are opposed to it," said Paul Jones, a leading Baptist opponent of

casino gambling in Missis-

sippi. That state now has legalized casinos in 14 counties, including Tunica County, the poorest in the United States.

"Baptists here could have kept it out," added longtime Mississippi pastor John Landrum, who now works as a chaplain to businesses on the Gulf Coast. "But not enough voted, and some voted the wrong way."

Kentucky's leading spokesman in favor of casinos has Southern Baptist roots, raised in a prominent church in Louisville. And some of the state legislators promoting casinos also are Baptists.

While gambling proponents appeal to an economic argument to make their case, Baptist opponents are appealing primarily to a moral argument.

Making the moral argument pay off in modern society is a longshot, according to several expert observers. The moral argument is a "valid position" but "has become more and more a minority position over time," said William Eadington, professor of economics at the University of Nevada and director of the Institute for the Study of Gambling and Commercial Gaming.

"It is a valid position that does not carry as much weight as it used to," he continued. "Certainly it has been a

qualities is desired by at least 92 percent of those polled.

Gone from the top of the list are highly desired attributes of the 1980s such as influence over others' lives, a high-paying job, owning a large home and achieving fame or recognition.

Today, only 79 percent say they desire influence over others' lives. A high-paying job is important to only 75 percent.

Owning a large home is important to 62 percent. Achieving fame or recognition is desirable to only 35 percent.



■ More on pages 5, 6 & 7

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

■ **With 173 churches** in central Florida planning to participate in Cross Over Orlando, churches and individuals from other areas are needed to help carry out the evangelistic thrust prior to this summer's annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. Church groups and individual volunteers will be matched with Florida churches for a wide array of events Saturday, June 11. For information, contact the Home Mission Board at (404) 898-7687.

■ **A Dade County Circuit Court** has levied a \$4.2 million judgment against Wayside Baptist Church of Miami for negligence in hiring a youth minister who sexually abused nearly a dozen teen-age boys. Although the youth minister was terminated from the staff and is serving a 15-year prison sentence, the jury found the church negligent in its hiring practices.

■ **Cleanup continues** in the aftermath of the latest Southern California earthquake. Baptist relief teams from five states remain on the job, having prepared more than 705,000 meals as of Feb. 4. Other Baptist crews are helping with physical labor in clean-up projects.

Wolfe a presidential candidate; Henry a possibility

By Greg Warner
Associated Baptist Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (ABP)—Southern Baptists may choose between two prominent conservative pastors for their next president.

Fred Wolfe, pastor of Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala., announced Feb. 8 he will be nominated for the post when the Southern Baptist Convention meets in June.

And Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church in the host city of Orlando, Fla., said he is giving the presidency serious consideration, despite Wolfe's announcement.

Wolfe, chairman of the powerful SBC Executive Committee, is the first to throw his hat into the ring. His nomination was announced by former

SBC President Jerry Vines Feb. 8 during a national Bible conference at First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla., where Vines is co-pastor.

The annual Bible conference has launched several successful presidential nominees, including Adrian Rogers in 1986, Vines in 1988 and Morris Chapman in 1990.

Wolfe, who was not a scheduled speaker for the conference, flew in for the announcement, said Douglas Pigg, church administrator at the Jacksonville church. He was introduced and endorsed by Vines.

For months both Wolfe and Henry have been rumored as likely candidates to succeed Houston pastor Ed Young, who has served the maximum two terms. Henry, however, said he has not made a decision.

"I'm going to make a decision shortly," he told Associated Baptist Press Feb. 7. "It won't be long."

Henry's name has surfaced several times in the past decade as a potential candidate, but his nomination never has materialized. "This is the first time that I've prayed seriously about it," he said. "It just is on my heart."

The location of the annual meeting in his hometown of Orlando would be a decided advantage for Henry, but the 56-year-old pastor said that's not his primary consideration. "I just want God's will to be done for our convention and in my life."

Wolfe, also 56, declined to talk to Associated Baptist Press but released a statement through Baptist Press, the news service operated by the Executive Committee.

He said a group of 60-70 conservatives asked him to allow his nomination. He since sought advice and received support from several recent SBC presidents, he said.

Henry told ABP he too has been encouraged by some SBC leaders to allow his nomination, but he added, "I'd rather not divulge who."

Both Henry and Wolfe have been leaders in the conservative political movement among Southern Baptists.

Conservative insiders say Wolfe has earned his shot at the post, particularly through his service on the Executive Committee. Others say Henry is the logical choice because of the convention's location in Orlando and Henry's record as a strong supporter of the Cooperative Program, the SBC's central budget.

HMB won't revisit Freemasonry study

ATLANTA—The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board will not reopen the debate over Freemasonry, despite a request to do so from one of its trustees.

That was the verdict from the HMB's executive committee, which adopted a resolution Feb. 8 affirming the Southern Baptist agency's report on Masons and its handling of the two-year dispute.

The vote did not please trustee Walter Collett or Larry Holly, the Texas physician who has led the fight against the influence of Masons in Southern Baptist life.

"We agreed to have a blessed disagreement," said Collett, who presented his concerns to the trustees' administrative committee in private Feb. 8 before the executive committee took up the matter later in the day.

Collett, pastor of Covenant Baptist Church in Columbia, Md., charges Masons teach that all people will go to heaven eventually; that the HMB's 1993 report on Freemasonry implies individual conscience, not the Bible, should guide Baptists in deciding about Masonic membership; and that the manner in which HMB trustees adopted the report last

March violated parliamentary procedure.

But the executive committee resolution, adopted with only one dissenting vote, affirmed the HMB's report, as well as "the actions and statements of its president, Dr. Larry Lewis, and the Home Mission Board's directors and staff."

The HMB fulfilled the task assigned by Southern Baptist Convention messengers in 1992 to study Freemasonry, the resolution said, and the results of the study were "overwhelmingly approved" by SBC messengers a year later.

Last June the SBC approved a recommendation from the HMB that said while some Masonic teachings are incompatible with Christianity, the issue of membership in a Masonic group is "a matter of personal conscience."

Masons boast 3.5 million members nationwide, including an estimated 1.3 million Southern Baptists.

After the Feb. 8 executive committee meeting, trustee leaders said the HMB needs to put the Freemasonry issue to rest.

"I'm tired of spending hours and hours discussing Freemasonry," said trustee Chairman Brad Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church of Duncan, Okla. "We need to close this thing and get on with what we're here for."

Collett said he will pursue no further action by trustees. But the issue won't go away, he warned, because the SBC action is being interpreted by some as an endorsement of Masons.

In a related action, the HMB executive committee elected a Kentucky native to head the embattled interfaith witness department.

Phil Roberts, a Danville native and former professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, was elected to replace Gary Leazer, who was removed from the post in the heat of the Masonic dispute.

Roberts currently is a missions professor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. He is a graduate of Southern Seminary and Georgetown College, as well as Free University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands.

Compiled from Associated Baptist Press and Baptist Press reports

Graham takes Clinton note to Kim Il Sung

WASHINGTON (BP)—Evangelist Billy Graham delivered a personal letter from President Bill Clinton to North Korean President Kim Il Sung during an early-February visit to North Korea.

The two-sentence letter concerned North Korea's refusal to allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities—a growing international crisis. Military and intelligence groups suspect North Korea already may have one or more nuclear weapons.

The Southern Baptist preacher, still in east Asia after an evangelistic crusade in Japan, "did carry a message from President Clinton to President Kim Il Sung," confirmed U.S. State Department spokesman Michael McCurry Feb. 3.

The spokesman said Graham brought back a response, which was to be given directly to Clinton.

Clinton's letter was not made public, but it reportedly stressed the need for progress in negotiations over North Korea's opposition to U.N. inspectors checking its nuclear facilities.

California won't return money

FRESNO, Calif. (BP)—The California Southern Baptist Convention will not return missions gifts of a San Francisco church whose messengers were refused seating at last year's state convention meeting.

The state convention's executive board approved a committee recommendation rejecting a motion to return missions gifts to 19th Avenue Baptist Church.

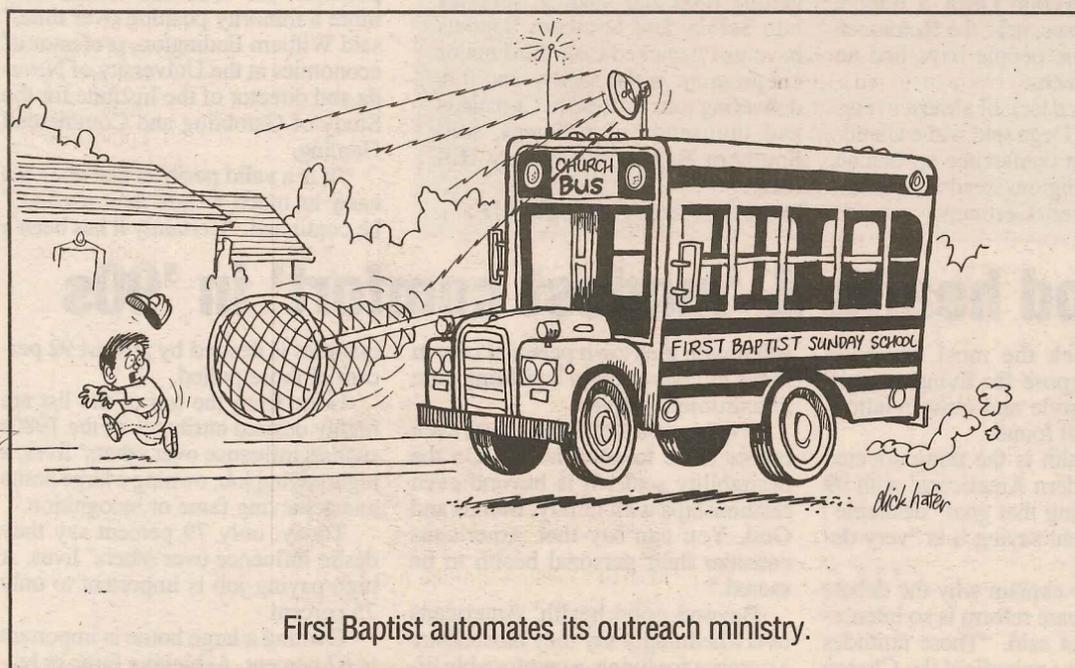
Karl Ortis, director of missions for San Francisco Peninsula Baptist Association, made the motion at last November's convention. He was reacting to a 213-204 vote against seating messengers from 19th Avenue because the church's pastor is a woman.

The decision not to refund the church's money was made with no discussion and no apparent opposition.

According to the recommendation, the decision was made in light of the church's desire not to have their gifts refunded and their decision to continue supporting the work of the state convention.

After the vote, Mark Cook, board member from First Southern Baptist Church in El Monte, asked: "If this church is going to continue to support the convention, does this mean we're going to have to go through what we went through in Santa Rosa" at this year's convention in San Diego? "Is one side going to lay down their guns or what?"

"As long as the Scripture is being violated, yes it's going to happen," replied Robert Lewis, pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Fairfield. "If they apply (to seat messengers from a church) with a woman pastor, I believe it's a violation of Scripture."



First Baptist automates its outreach ministry.

Kentuckians needed now for Russia partnership

By Marv Knox
Editor

Russian Baptists desperately need Kentucky Baptists with have-hammer-will-travel attitudes.

Sixty-six volunteers are needed for five construction/evangelism/vacation Bible school teams in Russia this spring and early summer, reported Benton Williams, director of the Kentucky-Russia Baptist partnership.

"This is a critical need," Williams stressed, noting four teams of 15 volunteers each have not been formed at all, and another team still needs six workers.

Each team needs at least one skilled carpenter/cabinet maker to provide leadership for the project, he said. Each team also needs 11 other construction workers, although they do not have to be heavily experienced, just willing to work, he added, noting the teams need three women

each to lead Bible schools.

Three projects have reached the critical stage, and volunteers are needed immediately, Williams said. They are scheduled for:

■ Ryazan, a city of 600,000 people southeast of Moscow, March 16-30.

This team will help rebuild and renovate an old church building. The facility was confiscated by the communists in 1927 and given back to the local Baptist church last year.

■ Khimki, a suburb of Moscow, April 6-20.

The roof and brick walls of this building already have been constructed. The construction team will help complete the building.

■ Vizhney Volochok, a city northwest of Moscow, April 26-May 11.

Five members of this church already have poured the basement and installed 60-foot logs to build the walls halfway up. The church needs a crane and brick masons to complete

the walls so the roof can be built. Nine volunteers already have been assigned; six more are needed.

Two June projects also are pressing, Williams added. They are to:

■ Sosnovi Bor, a community built to support a nuclear power plant on the Gulf of Finland, north of St. Petersburg, June 6-21.

The basement and walls of this church building already have been completed. The congregation of 70 members now meets in a small rented building.

■ Alexandrov, a city 100 miles northeast of Moscow.

This small congregation meets in a run-down school building. The foundation of its new building already has been poured, and members are storing building supplies in the yards of five members.

The partnership program has set aside \$3,000 for each of the construction projects, Williams said. That

money will help buy building materials.

In addition, he is encouraging churches to raise another \$10,000 per building. With Russia's galloping inflation, that money will buy substantial amounts of supplies, he said.

A volunteer's cost per trip is \$1,995. That price covers all expenses—food, lodging, plane fare, visa, insurance and ground transportation.

The spring/summer agenda for the Kentucky-Russia partnership also involves a variety of other projects that have been staffed completely. They include teaching in a school to develop Russian Baptist leaders, Baptist Student Union summer missions, other construction/evangelism/vacation Bible school projects, evangelism and church planting, and music ministry tours featuring choirs from Georgetown College in Georgetown and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Clear Creek Baptist Bible College** has been ranked one of the least-expensive colleges in America by Peterson's College Guide. The annual survey of accredited colleges found the average cost of attending a private, four-year university is \$9,559. Clear Creek's annual charge for tuition and fees was listed at \$4,300.

■ **Justo and Catherine Gonzalez** will deliver the annual E.Y. Mullins Lectures on preaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary March 7-11. He is an author and lecturer; she teaches church history at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Ga. The lectures will be part of the ninth annual National Conference on Biblical Preaching. For information, call (502) 897-4315.

■ **Prospective volunteers** who would like to learn more about the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Missions Service Corps program are invited to a free dinner at Morrison's Cafeteria, 155 Hurstbourne Lane in Louisville, Feb. 24. The event begins at 6:30 p.m.

■ **Correction:** The Feb. 1 "Life Today" section on education omitted a complete listing of the majors and minors offered at Cumberland College. The college also offers majors in comprehensive business education, elementary education, middle school education, public health, history and political science, music education, and church music. A minor also is available in athletic training.

WMU sets record goal for Eliza Broadus Offering

By Marv Knox
Editor

Kentucky Baptists will be asked to give a record \$775,000 to their state missions offering this year.

Kentucky Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, which promotes and distributes the annual Eliza Broadus offering, set the 1994-95 offering goal during a meeting of its executive committee last week in Louisville.

The offering funds a variety of mission projects and emphases across the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The new goal represents a gain of \$75,000 (or 10.7 percent) over the current \$700,000 goal.

"We are boldly stepping out on faith," declared Dorothy Crace of Ashland, chairperson of the WMU finance committee. "Woman's Missionary Union will lead Kentucky to give a record to the Eliza Broadus offering."

The missions organization has claimed the biblical promise that Christians "will bear fruit when they

abide in God," added Dee Gilliland, WMU executive director.

"People said not to (propose a record goal) with Kentucky in financial difficulties," Gilliland said. "But we felt we should."

The goal would be reached easily if every one of the KBC's 2,300 churches would contribute to the offering, she noted. "Every church should give to the Eliza Broadus offering, but only about half do. That just blows my mind."

The offering is vital because it provides funding for a variety of projects the KBC cannot afford to fund through its Cooperative Program unified budget, Gilliland said.

Besides, the Eliza Broadus offering—led by women—lends balance to missions efforts sponsored by the male-dominated KBC Executive Board, she said.

WMU must maintain that kind of balance in its membership, urged state President Kay Trisler of Harrodsburg.

Noting she has spent time with members of the moderate Coopera-

tive Baptist Fellowship and with others fiercely loyal to recent conservative developments in the Southern Baptist Convention who never would participate with the Fellowship, Trisler said she has seen the same love for Christ and WMU in them both.

"I've found wonderful love in the people I've gotten to know across Kentucky," she stressed.

During their meeting, the Kentuckians expressed support for new program developments of the national WMU.

Early this year, the national WMU approved consolidation of its two organizations for adult women, Baptist Women and Baptist Young Women, into a new program, Women on Mission. They also approved the transformation of two longtime magazines, Royal Service and Contempo, into a new publication, Missions Mosaic.

"We've got to go along with these changes if we're going to keep young women involved in missions," Trisler insisted.

Carol Noffsinger, one of Kentucky

WMU's associate directors, credited another associate, Anna Mary Birdwell, with prompting the new national name, Women on Mission.

"The Birmingham (national) staff proposed Women Aware, and other people proposed other weird things," Noffsinger recalled. "But when Anna Mary stood and said we should call it Women in Missions, that changed the direction of the debate, and Women on Mission developed."

In other business, the WMU executive committee:

■ Voted to provide the initial \$25,000 grant to help with construction of a building at Freeda Harris Baptist Center in Marrowbone.

■ Approved three grants totalling \$2,346 to support deaf ministries.

■ Agreed to provide grants of \$500 to help with travelling costs for volunteers it recruits to conduct WMU projects in the Russia partnership.

■ Learned that about \$35,000 had been contributed to its Heritage Fund, but that the fund must reach \$50,000 before it can provide allocations.

Georgetown missionaries telling Kentucky about Somalia

Continued from page 1

corted them to and from relief sites.

Both the Perkinses speak four languages and were able to minister to the Somalis by listening and empathizing with them.

"Even with the high death rate, the Somalis tell us what they want most is someone to talk to about their problems," he explained. "Many have lost entire families to the war and famine."

"Our purpose is to give a cup of cold water in Jesus' name and require nothing of the recipient. But our ministry to the Somalis is much more than providing food, medicine and shelter."

Perkins also led orientation seminars for career missionaries and volunteers. Mrs. Perkins taught English to Somali women.

During their six-month furlough, which ends in June, the Perkinses are enjoying personal contact with many

Kentucky Baptist churches.

"It's good to be able to come back and be loved by the churches," Mrs. Perkins said. "Many days when I didn't think I could go on, I would get a letter from a member of a church and it would give me the strength to continue."

While receiving financial support from churches through the FMB, the Perkinses learned a hard lesson about how the secular media sets the agenda for hunger relief contributions in churches. Southern Baptist hunger relief funds are administered as designated gifts—apart from the Cooperative Program unified budget.

"When the plight of the Somalis became the lead story on newscasts across the nation, we received nearly \$10,000 each month from churches as special gifts," Perkins reported. "With these gifts we were able to expand our efforts throughout the four-country

region."

But when public sentiment and media coverage turned to the negative side of the violence against Americans, contributions fell off.

"After the soldier was shown being dragged through the streets, donations dropped to \$300 a month," he explained. "I, too, struggled in my soul because an American was brutally killed. But I cannot turn my back on the Somalis, because my first allegiance is to Christ."

"Southern Baptists cannot let the media set their agenda for missions emphasis," he declared. "The Holy Spirit led you to give and sacrifice for the Somali people. Don't let CNN stop that."

■ For information on how to enlist the Perkinses or other furloughing missionaries to speak in your church, contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention executive office at (502) 245-4101.



KENTUCKY MISSIONARIES Ken and Beth Perkins pose with their sons, Jeremy, Ben and Jessie.

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

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'Super' coach dropped the most important ball

With all the hype, hoopla and inflated advertising campaigns, I still found January's Super Bowl extravaganza boring and even sad. The fact Dallas won again and Buffalo came up short for the fourth straight year has little to do with my thinking.

What caught my attention were reports about Jimmy Johnson, the coach of the Dallas Cowboys. Johnson was described as a man on a mission who, according to Courier-Journal sports columnist Pat Forde, has "no diversions, no companions. There is room on this path for no one but him." Even Johnson's sons "did not often get in the way of their father's marching feet. He essentially sacrificed his family for football."

How sad. How very sad.

As one who grew up in a loving home with parents who sacrificed their time, energy and resources for

my brother and me, I find it hard to identify with the priorities of Coach Johnson. One of my greatest blessings has been the love, interest and support showered upon my brother and me by our parents. I cannot recall when my father's business or my mother's considerable responsibilities made them too busy for their sons.

As far as I can remember, my parents attended and showed genuine interest in every ball game, play, school or church activity in which their children were involved. My brother and I always could count on having at least two cheerleaders in the stands when we were competing. When parents were needed to chaperone a party, summer activity or school outing, my folks were the first to volunteer. If a home was needed for an after-school gathering, my parents offered a standing invitation.

Their interest and involvement were so predictable that we took them for granted. Neither Benjie nor I had to look to see if our parents were in the crowd. They always were.

Don't get me wrong. Professional dedication and personal focus are important. However, I am convinced that taken to the extreme, they can choke the quiet rewards and rich joys in life that come from a commitment to home, family and friends.

I am thankful Scoop and Jane Hope Oldham had different and more enduring priorities in life than some Super Bowl celebrities.

Sorry, Coach Johnson, it looks like you dropped the ball. Those of us who have been blessed with selfless, loving parents in a secure family are life's real winners.

*Robin Oldham
Louisville*

Sanctity & need

Your contextual handling of the sanctity (WR, Jan. 11) sets a better foundation for that emotional subject. You have included other social and political atrocities, many such crimes showing the need for handgun control.

Most often, advocates for sanctity of human life divorce that compassion from humane treatment of other stages of humanity. Appropriately, you have not separated human need from the sanctity of human life. Social injustice, as you specify in poverty, spouse and child abuse, and other evils often is the occasion for an unwanted fetus.

This is why I was indignant when Ronald Reagan led the U.S. against

family planning and population efforts. Even if he caved in to the Religious Right in such a vote, Mr. Reagan revealed gross inconsistency of "getting big government off the backs of people." If you recall, that was his first presidential campaign slogan. But his ideology of economics favored subsidies for the wealthy. Scholars document this again and again. Thus, when he pontificated against funding United Nations Fund for Population Awareness (UNFPA), his sermons had a hollow ring. The Mexico City Policy in 1985 and funds for UNFPA would have gone a long way to rectify gross economic, social and political injustice to Third World nations. Male chauvinism and poverty are chief reasons impoverished women are begging for birth control. Ironically, some of these nations are

more enlightened to the need of population awareness. But unlike an industrial nation like America, they lack medical facilities.

*Donald O. Cassidy
Premium*

Not 'strict'

Congratulations on the great education edition (WR, Feb. 1).

However, Kevin Eigelbach misunderstood me on one point. In his article, he said I did not count myself "among the separationists." I do believe in the separation of church and state, but I do not count myself among the "strict" separationists, such as members of the American Civil Liberties Union.

*Mike Morris
Wickliffe*

Abstinence: A timely opportunity

It was not an easy thing to stop smoking. The several-year habit I carried into and out of the Marine Corps was far more difficult to lay aside than drinking. As I look back now, I speculate that without my "call to preach," I might still be doing both.

One evening after my "call," as I lit up in the room of the boarding house just off the Georgetown College campus, a friend whose father was a pastor asked me: "Bill, do you think smoking won't have a negative impact on your witness?" Within a few weeks I had cut down to one or two per day; and after a few more weeks of terrible struggle, I had stopped completely. As I recall I slipped only once, during the week of my mother's death in 1956. I have been "smoke-free" ever since, as has been my family.

I quit smoking on the basis of "witness," not on the basis of health. Today, the testimony of increased lung cancer, the revivification of second-hand smoke and the effective efforts by powerful health spokespersons have contributed to a decline in American smokers, though it is reported that we are exporting our unhealthy habit in increasing volume to Third World

countries.

Ironically, the church has been "against smoking" for a long time. The morality side (witness) of smoking, however, was only modestly effective. It took that dreaded "C" word,

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

and its connectedness to smoking, to generate a "conversion point" in the American psyche.

The church also has been consistently the major "moral" voice against sex outside of marriage. The variations of what that means largely has clouded the issue and has contributed to an ambiguity about the whole subject. And, for many reasons, the church's voice on this subject has often been "winked" at.

But along comes AIDS, and with it a dialogue about sex and an increasing awareness that sexual promiscuity could carry a deadly pricetag.

While I regret that the church's voice often has been ignored by the non-religious public (and not a few Christians), the church has now a new opportunity through this public health crisis to bear its witness in a creative and helpful way.

I was surprised and delighted to read in the Jan. 17 San Francisco Sunday Examiner and Chronicle an arti-

cle by New York Times writer Jane Gross titled "Virgins and Proud of It—Teens Decide to Wait."

The article was summed up by the statement: "Abstinence sweeps the nation as kids form chastity clubs and practice saying no to sex."

Gross writes: "These programs which emphasize abstinence rather than contraception were scoffed at until recently by most family planning experts, who assumed teen-agers were going to have sex anyway so the pass-outs should stop preaching and pass out condoms."

"The pendulum is finally swinging," said Jacqueline Jackson, the director of education at the San Diego Urban League, one of 28 community organizations teaching the California abstinence curriculum. It is part of California's \$5 million initiative, inspired in large measure by AIDS."

The article goes on to include efforts "spearheaded," she says, "by the Southern Baptist Convention's campaign titled 'True Love Waits,'" and efforts in which Kentucky Baptists are involved both programmatically and financially.

What an opportune time for Baptists to join with others in helping the youth of our state embrace "True Love Waits" as a positive and healthy lifestyle.

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



Growing relationships

By Harry Rowland

Q. I'm in the greatest relationship of my life! What can I do to make it work?

A. You are correct in recognizing that good relationships just don't occur. They take effort. Healthy relationships are based on a decision (I choose to nourish the relationship), a commitment (I invest myself in the relationship) and adequate time (I will spend the time necessary to make it work).

Here are some qualities of trust, growing relationships:

■ **Trust.** You have to be willing to trust each other. Couples often find themselves in sexually tempting situations. With all the pressures put on today's relationships, there is no substitute for trust.

■ **Affirmation.** Growing couples are proud of each other. Develop the habit of building each other up instead of criticizing.

■ **Loyalty.** Commitment to a relationship is more than a one-time promise. There should be a daily recommitment. Don't keep looking over your shoulder for something "better" to come along.

■ **Humor.** You need to laugh together frequently. Take the relationship seriously, but not always yourself.

■ **Spontaneity.** Boredom is a deadly threat to otherwise good relationships. Your chances for a satisfying, long-term relationship will increase if you regularly add variety to your life. Make new friends, try a new hobby, a new restaurant or a new look.

■ **Relaxation.** Couples need time for each other that isn't shared with a TV. This is how you get to know each other emotionally and spiritually.

■ **Stick-to-itiveness.** Relationships aren't easy. You need to be willing to talk problems out. Prevention is much better than healing.

Too many singles let a relationship control them instead of being in control of the relationship. As you develop these qualities in your relationship, you will find it quite fulfilling.

Harry Rowland is pastor of Fort Mitchell Baptist Church.

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

EDITORIALS

Casinos won't be the next messiah of our economy

Some people want you to gamble with Kentucky's future.

A package of articles beginning on page 1 of this week's Western Recorder tells the story. The gambling boosters claim the state's economic security depends upon legalization of casino gambling at the state's racetracks. They predict the horse industry will go belly-up if we don't put blackjack tables in the paddock and a roulette wheel over by the \$2 windows. Move over, Man O' War, the next cultural icon of Kentucky will be a slot machine.

The General Assembly can kill this casino crush, if it has the will. To be fair, some legislators already are saying a casino bill doesn't have an old nag's chance of winning the Derby in this session of the assembly. But the gambling gang still is riding the issue. It wants legislators to place a casino referendum on next November's ballot, to let voters decide if they will open the state to yet another something-for-nothing scheme.

(An aside: If lawmakers are willing to pass the buck on a bad piece of legislation, don't you wonder why we need them at all? Follow the logic far enough, and we'll do away with the General Assembly altogether. Just put all the bills on the ballot and let democracy decide.)

No matter what the casino crowd says, this plan to expand gambling in Kentucky is a bad bet. Several reasons:

■ Gambling is wrong.

To begin with, the Judeo-Christian ethic constantly reinforces this theme. The laws of the Old Testament and the teachings of Christ illustrate both the value of honest labor and the folly of sloth, one of the "seven deadly sins." Gambling is little more than organized sloth—an expectation of something-for-nothing. The Bible clearly explains that the world's only free gift comes from God. It is grace, not three-of-a-kind or 21.

Beyond that, people who personally won't gamble but yet support expansion of gambling defy the biblical injunctions regarding hospitality toward strangers and love for neighbor. No doubt you've heard Baptists say something like, "I'll never gamble myself, but I'm not going to stand in the way of people who want to. The government will take its cut, and they won't have to raise my taxes." Study after study shows that gambling is a regressive form of taxation. It's aimed at the people who can least afford it. Nobody wants more taxes, but with gambling the middle class pushes its burden to the lower class. Gambling is not a fair and equitable way to tax the population.

■ Casino gambling won't save the horse industry.

That's the sell: Kentucky must have casinos at its racetracks to offset the financial damage casino boats from nearby states will inflict on the tracks. Folks who believe that have been standing a little too close to the horse liniment.

To begin with, Rep. Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg, has a point when he says he doubts whether the General Assembly could pass a bill which gives racetracks sole authority to operate casinos in Kentucky. Anti-trust laws, not to mention simple fairness, would mitigate against giving the tracks a monopoly on the casino business. So, even if such a law is

passed, it could spend years winding its way through the courts.

Beyond that, who can say casinos will generate enough money to make a difference in the fate of the tracks? Will Mildred and LeRoy forsake the casino cruise for a spin at the track? Will Merv and Donald leave enough money in the local economy, or will they take it back to New Jersey and New York with them?

■ Casinos hurt legitimate business.

Operators of other forms of entertainment—restaurants, movie theaters, video stores and tourist attractions—have reason to worry. Similar industries in areas where casinos have opened have fallen on hard times, since former patrons leave their money in the slot machines and on the blackjack tables.

Don't think for a minute most of that money stays in the local economy, as casino supporters would like for you to believe. Casinos are big business, operated by huge out-of-state corporations. Their job is to make money for their owners, and they have been immensely successful at it. If casinos open in Kentucky, the sucking noise you'll hear will be the sound of Kentucky dollars flowing into the pockets of the Merv Griffins and Donald Trumps of the gambling industry.

And don't believe for a second the casino trade will pump up Kentucky's tourist industry. Except for Las Vegas and Atlantic City—the meccas of the gambling industry which far outstrip the "productivity" of any other American gambling locations—casinos have been supported by local dollars, not tourist money.

■ Casinos are expensive drains on local economy.

Studies of communities that are host to even successful casinos reveal that casinos create a net drain on the local economy. The profits go to owners, who live someplace else. The people who patronize the casinos ultimately lose (since the house always wins far more than the bettors ever dream of winning), so they have less money to place into the local economy. The cost of police care and other community services goes up. And, in numerous places, the crime rate increases as well. Rather than bolster the economy, casinos react more like parasites, draining the lifeblood of the region.

■ Casinos would taint the very industry they're supposed to save.

Kentucky to the Front, a coalition put together by most racetracks in the state, is trying to sell track-based casinos as their savior. That premise is questionable, for numerous reasons already cited. Moreover, casinos would cast a smarmy pall over an industry that enjoys a certain romantic flavor among many Kentuckians. Even most people who oppose gambling admit at least a grudging respect for the strength and beauty of the sport of horse racing. The racing industry—particularly the pristine horse farms of the Bluegrass—has earned a place in Kentucky culture. But the raucous foreign flavor of a glitzy casino culture would cheapen all that. The illegitimate union of casinos and racing will produce offspring Kentucky will not recognize, much less love.

Call your legislators and urge them to oppose any move to bring casinos to Kentucky. Their number is (800) 372-7181.

Marv Knox

Kentucky lawmakers shouldn't buy the bill of goods casino supporters are selling. Casinos will damage the character and economy of our state, and they aren't likely to save the horse industry either.

If you think parenting is supposed to be logical, don't have children

Lindsay said something the other night that illustrates why raising kids is so tough today.

"I love to sleep," she said, "but I hate to go to bed."

I'm no brain-development expert, but I can assure you the section of the cerebrum that controls rational thinking must be the last part to come along.

Why else would a child grab hold of a logical contradiction like that?

According to normal reckoning, a person who likes to sleep should enjoy going to bed. Going to bed usually is the gateway to getting to sleep. So, going to bed—which is how you get in the position to sleep—is good, since sleep is good.

But a kid doesn't think that way.

To a child, going to bed is The Enemy.

Bedtime means activity time is over. No more playing with toys. No more TV.

Nor more talking. No more getting

into all the good stuff kids get into while they're awake. On top of that, it means the kid who's in bed might miss out on something elsewhere in the house.

So, no matter how much you like to sleep, getting there isn't worth it. A kid's supposed to fight bedtime at all costs. It's in the job description. "No

matter how tired and cranky and mean you might be, give your parents a hassle about going to bed," it says. That assignment

comes right after another popular one,

"No matter how hungry you are, pick at your food and fuss about eating your vegetables." (Kinda scary how I've got this figured out, huh?)

Parents see this logical-contradiction behavior all the time.

Like when you're trying to get your budding Ferrante or Tiecher to practice the piano. The kid wants to be able to play Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.

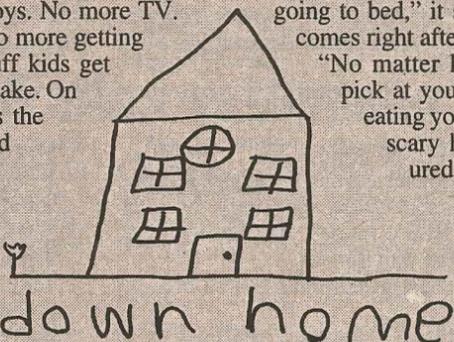
CCLXXIII without looking at a keyboard between lessons. It'll never work, and you know that, but try convincing a 10-year-old otherwise. Fat chance.

Come to think of it, lots of adults never learn the Law of Logical Consequence, which should control this kind of behavior. It's just that they don't cry and blow snot when they're confronted with it.

Haven't you known folks who want to get through life cutting corners? They want successful careers without working hard. They want deep spirituality without prayer and Bible study. They want meaningful relationships without making commitments.

I bet the Lord wonders when we'll ever learn.

Marv Knox



Will morality appeal be enough to stop casinos?



Continued from page 1
 little surprising that the South has become a hotbed of growth for casino gaming. However, the very clear trend in the United States and throughout the world right now is that gaming is becoming much more acceptable."

The declining influence of appealing to morality is confirmed by sociologist John Dornbrink and political scientist William Thompson, authors of the book "The Last Resort."

The authors have studied 10 major campaigns to legalize casino gambling in the United States since 1976. In every case, religious groups op-

posed casinos.

"Church activity as such is not a veto factor. It alone will not defeat a campaign for casinos," they report. "But churches are a force that can trigger other veto factors."

The moral argument, in combination with other factors, can be effective in stopping casinos, Dornbrink and Thompson write. For example, religious groups in Detroit formed an "unholy alliance" with horse racing interests to defeat a casino proposal in 1981.

That particular alliance won't be found this year in Kentucky, where the horse racing industry is the No. 1 promoter of legalizing casinos.

Horse interests have formed a pro-casino lobbying group called Kentucky to the Front, which is headed by Tim Mulloy.

Mulloy, a former Baptist who said he is not a gambler himself, sees the economic incentives for legalizing casinos as far outweighing any moral concerns. The real issue, he said, is that Kentucky's tourism economy will be devastated by the growth of casinos in neighboring states.

"For us it's not a moral issue. ... The question to us is, 'Do we allow our dollars to go across the river to these states and let them get the tax benefits, the jobs."

"It is a moral issue in some ways," he added. "We have a responsibility to feed, house and clothe our families. In a perfect world, we wouldn't face this decision."

That argument doesn't wash with Claude Witt, executive director of the Temperance League of Kentucky. Witt, a member of Farmdale Baptist

Church in Louisville, is one of the primary forces behind Kentuckians Against Casinos, an anti-casino coalition that includes the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the Catholic Conference of Kentucky and the Kentucky Council of Churches.

"To me, gambling is gambling, whether you're talking about horse racing, bingo, casino gambling or taking a chance on a turkey," he said.

"It causes human desperation. It victimizes the poor. It contradicts social responsibility. It produces the wrong attitudes toward work. It's a sophisticated form of stealing."

In recent testimony before the House tourism committee, Witt said the Kentucky horse industry has developed an attitude of "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em."

"We are being asked to trust an industry to expand that is designed to profit at the expense of others," he said. "They will take money from both those who can afford the loss and those who cannot—with the same uncaring financial success for their corporations."

Legalizing casino gambling has three negative effects on a community, Witt testified: It changes the community's character, changes the traditional culture and virtue and changes the legitimate tourism and natural attractions.

Witt had asked Jones to come from Mississippi to testify at the Kentucky House hearings, but Jones was not able to come. However, if he had come, Jones said he would have told legislators that decisions to advance gambling are based on flawed reasoning.

"You have to create a high percentage of losers to have a very small number of winners," he said. "About 85 percent to 90 percent of the people are going to have to lose for anyone to win anything."

"The question is: 'Is it ever a legitimate function of government to legalize anything that makes its' citizens losers?'"

"If the citizens of the state of Kentucky have already predetermined that it is a philosophy of their state to make losers out of a vast majority of citizens to make winners out of a few, then your whole basis of government is flawed," he said.

Among the losers will be existing businesses in the state, Jones predicted. That's why Baptists should combine their moral opposition to casinos with the strength of the business community, he said.

Together, these two forces could prevent the legalization of casinos, Jones suggested.

"In Mississippi, we could only attract a couple of statewide business groups. They heard the other arguments, such as, 'We won't raise your taxes' and 'It's harmless because only the people who participate pay.'"

But Mississippi business leaders have seen a different picture now that the dice are rolling nearby, according to Jones and reports in several Mississippi community newspapers.

"Every dollar spent on gambling is a dollar not spent on legitimate business," Jones said. "When we have finally gotten to the business community in Mississippi, ... people are calling up crying and saying, 'We wish we had listened.'"

Gambling odds & ends

■ Half of all American adults have gambled in a casino, and 55 percent believe it's something that's acceptable for anyone to do.

Source: *Studies for Harrah's Casino Hotels.*

■ A hotel with a casino will net more in one week than a regular hotel will earn in one or two years.

Source: *David Johnston, "Temples of Chance."*

■ Americans favor legalizing riverboat casinos much more than legalizing casinos in existing urban areas, by a margin of 6-to-4.

Source: *Gallup Organization.*

■ Slot players tend to be older, have less education and lower household incomes than table players.

Source: *Harrah's Casino Hotels.*

■ 64 percent of Americans believe legalized gambling encourages people who can least afford it to squander their money.

Source: *Gallup Organization.*

Casinos come up winners as gambling fever hits U.S.

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Roll the dice in America today and casino gambling will come up the winner almost every time.

Gambling is predicted to be the fastest-growing industry in America in the 1990s, and casinos account for an overwhelming proportion of that growth.

The amount of money Americans wagered legally in casinos grew from \$144.8 billion in 1987 to \$240.5 billion in 1991—a 66 percent increase in six years.

The second major growth in gambling has come in the spread of state lotteries, jumping from revenues of \$13.1 billion in 1987 to \$21 billion in 1991—a 60 percent increase.

Currently, Americans place about \$330 billion annually in legal bets of

all kinds. That generates revenue of \$30 billion for the gambling industry after winners are paid.

Only two states—Utah and Hawaii—still ban all forms of gambling. Casino gambling currently is allowed in 21 states, and 15 others have casino legislation pending.

This phenomenon prompted the New York Times to declare that "the sin is indeed gone from the nation's gaming industry, obliterated by the notion of mass entertainment."

The paper reported that an intense focus on the moral issue of abortion has sidetracked the traditional critics of gambling. Further, the growth has been possible because some church groups have become dependent upon gambling for revenues themselves, the paper said.

"The spread of commercial gambling is inevitable," according to Dav-

id Johnston, author of a book about casinos called "Temples of Chance." "By the end of this century almost every place in America where it has not already arrived will join the trend."

Johnston, an investigative reporter for the Philadelphia Inquirer, writes: "Many Americans want to gamble, and the few who object on moral grounds cannot sway elections anymore except in places like Utah."

The gambling industry has become more sophisticated and successful as it has moved from the hands of organized crime into the leadership of American business giants, Johnston contends.

"Bad as the mob is, having corporate America dominate the casino business is worse," he writes. "The mob was limited to Nevada, and its own incompetence at managing a

business as complex as casinos limited its profits."

But corporate America "has access to skilled managers and it can employ the same marketing clout that sells dandruff shampoo to push casinos and create an appearance of respectability. But licensing an enterprise does not change its nature."

The growth of the gambling industry also has fueled an increase in another statistic, the number of teen-agers who are compulsive gamblers.

Time magazine reported in 1991 that of the estimated 8 million compulsive gamblers in America, 1 million are teen-agers.

"Just 10 years ago, teen-age gambling did not register even a blip on the roster of social ills," the magazine said. "Today gambling counselors say an average of 7 percent of their case loads involve teen-agers."

KBC public affairs committee calls Baptists to oppose casinos

The chairman of the Kentucky Baptist Convention public affairs committee has called on church leaders across the state to organize opposition to legalizing casino gambling in Kentucky.

Malcolm Lunceford has sent letters statewide urging Baptists to stop the effort before it gets out of committee in the General Assembly.

Lunceford has asked Baptist lay-

people and clergy alike to write letters or place calls to their senators and representatives, especially those on the House tourism development and energy committee.

Tourism committee members include:

- Royce Adams, Dry Ridge.
- Wood Allen, Morgantown.
- Eddie Ballard, Madisonville.
- Kay Bondurant, Hodgenville.

- Mike Bowling, Middlesboro.
- Ronald Cyrus, Flatwoods.
- Rick Fox, Harlan.
- Drew Graham, Winchester.
- Elbert Hampton, Artemus.
- Ken Harper, Crestview Hills.
- Charles Nelson, Bremen.
- Richard Sanders Jr., Smiths Grove.
- Rex Smith, Grand Rivers.
- Dave Stengel, Louisville.

- Leslie Trapp, Lexington.
 - James Zimmerman, LaGrange.
- State representatives may be contacted by writing them at Room 023 Legislative Offices, Capitol Annex Building, Frankfort, Ky. 40601, or calling them at (800) 372-7181.
- Senators may be called at the same phone number as above or sent mail at the same address, except to Room 029 rather than 023.

Casino debate takes unusual twists in Kentucky

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Many states have faced the casino question in recent years, but the debate in Kentucky has taken an unusual spin.

Usually, the drive to legalize casino gambling capitalizes on promises to add millions of dollars to the state's tax coffers. Repeatedly, this has proved to be a quick-fix solution legislators and voters can't resist.

But in Kentucky, the drive to legalize casinos promises to save the state's horse industry from attack.

Pro-casino forces, led by the lobbying group Kentucky to the Front, argue it is essential to open casinos at the state's nine horse tracks to protect them from the competition of casinos in neighboring states. The promise of economic gain to the state isn't forgotten, just mentioned secondarily.

Anti-casino forces, such as the Baptist-supported group Kentuckians Against Casinos, are taking a more traditional approach in the fight. They argue Kentucky doesn't need another form of legalized gambling, especially casinos, regardless of the threat to the horse tracks.

The unusual debate already has found an unusual forum in the General Assembly, where the House tourism committee spent two weeks holding hearings on the issue, even though no legislation has been introduced and House leaders have said they don't think any should be introduced.

Further, the tourism committee is not likely to be assigned a casino bill even if it is introduced.

This, combined with an unbalanced slate of witnesses at the hearings, has raised the ire of casino opponents such as Claude Witt, executive director of the Temperance League of Kentucky.

"I'm not at all pleased with the hearings," he said. "They have been structured to favor Kentucky to the Front, and I think they have had more than adequate opportunity to voice their points. I believe the chairman of the committee, Rep. Rex Smith from Grand Rivers, has failed to be fair."

The first day of the hearings featured only an elaborate presentation by Kentucky to the Front, despite the presence of numerous casino opponents. The ratio of speakers and time given to pro-casino speakers far outweighed the opportunities given anti-casino speakers in the remainder of the hearings as well.

Further, Witt charged that Smith attempted to limit the content of testimony given by him and Nancy Jo Kemper of the Kentucky Council of Churches.

Rep. Smith did not return a call from the Recorder for comment.

In an interview with the Recorder, Kentucky to the Front spokesman Tim Mulloy said the horse tracks need to add casinos to defend themselves against casinos that have opened or will open soon in Indiana, Missouri, Illinois and Ohio.

Placing casinos at the tracks would be an unusual combination with the "potential of a huge new tourism attraction," he said. "We could not only protect Kentucky from what other

To ballot or not to ballot?

Should the casino question be put to a general vote or be nixed by the General Assembly?

Kentucky to the Front, the main group lobbying for casinos in Kentucky, says the legislature should let voters decide.

"We accept the fact that if they vote it down, they vote it down," said spokesman Tim Mulloy. "We believe it's incorrect not to let them have a choice. We trust the citizens of Kentucky one way or the other."

But Kentuckians Against Casinos, the group lobbying against casinos, says the legislature shouldn't pass the buck to the public.

states are doing but dominate those states."

Accomplishing this strategy would require a double-pronged action by the General Assembly—asking voters to amend the state Constitution to allow casinos and then dictating that those casinos could be operated only at horse tracks.

Ironically, Kentucky to the Front could win half its battle and leave the horse tracks in worse shape than they say they are already. By most accounts, competition from freestanding casinos in the state would deal a severe blow to race track betting.

House Democratic Floor Leader Greg Stumbo—generally considered a friend of the horse industry—recently dropped a bombshell on the proposal by saying he thinks approving casinos only at tracks would create an unconstitutional monopoly.

But Mulloy has continued his group's push for track-based casinos.

He cited a University of Louisville study which predicts Kentucky tracks closest to the new casinos in neighboring states stand to lose 39 percent of their revenues due to casino competition. That's a hit that would put those tracks out of business, he said.

Witnesses at the House hearings said without adding casinos, every Kentucky race track except Churchill Downs and Keeneland Race Course would be driven out of business.

"We've got \$287 million of Kentucky money going to Indiana and Illinois, just in gambling money," Mulloy explained. "Then factor in indirect money, such as eating, gas, hotels. There's another half-billion in lost tourism dollars."

On the other hand, by legalizing casinos only at Kentucky's horse tracks, "we'll produce about \$160 million a year in new revenue to the state and create 18,000 new permanent jobs," he continued.

Mulloy said the bill Kentucky to the Front wants to see introduced would establish strict regulations for casinos to offset potential dangers. It would create a seven-member gaming commission, prohibit credit gambling and underage gambling, and establish new treatment programs for compulsive gamblers.

Critics who say casinos would bring more crime are dead wrong, Mulloy charged. "That honestly is a red herring."

And casinos aren't the domain of

"They why do we have elected officials?" asked Claude Witt of the Temperance League of Kentucky. "We send elected officials up there to look after the best interests of the constituents who they represent. We don't ask them to send other issues back. ... Why pick out casinos to send back?"

Legislators already have heard more testimony and gathered more data about casinos than most citizens will hear in a lifetime, Witt said. They should use this information to make an educated decision rather than push the decision off on an uneducated public, he said.

organized crime, either, he said. "The other side of who owns these things is a Hollywood myth. ... The largest casinos are publicly traded, owned by people like you and me. This is not the godfather. That is a myth."

Gambling opponents dispute Mulloy's points, however.

They frequently recite promises Kentuckians heard when they voted to legalize the state lottery.

"I know Kentucky to the Front is promising all these jobs, they're promising all this capital investment, they are promising all the economic benefits to the different communities," said Witt of the Temperance League. "We heard every bit of that when the lottery was proposed. And it didn't materialize."

"What people have got to understand is that there is just so much money to be spent on things other than necessity items. When you spend it in the casino, you're not going to spend it on fast food, you're not going to spend it on movies, you're not going to spend it in the bowling alley and other forms of entertainment."

Research shows there could be some economic truth to both sides, said William Eadington, professor of economics at the University of Nevada and director of the Institute for the Study of Gambling and Commercial Gaming.

"Whether there is an economic boom (due to casinos) depends on the circumstances," he said. "There has been for Nevada, and to some extent for Atlantic City. In those cases, the customer base is primarily tourist, so they're exporting gaming services."

Using casinos to bring in out-of-state tourists usually increases actual tax revenues to the state, he said.

However, as casinos become more available around the United States, new casinos will have more trouble attracting tourists, he said. Not every casino community can have the unique appeal to lure tourists.

"As casinos go into urban areas—Louisville is a good example—the predominant number of customers will be locals, not tourists," Eadington said. "If your customers are all locals, most of the spending in the casinos is diverted either from trips to casinos outside that region or, more likely, diverted from expenditures to businesses outside the gambling industry."

This essentially is a "reshuffling"

of tax revenues, he said.

Whether Kentucky would draw tourists or locals through casinos is not yet the heart of the debate, however. The arguments of proponents inevitably return to defending Kentucky's horse industry.

"We don't have a choice, in our opinion, in whether we have gambling or not," Mulloy said on behalf of the race track owners. "It's right upon us (in adjoining states). We will be impacted negatively by it."

Witt countered that Kentuckians shouldn't be taken in by the "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em" mentality of Kentucky to the Front.

If the horse tracks are afraid of competition, "then that is just almost un-American," Witt charged. "The economic growth of America has been built on competition."

But ultimately, Witt said, "it really doesn't make any difference where you put a casino—at a race track or in the middle of a corn field. It's still going to have the same effect. ... There's nothing wholesome about it."



Mississippi gambling opponent says it's a life-or-death issue

DALLAS (ABP)—Paul Jones sees gambling as a life-or-death issue.

When the Mississippi Baptist recently fought gambling in his state, he and his family received 64 death threats, and 14 attempts were made to harm them.

Jones, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Christian Action Commission, described his experiences to a group of gambling opponents in Texas Feb. 4. He also described the challenge the Texans face in opposing casino gambling in their state.

"If you get visible, if you get vocal, they'll want you, they'll go after you," he warned the board of directors of Texans Against Gambling at their annual meeting in Dallas.

Jones recounted his family's brushes with drive-by shootings, stalkers and vehicular assaults:

■ An attempted assassin with a 9 mm automatic gun shot 11 holes in the side of his car, including one that missed him by only four inches.

■ A stalker followed his wife from a mall, down a busy highway at high speed, and into the parking lot of a police station before realizing where she was leading him.

■ A driver forced Jones' car off an embankment, doing \$4,000 worth of damage to his car and missing a steep cliff by just half a mile.

Pointing out that some of the death threats and violent acts likely were due to his positions on racial justice and family violence as well as gambling, Jones said any public stand for moral righteousness carries risks.

"Be paraboloni," he challenged the Texans, citing the New Testament Greek word that the Apostle Paul used to describe one who gambled his life and fortune for the sake of what was right.

Baptists and other conservative Christians in Mississippi were unable to defeat gambling in their state, he said, because of their inability to create alliances across boundaries of theology, politics, economics, gender and race.

"Mississippi lost the fight against gambling in 1619 when the first Africans were brought to what is now the United States and slavery was imposed," he said. The resulting legacy of mistrust between the races made it difficult to build coalitions against gambling three centuries later.

Likewise, Baptists and other evangelicals failed to relate to others—the disadvantaged, women's groups, public education, the business community and mainstream denominations—until the need arose for coalition-building in the fight against gambling. Then, Jones said, it was too late.

NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Abortions down.** The number of legal abortions performed in the United States declined by 2.8 percent in 1991, according to a report released by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. A higher percentage of pregnancies ended with live births in 1991 than in any previous year since 1977, the report said. There were 1.39 million abortions reported in 1991, of which 89 percent were done in the first trimester. However, not all abortions performed in the U.S. are reported. According to the report, there were 339 legal abortions for every 1,000 live births in 1991. Most women who had abortions were white, unmarried and under age 25, the report added.

■ **"Lite" church.** First Lutheran Church of Greenwich, N.J., has responded to America's declining attention span with a "lite" church service—all the religion in half the time. The 22-minute "express" service has no sermon or sacraments but includes a statement of faith, prayer, song and a bit of biblical exposition.

■ **Terry chides Republicans.** Operation Rescue founder Randall Terry has called on conservative Christians to abandon the Republican Party. "The Religious Right has been used long enough. We have believed their foolish rhetoric long enough," he said. "Since the election of Bill Clinton, the Republicans have provided virtually no opposition, no true leadership, while they have systematically betrayed their party platform and positions, especially regarding family values."

■ **Melvin to retire.** Billy Melvin has announced his retirement as executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals. In his 28 years at the helm, the association has grown by 70 percent and today represents about 50,000 local churches from 75 denominations. The Southern Baptist Convention is not directly linked with the NAE.

■ **Utah abortion law upheld.** A Utah law which requires a 24-hour waiting period for women seeking abortions was upheld Feb. 1 by U.S. District Judge Dee Benson, who said the lawsuit challenging the law was frivolous. The Utah law is modeled on a law upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1992.

Abortion law to begin now

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Supreme Court Justice David Souter declined Feb. 7 to bar enforcement of Pennsylvania's restrictive abortion statutes while opponents continue a legal challenge.

In a six-page opinion, Souter indicated the Supreme Court is unlikely to hear further facial challenges to the law it upheld less than two years ago. But, he said, the door remains open to question its constitutionality once it is enforced.

In 1992, a sharply-split Supreme Court ruled that most of the law's restrictions, as written, do not place an "undue hardship" on a woman seeking an abortion. The court upheld provisions requiring informed consent, a 24-hour waiting period, record keeping and parental consent.

On remand, the federal district court reopened the record on the opponent's challenge and continued its order blocking Pennsylvania from enforcing the law. Opponents of Pennsylvania's law sought an emergency order from Souter after the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the district court. Souter is circuit justice for the 3rd Circuit.

Mother Teresa decries U.S. abortions

WASHINGTON—Christian leaders who oppose abortion expressed jubilation after Mother Teresa delivered a stern anti-abortion message in the presence of President Bill Clinton Feb. 3.

With Clinton and his wife, along with Vice President Al Gore and his wife, seated nearby during the annual National Prayer Breakfast, Mother Teresa declared abortion is "the greatest destroyer of peace" in the world.

Clinton and Gore have been soundly criticized by evangelical leaders for favoring abortion rights. Clinton has said he does not favor abortion personally but believes American women ought to have the right to choose to have abortions if they deem it necessary.

The renowned nun's denunciation of abortion in the presence of the president was "as bold a prophetic confrontation as I've ever witnessed," said Robert Dugan, director of the National Association of Evangelicals' office of public affairs. "It was electric in that ballroom, because most people there knew (Clinton) was hearing something that he would rather hear in private."

er hear in private."

That sentiment was echoed by sentenced columnist Cal Thomas, who called the speech "the most startling and bold proclamation of truth to power I have heard in my more than 30 professional years in Washington."

"Mother Teresa has given preachers and ministers everywhere a pristine example of what it means to be truly prophetic in the presence of Caesar," said Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission Executive Director Richard Land, who saw a telecast of the breakfast.

Mother Teresa, who won a Nobel Peace Prize for her ministry to the sick and needy in Calcutta, India, was invited to speak at the breakfast by Sen. Howell Heflin, D.-Ala.

In her keynote speech, she said: "The greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion, because Jesus said, 'If you receive a little child, you receive me.' So every abortion is the denial of receiving Jesus, the neglect of receiving Jesus."

"And if we accept that a mother can kill even her own child, how can

we tell other people not to kill one another?"

Abortion "just leads to more abortion," she said. "Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love one another but to use any violence to get what they want."

Although the crowd of about 4,000 people rose to a standing ovation at that point, neither the Clintons nor the Gores applauded, according to various eyewitness accounts. Thomas reported in his column that the president reached for a glass of water as the applause began.

After Mother Teresa spoke, Clinton addressed the group, praising the nun for her "moving words" and "lifetime of commitment." But he told the audience, "We will always have our differences; we will never know the whole truth ..."

In her speech, Mother Teresa also called on couples to reject the use of contraceptives and to practice natural family planning. "Once that living love is destroyed by contraception, abortion follows very easily," she said.

From Baptist Press and other sources

Religious broadcasters snubbed Clinton

WASHINGTON (BP)—President Bill Clinton was "deliberately snubbed" by the National Religious Broadcasters in not being invited to the association's annual meeting, according to a Feb. 4 Religious News Service article.

A formal statement released by NRB's executive committee said it "cannot give a platform to a leader who so aggressively supports and puts forth policies and positions which are blatantly contrary to scriptural views."

The two-paragraph statement on NRB's refusal to invite Clinton to the Jan. 29-Feb. 1 meeting in Washington did not specify any Clinton stances. However, many evangelical groups, including the Southern Baptist Convention, have been critical of various Clinton positions supporting abortion and homosexual rights.

NRB members include 800 radio stations and 250 TV stations.

The refusal to invite Clinton marked the first time in more than a dozen years a sitting president has not

been invited to address the NRB, the Religious News Service said.

RNS quoted several evangelicals as questioning the decision, including Charles Colson, Prison Fellowship founder, and Eugene Habecker, American Bible Society president.

"We have a responsibility to keep open communications with people on both sides of the aisle," Habecker said, adding, "I frankly think Reagan and Bush took evangelicals on a ride and laughed all the way to the political bank."

Dialogue Luncheons

At the Kentucky Evangelism Conference
February 22 • 11:45 a.m.
Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville

Each year the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Office for Evangelism hosts a Dialogue Luncheon during the state evangelism conference. The event enables Kentucky Baptists to enjoy a good fellowship meal together at a reasonable cost as well as meet and dialogue with program personalities. The luncheon has a 250-attendance capacity, so reservations are on a first-come basis. Tickets may be purchased Monday, Feb. 21, at the evangelism conference on a first-come basis. Cost is \$6 per person.

Conferences

Innovation Needs in Traditional Churches (panel discussion)
Assimilation of New Church Members into Your Church
Partnership Missions
Marketplace Evangelism
Urban Evangelism
"Harvesting" Evangelism
Vocational Evangelism
Relevant Preaching to Today's People
Here's Hope '95/Testimony/Questions & Answers
True Love Waits
Ministers' Financial Issues

Leaders

Howard Cobble, Norman Coe
Jim Clontz
C. Benton Williams, Calvin Wilkins
Reid Hardin
Charles Lyons
Walter Blecker
L.C. Gray
Frederick Haynes III, Dan Yeary
Gary Southard, Rick Frazier
John Lepper
Don Spencer

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Redesigned VBS Materials Offer 'Trail of Treasures'

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Discipleship Training: 1994 doctrine study on the "end times." **Family Ministry:** Senior adult celebrations and single adult retreat.

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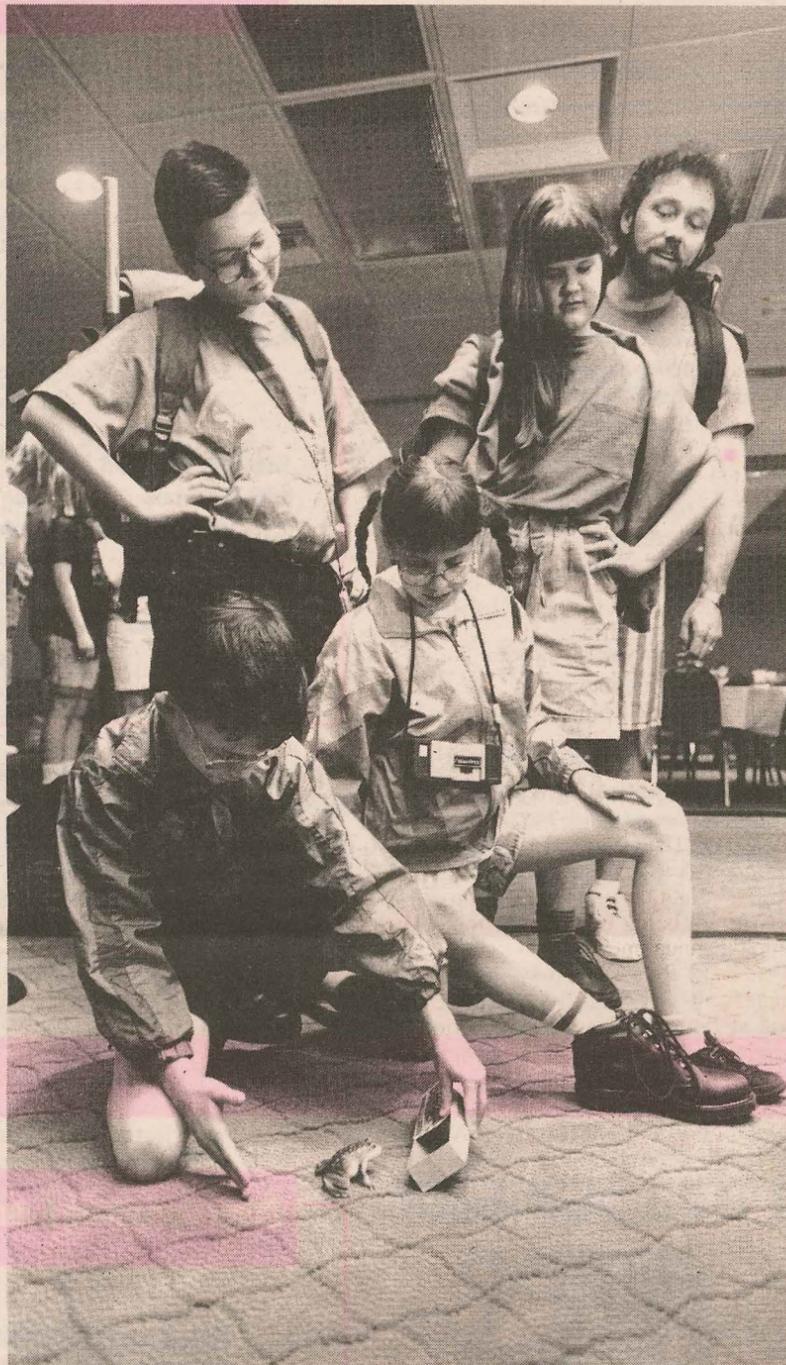
Cedarmore Assembly: Volunteer help needed for repairs. **Brotherhood:** Missions workshop, summer camps. **Woman's Missionary Union:** Plan to attend annual meeting in Winchester.

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Church Music: Instrumental workshop. **Direct Missions:** Migrant ministries conference. **Partnership Missions:** The first 13 to support Russian home missionaries.

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Church Growth & Administration: How your contributions become cooperative mission money at work.



MUSICAL PREVIEW In a scene from this year's VBS musical, "Trail of Treasures," a young camper attempts to coax "Luther" the frog back into his box. The musical is designed to be learned and performed by students attending VBS or used in advance as a promotional tool (Photo by Jim Veneman)

After five years of research and planning, the Baptist Sunday School Board is releasing a newly designed Vacation Bible School curriculum to meet the varying scheduling needs of churches.

Kentuckians will get a preview of the changes at the state VBS Convention Extravaganza March 19 at Highview Baptist Church in Louisville.

"We've tried to respond to the expressed needs of churches and provide more flexibility and simplicity," said Willie Beaty, VBS administration consultant with the Sunday School Board. "We've made the materials more visually appealing and also built in options that will allow every church to build a VBS schedule that meets its needs."

"Trail of Treasures" is the theme of the 1994 curriculum, which includes materials for preschoolers, children, youth and adults. Beaty said administrative and teaching materials provide for a basic schedule of five three-hour sessions, but optional resources and suggestions in the "VBS Plan Book" allow churches to expand or abbreviate the schedule as needed.

The new material has met with enthusiastic approval by state leadership.

Jewell Nelson, Kentucky Baptist Convention Sunday School associate, said she thinks Kentuckians will like the new packaging, the added activities and the broad scope of this year's materials. "There's something good for teachers of infants through senior adults."

And, Nelson said, the material is flexible enough to be used at different times and seasons.

"There is a trend of more churches moving to a night schedule (52 percent in 1992), and night schools almost dictate a shorter schedule," Beaty added. One possible explanation for the trend, he said, is a rise in

the number of working mothers which often means a smaller number of available teachers for daytime VBS. Adult VBS classes usually are held at night as well, allowing parents and children to attend at the same time, he said.

Even so, Beaty said a growing number of churches are finding they can reach more children through VBS by providing an expanded daytime schedule that meets the needs of working parents.

"That way children who are normally dropped off at day care can be dropped off at the church (for VBS) instead and then picked up when the parents get off work," he said.

Whatever schedule option a church uses for VBS, this summer's workers will notice a number of other curriculum and organizational changes, Beaty said, such as:

- The re-introduction of crafts as an enrichment activity.

- An organization built around a "team concept" using general officer teams and age-group teams.

- Additional music resources including a theme song, "VBS Song Book" and VBS musical.

- A worship service planned at the beginning of each day's VBS and featuring a processional of students.

- A new packaging approach designed to make ordering easier by using team leader packets for each age group and the VBS director.

- Worship and Bible study materials written to relate to the New International Version of the Bible and Scripture memory verses printed in both the King James Version and NIV.

Other new resources include booklets filled with ideas for promoting VBS and using crafts and recreation, as well as "New Horizons in Vacation Bible School," a new book by Beaty explaining the new curriculum.

VBS Still One of the Best Outreach Tools

There may be some pastors and church leaders who believe Vacation Bible School is a thing of the past, a Southern Baptist relic no longer effective in reaching communities of the '90s for Christ.

Those leaders have never talked with Harold Dinsmore.

"I am absolutely sold on VBS as a tool for outreach. I don't know of another program that allows us to touch so many families, especially the unchurched," said Dinsmore, pastor of the 204-member Northland Baptist Church in Kansas City, Mo.

In 1993, Northland Baptist Church enrolled 85 children in VBS and three made professions of faith. The church also sponsored three Backyard Bible Clubs in nearby apartment complexes, averaging about 10 children at each club.

"In the last three years, we've probably had 40 children accept Christ as Savior through Vacation Bible School," said Dinsmore, whose two sons, Joshua, 12, and Thomas, 10, also became Christians as a result of VBS.

"I follow up with the children's

parents on the day they make their decision if I can reach them, either by phone or a card," he said. "We also make as many personal visits as we can."

Parents of children attending Northland's VBS also hear the gospel during the church's annual VBS carnival on the last night of the summer Bible study program.

"We have our crafts on display and all kinds of activities for the kids. I also have a booth with tracts and literature about our church. Since it's an informal atmosphere, parents tend to stay longer and I get an opportunity to visit with them," Dinsmore said.

Northland's VBS success story is not unusual. Consider these other examples:

- With an average Sunday School attendance of 155, Fairview Baptist Church in Mohawk, Tenn., set a VBS enrollment goal of 226 last year and exceeded it the first night. Forty-two prospects were discovered, eight people made professions of faith and four people joined the Sunday School and church.

- Prestonwood Baptist Church in Dallas recently reported the largest Vacation Bible School held in one year, with 3,360 people enrolled. Approximately 65 percent of enrollees were not members of the Sunday School at Prestonwood and 40 percent were totally unchurched.

"Vacation Bible School is very much alive and well in the Southern Baptist Convention," said Willie Beaty, VBS consultant at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

VBS enrollment in the SBC has experienced growth for six years in a row, increasing from 3.04 million in 1987 to a record enrollment of 3.71 million in 1992.

In many churches, Beaty said, one-third to one-half of VBS enrollees are not actively attending Bible study at any church. He also said smaller churches with Sunday School enrollments of less than 150 often enroll in VBS up to three times their Sunday School enrollment.

"I don't know of a project or event in our convention that will do a better job in putting churches in touch with lost people," Beaty said.

Church Growth Tour Rescheduled for March

The Small Church Growth Tour planned by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday School department has been rescheduled due to the snow storm that forced cancellations earlier this month.

The new dates and places are:

- March 7, Crescent Springs Baptist Church in Covington.
- March 8, Crittenden Baptist Church in Crittenden.
- March 9, Elkhorn Baptist Association, Lexington.
- March 10, Parkway Baptist Church, Lexington.
- March 11, Hopewell Baptist Church in Corbin.
- March 12, Upper Silver Creek Baptist Church in Berea.

For specific times and registration information, see page 8-A of this Events pull-out.

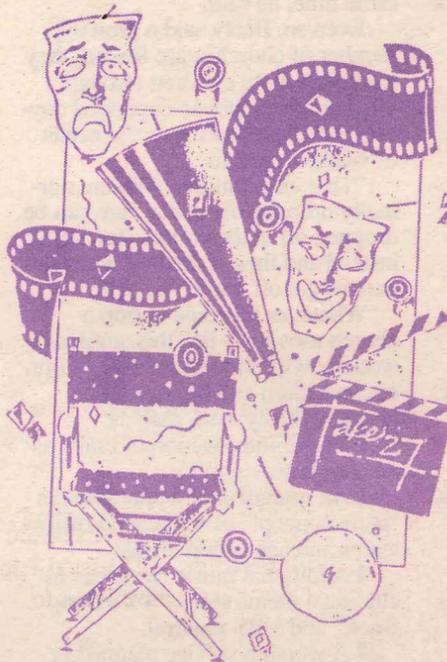
EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

STUDENT MINISTRY

Express your creativity

Drama, Puppetry and Clowning Festival • March 4-5
Lexington • Immanuel Baptist Church



Festival conferences

Puppetry

Beginning a Puppet Ministry
Puppet Basics - Manipulation
Costuming the Puppet
Puppet Choreography
Advanced Puppet Ministry
Puppets on Mission Trips
Puppets: Staging and Technical
Puppet Resources
Writing Puppet Scripts
Performance Critiques

Clowning

Balloon Sculpturing - Hats
Balloon Sculpturing - Animals
Finding the Clown Within You
Juggling Basics
Two Person Routines
Clowning for Worship
Clowning in Missions and Ministry

Drama

Storytelling
Interpretative Movement
Acting I/Improvisation
Monologues
Acting II/Acting Games
Drama Resources
Multi-Media in Worship
Using Drama in Worship
Directing
Playwriting
Lip-Sync
Fun Drama
Performance Critiques
The Pageant

The festival sponsor is the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Student Department, (502) 245-4101, extensions 320, 321.

Festival Schedule

Friday, March 4

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Registration, scheduling and set-up

7:00-7:15

Welcome

7:30-8:30

Session I

Church performances and evaluations

8:30-9:00

Break

9:00

Session II

Church performances and evaluations

Saturday, March 5

8:00-8:45 a.m.

Juice and fellowship

9:15-10:30

Conference I

10:30-10:45

Break

10:45-12:00 noon

Conference II

12:00-1:30 p.m.

Lunch

1:30-2:45

Conference III

3:00-4:00

Closing acts

*To receive a registration form, listing of Lexington accommodations/rates complete form on EVENTS page 8a. February 28 is the deadline to receive your church's \$20 pre-registration conference fee.

EVANGELISM

A "must" event for your youth this summer

1994 Youth Evangelism Conference

June 24-25

Frankfort
Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center

Popular contemporary Christian recording artists 4 Him and evangelist Rodney Gage headline the program personalities at the 1994 Youth Evangelism Conference, scheduled for June 24-25 at Frankfort's Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center. The annual event is expected to draw over 6,000 youth.

4 Him's first recording attempt in 1990 became one of the largest selling debut albums of contemporary Christian music. The group hit No. 1 with "Where is the Faith," and the success has continued ever since. Each member of 4 Him—Andy Chrisman, Marty Magehee, Kirk Sullivan and Mark Harris—were previously members with Truth.

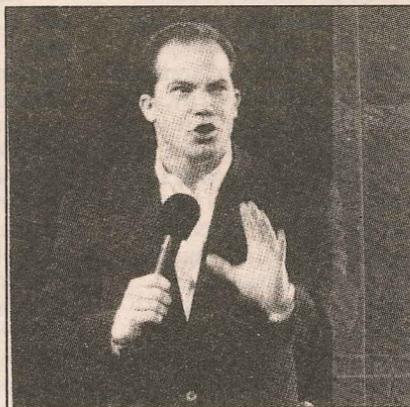
Rodney Gage, an evangelist from Fort Worth, Texas and the conference featured keynote speaker, is known for his effective ways in reaching today's generation with the gospel in churches across America.

Pre-registration is \$4; cost at the door is \$5.

Watch for further information and registration instructions regarding this conference in future Western Recorder and EVENTS issues.



Contemporary Christian recording artists 4 Him



Evangelist Rodney Gage

Other upcoming Evangelism events

- **State Evangelism Conference**
February 21-22
Louisville
Walnut Street Baptist Church
Please call the KBC Evangelism office, (502) 245-4101, ext. 330, by February 18 if interested in attending the February 22 Dialogue Luncheon.
- **"A Special Event for Women"**
February 22
Louisville
Hurstbourne Conference Center
Call the KBC Evangelism office by February 18 if interested in attending.
- **Conference on Cults**
March 7 7:00 p.m.
Paducah
Lone Oak Baptist Church
- **Conference on Cults**
March 8 7:00 p.m.
Benton
First Baptist Church

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Travel the "Trail of Treasures"

**VBS Convention/Extravaganza
March 19**

**Louisville
Highview Baptist Church**

9:00 a.m.-3:15 p.m. EST

Theme: "Trail of Treasures"

Pre-registration is required for free lunch.

Directions:

Highview Baptist Church is located at 7711 Fegenbush Lane, less than two miles north of I-265, exit 15 (I-265 is also known as the Gene Snyder Freeway, a connector around Louisville.). When exiting off I-265, go north on Beulah Church Road. Bear to left, passing the Outer Loop to reach Fegenbush Lane (State road 864).



Pre-register by contacting:
Sunday School Department
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433
(502) 245-4101, extensions 300 or 301

The VBS Convention/Extravaganza is an excellent opportunity to train church and associational VBS leadership. Offered at this event are: new curriculum; arts and craft ideas; games/recreation ideas; nutritional snack ideas and much more.

"Trail of Treasures" is the 1994 VBS theme. Two hour credit is available for state day care requirements. Pre-register information is provided later in this feature.

VBS Convention/Extravaganza Agenda

***8:00-9:00 a.m.**

Registration
A Baptist Book Store is available in the foyer.

***9:00-9:30**

General Session

***9:40-12:00 noon**

Core Conferences

Choose from the following:

- Trail 1 - PRESCHOOL**
Babies and Ones and VBS
Two Year Olds and VBS
Three Year Olds and VBS
Four Year Olds and VBS
Five Year Olds and VBS
Combined Preschool Age Groups and VBS

Trail 2 - CHILDREN

- First Grade and VBS
- Second Grade and VBS
- Third Grade and VBS
- Fourth Grade and VBS
- Fifth Grade and VBS
- Sixth Grade and VBS

Trail 3 - YOUTH

- Youth VBS in the Small Church
- Youth VBS in the Large Church

Trail 4 - ADULTS

- Teaching Adults in VBS

Trail 5 - ETC.

- Special Education and VBS
- Helps for General Officers and Director of Missions and VBS
- Pastors involved in the Ministry of VBS

LUNCH (free by pre-registering)

***1:00-3:15 p.m.**

Travel the Trail of Treasures
Display featured in gymnasium

***1:00-2:00**

Choice of conferences

***2:15-3:15**

Choice of conferences, repeat

Trail 1 - PRESCHOOL

- VBS in Church Day Care (1 hour state credit)
- Musical Fun with Preschoolers (1 hour state credit)
- Reaching Parents of Preschoolers

Trail 2 - CHILDREN

- Active Games for School Age Children
- Music and Drama for Children
- Children and Salvation

Trails 1 and 2 - Combined

- Positive Discipline (1 hour state credit)
- Storytelling is an excellent Teaching Tool (1 hour state credit)

Trail 3 - YOUTH

- Preparing Youth for Backyard Bible Clubs and Mission Trips
- Crazy but Creative Ways to Teach Youth

Trail 4 - ADULTS

- Creative Ways to Teach Adults
- VBS with Senior Adults and in Nursing Homes

Trail 5 - ETC.

- Great VBS in the Small Church
- Creative Conference Leading Ideas
- Discuss Your VBS Concerns and Questions with Willie Beaty, growth consultant, General Officers Section, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville



More Sunday School events and dates

Missed a Church Growth Tour in your area due to the Blizzard of '94? Check EVENTS page 1a or 8a for rescheduled dates.



Church Weekday Education Seminar Dates

June 4	Louisville Southern Baptist Seminary
June 11	Hopkinsville First Baptist Church
June 25	Ashland Rose Hill Baptist Church

\$10 per person registration fee

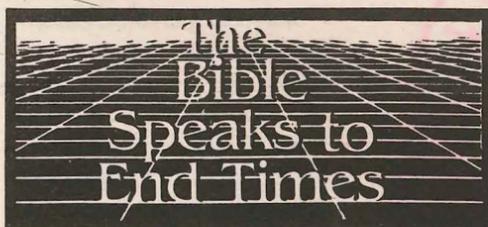
Contact the KBC Sunday School Department for further details.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Time to study

Four March dates are designated for the 1994 Baptist Doctrine Study and LIFE/LIFE Support Tour. Both the doctrinal study and tour are scheduled on the same dates at each host site. (The schedule and host sites are listed in the far right column.) Each event is free.

"The Doctrine of End Times" is this year's study theme. Dr. Fred Wood, a retired pastor and special consultant for the Baptist Sunday School Board, will lead these segments. The main target audience for this event is pastors and directors of missions. The study provides an overview and materials to aid in teaching.

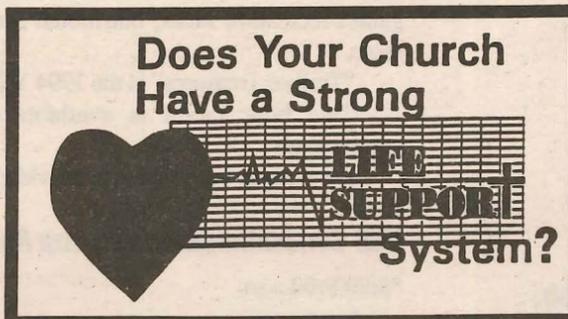


Tim Clark, minister of education at Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown and special worker in the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Discipleship Training Department, will conduct the LIFE/LIFE Support Tour. Courses include:

- Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God
- Making Peace with Your Past
- Fresh Encounter
- Search for Significance
- Untangling Relationships: A Christian Perspective on Codependency
- Many others

Directors of missions, pastors and ministers of education will learn how these

courses can benefit their local churches and communities.



Both events are sponsored by the Discipleship Training Division of the Baptist Sunday School Board and the KBC Discipleship Training Department.

Discipleship Training Department
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433
(502) 245-4101, extension 335

Schedule

1994 Baptist Doctrine Study "Doctrine of End Times"

LIFE/LIFE Support Tour

- Both are taught on same days, at same sites.
- 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon "Doctrine of End Times"
- 1:00-3:30 p.m. LIFE/LIFE Support Tour

March 14	Paducah First Baptist Church
March 15	Owensboro Davies-McLean Association Building
March 17	Lexington Elkhorn Association Building
March 18	Pineville Clear Creek Baptist Bible College

FAMILY MINISTRY

It's time to register

Senior Adult Daytime Celebrations

Daytime Celebrations offer senior adults unique opportunities for fellowship, spiritual renewal, recommitments to serve, workshops and entertainment. Four are planned in March at four different sites.

Dr. Mozelle Clark Sherman, professor of Church Music at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, will provide a dramatization of several Bible characters at each daytime celebration.

Advance registration is \$5 per person and covers lunch and morning refreshments. Reservations are needed a week in advance of the event in order to receive this reduced cost. Registration is \$6 if reservation is received less than a week in advance or at the door.



Daytime Celebration Schedules

March 4 9:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Princeton First Baptist Church	March 22 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Hindman First Baptist Church
March 17 9:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Elizabethtown Severns Valley Baptist Church	March 24 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Lexington Calvary Baptist Church

How to register or receive info on these events

Interested in registering or receiving more information about these KBC Family Ministry-sponsored events? Fill out the appropriate form on EVENTS page 8a and mail soon or call us at (502) 245-4101, extension 250.

Single Adult Retreat March 11-13 Cave City Convention Center Theme: "Living on the Cutting Edge"

Learning, sharing, fellowship. Just a few of the experiences which await single adults from across Kentucky during the weekend of March 11-13.

The Cave City Convention Center is again the site of Kentucky Baptists' annual Single Adult Retreat. This year's theme is "Living on the Cutting Edge."

Attendees may increase their awareness and insight with "cutting edge" retreat topics such as:

- AIDS and the Church
- Caring for Aging Parents
- Divorce and Remarriage
- Continual Spiritual Growth



The retreat registration cost is \$20 per person until February 25; \$25 per person is the cost after this date.

Single adult tee shirts will be on sale at the retreat.

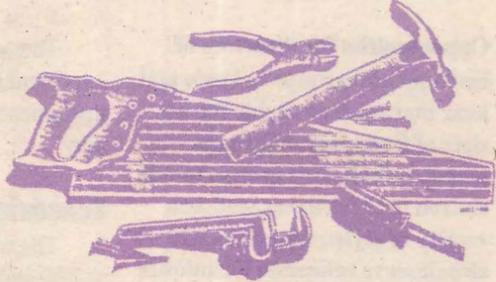
EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

CEDARMORE ASSEMBLY

Volunteer help needed for repairs

Cedarmore Assembly has recently been surprised and challenged by offers of assistance from its guests. Some offers were made from individuals, others from groups, to return to campus during "offseason months" for repair and maintenance work.



In response to these volunteer offers, the months of March and April have been designated for Missions Project Weeks at Cedarmore Assembly. Please consider participating if you or your group have an interest in any of the following projects:

- Cleaning, oiling and adjusting air conditioner units
- Testing electrical units
- Flowers, gardening, trail clearing, leaf raking
- Repair and painting of swimming pools
- Window cleaning
- Replacing or repair of curtains
- Nail pulling
- Stacking of lumber
- Roof repair/replacing

If interested, contact Harold Barnes, manager at this address and/or telephone number:

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



BROTHERHOOD

Missions workshop, summer camps keep agenda full

Youth Missions Workshop

Missions: "Going for God" attempts to develop leadership and missions trip preparation for youth. The youth mission workshop, sponsored by the KBC Brotherhood Department and the state WMU office, is March 11-12 at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly.

Workshop topics include: Basic clowning, advanced clowning, puppets, games, drama, personal witnessing; mission VBS, backyard Bible clubs, music, magic, partnership missions and World Changers resources.

To receive further info or a reservation form, contact the KBC Brotherhood Department.



JONATHAN CREEK

Week 1 June 20-24
Lad/Dad Overnight
June 24-25

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

Summer camps - "Get into the Game!"

Camp schedules are complete for Royal Ambassadors and HSBYM (High School Baptist Young Men) outings for this summer:

CEDARMORE

Rabro

Week 1 June 13-17
Week 2 June 27-July 1
Week 3a July 11-13 (Lads)
Week 3b July 13-15 (Lads)
Week 4 July 18-22
Week 5 July 25-29
Week 6 August 1-5

Lad/Dad Overnights

July 1-2
July 22-23
July 29-30

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

"Making a World of Difference" is theme as women and girls gather for annual meeting



"Making a World of Difference" is the 1994 Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting theme. Winchester's Central Baptist Church is hosting the April 22-23 event.

Child care will be provided.

Box lunches (\$4 per meal) will be available Friday and Saturday. Tickets may be purchased at registration.

Look for further details in the January, February/March Kentucky Notes.

Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting

April 22-23

**Winchester
Central Baptist Church**

The 1994 Kentucky WMU annual meeting agenda consists of the following:

Special speakers

- Jerry Rankin, president, Foreign Mission Board
- Mildred McWhorter, retired home missionary, Houston
- Nathan Porter, national hunger consultant, Home Mission Board
- Home and foreign missionaries

Special events

- Friday luncheons
Missionary Parents
Associational WMU
Directors; Directors of Missions and spouses
- Friday dinners
Acteens
Baptist Nursing Fellowship
- Saturday 9:00 a.m.-noon
GA Missions Event
- Saturday luncheon
Baptist Young Women

Special Friday conferences

- Infant Resources Project
- AIDS
- Hope for Hurting Humanity
- Habitat for Humanity
- Disaster Relief
- Stewardship
- Kentucky/Russia Partnership
- WMU Heritage Fund
- Missions Reaching the World
- Foreign and Home Missionaries

**Woman's Missionary Union
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, Kentucky 40253-0433**

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

CHURCH MUSIC

An opportunity to instrumentalize your musical gifts

Church Music Instrumental Workshop
for directors of instrumental groups and instrumentalists

April 15-16
 Elizabethtown
 Severns Valley Baptist Church

Camp Kirkland, a composer and arranger known as the first full time instrumental music director of a Southern Baptist church, is the featured clinician of this year's Church Music Instrumental Workshop. The event is hosted by Elizabethtown's Severns Valley Baptist Church on April 15-16.



Camp Kirkland

Attending this workshop will provide:

- An opportunity for instrumentalists to play in a mass instrumental group led by Camp Kirkland. This includes sight-reading and rehearsing literature for all sizes of instrumental groups and in a variety of styles.

- Opportunities for directors of instrumental groups to learn and hear literature available for all sizes of instrumental groups (small, unbalanced groups to full church orchestras) as well as a variety of styles. Directors will also observe rehearsal techniques with an instrumental group. A directors' roundtable and lunch on Saturday (\$5 additional expense) will discuss sources for instrumental music.

The workshop closes with a worship experience centered around the use of instruments and the affirmation of those who play.

Schedule

The workshop begins on Friday evening at 7:00 and concludes by 10:30; it resumes on Saturday morning 9:00 and ends by 3:30 p.m.

Cost

If received by April 1, the cost is \$10 per director or instrumentalist. The cost increases to \$15 after April 1.

Further Info

Please contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Church Music Department, (502) 245-4101, extension 325, or request one using the form on EVENTS page 8a.



DIRECT MISSIONS

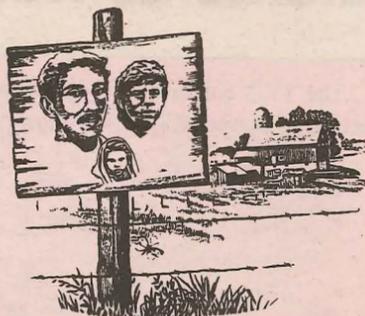
Ministering to those who hurt

Migrant Ministries Conferences

March 17
Winchester, Central Baptist Church
March 18
Madisonville, First Baptist Church
March 19
Middletown, Kentucky Baptist Building

All conferences are 10:00 a.m.-
2:00 p.m. local time.

Advance reservations are required for an accurate free lunch count. Contact the KBC Direct Missions Department at (502) 244-6461.



Kentucky is seeing an increase in migrant ministry needs, because at least 75 per cent of its counties host migrant workers. Most are Hispanic in background, and are poor and in the need of Christ.

Need for Training

In some cases, fear prevents us from becoming involved because often we do not know how to help. Sometimes our help stops at providing an occasional meal or worship service. Neither of these plans is enough.

Minister to Whole Persons

Migrant ministry should minister to whole persons—body, soul and spirit. Migrant ministry must be friendship-making, so migrants know we love them as they are.

Learning the Right Way

Learn some real skills for meeting real needs of migrants. Attend one of the three conferences scheduled across the state.



PARTNERSHIP MISSIONS

Is your commitment next?

Congratulations to the first 13 whose commitments will support Russian home missionaries during the Kentucky/Russia Partnership:

Dr. Richard Mardis Sunday School Class
Dr. Forest Shely Sunday School Class
Campbellsville Baptist Church
Campbellsville
Taylor Association
James Jones, pastor

Stithon Baptist Church
Radcliff
Severns Valley Association
Gene Waggoner, pastor

New Zion Baptist Church
Benton
Blood River Association
Mike Littrell, pastor

Gano Avenue Baptist Church
Georgetown
Elkhorn Association
C. Sherman Ramsey, pastor

Calvary Baptist Church
Danville
South District Association
Ernest L. Martin, pastor

Calvary Baptist Church
Glasgow
Liberty Association
James S. Jones, pastor

Special friend (two years)
Support of Russian home missionaries

Lincoln Association
Stan Stevenson, director of missions

Calvary Baptist Church
Loyall
Upper Cumberland Association
John Lambert, pastor

Rev. and Mrs. James T. Sasser
Richmond
Tates Creek Association

First Baptist Church
Stearns
McCreary Association
Phil Majors, pastor

First Baptist Church
Danville
South District Association
Timothy Mathis, pastor

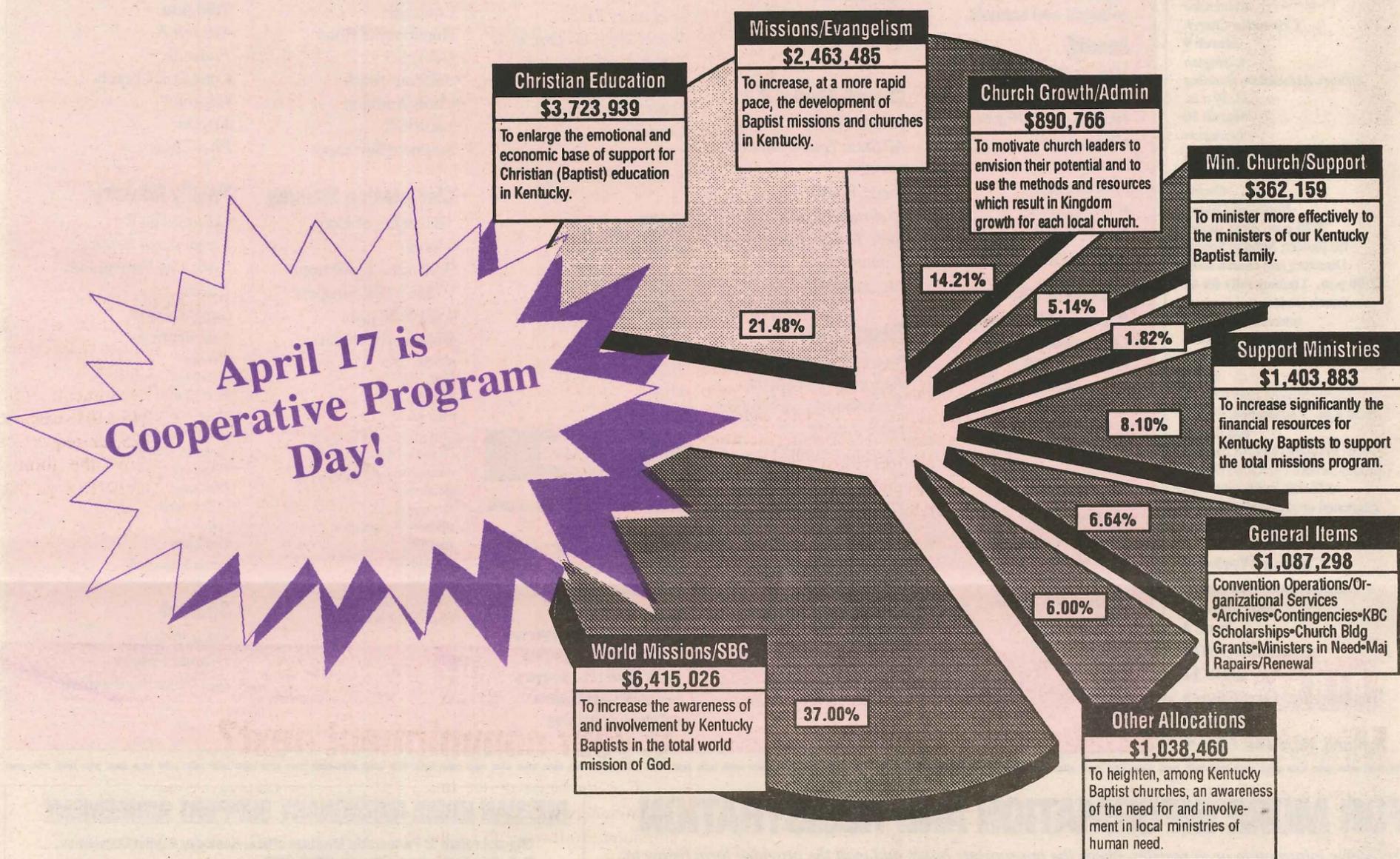
First Baptist Church
Henderson
Green Valley Association
Bill Patterson, pastor

If you or your church are interested in supporting a Russian home missionary or pastor for two years (\$200 per month), please complete the agreement form on EVENTS page 8a or call the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Partnership Missions office at (502) 245-4101, extension 236.



KENTUCKY / RUSSIA
BAPTIST PARTNERSHIP

How your contributions become Cooperative mission money at work



Step 1

Your involvement in missions begins as you make your offering through your church. Your church is supported with these offerings locally.

Step 2

Each year your church determines what percentage of these offerings will be sent to the KBC at Middletown marked for Cooperative Program missions and ministries.

Step 3

Those dollars then become Cooperative program dollars. The KBC retains 63.00% to do missions • reaching • teaching • winning in Kentucky and sends 37.00% to ...

Step 4

Worldwide mission causes in over 129 nations and 50 states and Puerto Rico of the USA. The pie graph illustrates how each dollar is divided.

OTHER EVENTS

Sunday School

Rescheduled

Small Church

Growth Tours:

March 7

Covington

Crescent Springs Church

March 8

Crittenden

Crittenden Church

March 9

Lexington

Elkhorn Association Building

11:30 a.m.

March 10

Lexington

Parkway Church

March 11

Corbin

Hopewell Church

5:30 p.m. Free supper

for pastors, Sunday School

Directors and church staff.

7:00 p.m. Training rally for all

church leaders and workers

interested in seeing

their church grow.

March 12

Berea

Upper Silver Creek Church

8:30 a.m. Registration, Coffee

and donuts

9:00 Training rally for pastors,

Sunday School Directors, church

staff and leaders/workers

interested in seeing their church

grow.

Church Weekday

Education Seminars

State approved

June 4

Louisville, SBTS

June 11

Hopkinsville, First Church

June 25

Ashland, Rose Hill Church

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

Emphasis:

Baptist seminaries, colleges and schools

Annui

Minister/Church

Tax Conferences

10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

•February 17

London

First Church

•February 18

Fort Mitchell

Fort Mitchell Church

Brotherhood

Regional Mission

Congresses:

•February 19

Central Region

Louisville

Cedar Creek Church

Northeastern Region

Ashland

Unity Church

•February 26

Western Region

Owensboro

First Church

Southeastern Region

Corbin

Central Church

•February 27

Volunteers in Missions

Day

Church Growth

Deacon/Pastor/Spouse

Retreat

•February 25-26

Gilbertsville

Kentucky Dam Village

Resort Park

Church Music

•February 19

All State Youth Audition

London

First Church

•February 25-26

State Youth Choir Festival

Lexington

Immanuel Church

Evangelism

•Here's Hope '95

February thru March

Associational training for

local church

steering committees

•February 21-22

State Evangelism

Conference

Louisville

Walnut Street Church

•February 22

"A Special Event for

Women"

Louisville

Hurstbourne Hotel

Student

•February 21-23

Campus Ministers Meeting

along with Evangelism

Conference

•February 21-25

World Missions Emphasis

Week, local campuses

•February 25-27

Student Missions

Conference

Louisville

Southern Seminary

WMU

•February 12-19

Focus on WMU

•February 20-23

Home Mission Study

•February 27

Volunteers in Missions

Day

MARCH

Emphasis: Home Missions

March 6-13

Week of Prayer for

Home Missions and

Annie Armstrong Offering

Calendar dates/events are

listed only through first

week of March, unless a

series of events are

scheduled together.

Brotherhood

•March 11-12

Youth Missions Workshop

Cedarmore Assembly

Church Music

•March 4-5

State Handbell Festival

Louisville

Hurstbourne Hotel

•March 5

All State Youth

Choir Audition

Louisville

Southern Seminary

Discipleship Training

"Doctrine of End

Times"

9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

LIFE/LIFE Support

1:00-3:30 p.m.

Both at these sites:

•March 14

Paducah

First Church

•March 15

Owensboro

Daviess-McLean

Association Building

•March 17

Lexington

Elkhorn Association

Building

•March 18

Pineville

Clear Creek

Baptist Bible College

•March 19

Youth Bible Drill &

Speakers Tournament

Cedarmore

Jonathan Creek

Evangelism

Conferences on Cults

7:00 p.m.

•March 7

Paducah

Lone Oak Church

•March 8

Benton

First Church

Family Ministry

•March 11-13

Single Adult Retreat

Cave City Convention

Center

Senior Adult

Celebrations

•March 4

Princeton

First Church

•March 17

Elizabethtown

Severns Valley

•March 22

Hindman

First Church

•March 24

Lexington

Porter Memorial

Student

•March 4-5

Drama, Puppet

and Clowning Festival

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

To receive information or to register, check the appropriate boxes and mail the provided form below to: Communications Office, Attn.: Denise H. Withers, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433

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

To Receive More Information

Cedarmore Baptist Assembly

Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly

Church Music

Church Music Instrumental Workshop

Family Ministry

Singles Retreat

Reservation form/info

Senior Adult Daytime Celebrations

Sunday School

VBS Extravaganza

CWE Seminars

Student

Registration form/

hotel listing/rates,

Drama, Puppetry

Clowning Festival

To Register

Family Ministry

Daytime Celebrations - \$5

per person

Single Adult Retreat - \$20

per person until Feb. 25; \$25

following

Sunday School

VBS Extravaganza - Lunch

count needed

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Office _____ Home _____

Church _____ Association _____

Leadership Position _____

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

RUSSIAN HOME MISSIONARY SUPPORT AGREEMENT

Clip and return to Partnership Missions office, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433.

1. Name of your church _____

2. Address _____

3. Telephone Number () _____

4. Pastor's Name _____

5. Your Name and Address _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____

6. Our church, Sunday School, WMU, Brotherhood or other organization (circle one) agrees to support a Russian home missionary or pastor for two years at \$200 per month.

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: () _____

Reds' banner policy ruled invalid again

CINCINNATI (EP)—U.S. District Court Judge Arthur Spiegel has declared unconstitutional a 1993 Cincinnati Reds Sign and Banner Policy that forbade the display of fan signs and banners at Riverfront Stadium unless they were "baseball related."

Judge Spiegel said the "baseball related" standard was as "inherently arbitrary" as the 1990 "good taste" policy that the Reds and the City of Cincinnati sought to enforce at the stadium and which Spiegel invalidated last year. Judge Spiegel declared that "the Reds' 1993 policy is facially even more flawed than the 1990 policy."

The case began Oct. 17, 1990, when Guy Aubrey of Cleveland, Tenn., attempted to display a "John 3:16" banner during Game Two of the 1990 World Series between the Cincinnati Reds and the Oakland Athletics. Stadium security told Aubrey that displaying his sign was against the policy of the Reds and Major League Baseball.

In February 1993, Judge Spiegel ruled that the Reds' 1990 policy barring religious banners at Riverfront Stadium was unconstitutionally vague and overbroad and provided no constitutional standard to regulate speech on signs.

The Reds subsequently changed their policy to permit only "baseball related" signs.

After Aubrey sought an injunction to stop enforcement of the "baseball related" policy in April 1993, the Reds changed their existing sign policy to ban all noncommercial signs and banners from Riverfront Stadium, including baseball-related signs.

Texans mount school prayer campaign

DALLAS (ABP)—More than half the counties in Texas have approved school-prayer resolutions in recent months, and that has some Texas Baptists concerned.

Resolutions urging that prayer be reinstated in public schools have been approved by commissioners courts in 134 Texas counties, as well as city councils in more than 50 municipalities and the boards of several school districts.

The resolutions demonstrate that some politicians are willing to trade religious liberty for social and religious control, charged Weston Ware, citizenship associate with the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission.

In effect, the resolutions propose that children in public schools be exposed to the prayers of whatever religious majority may control that school's board, Ware explained.

"Preserving religious liberty in our

country is a lot more important than any perceived benefits believed to come from schoolroom prayers determined by some political majority," Ware said.

Scott Arme, a Denton County Commissioner and son of U.S. Rep. Dick Arme, introduced the first such resolution last June 22 and has spearheaded the effort to get other counties and local governing bodies to endorse the measure.

The resolution approved by the Denton County Commissioners Court stated in part that the United States "was founded on the freedom of religion and was not founded on the freedom from religion."

Reinstating public school prayers would move the nation back to its religious-based moral foundations, according to the resolution.

Although the various resolutions approved in Texas do not address spe-

cific legislation, Arme said his goal is to convince federal lawmakers to approve a constitutional amendment on school prayer, particularly H.J.R. 173, introduced last March in the 103rd Congress.

The matter of school prayer, Arme said, should be left in the hands of local communities.

But that's an idea Ware said Baptists should oppose.

"Local control means local majority control," Ware said. "As Baptists, we don't believe in a local majority religious group dictating the religious practices of that community."

"Anywhere the religious majority rules religious practice, the religious minority in that community will be the victim."

But the idea is popular. Arme said the school-prayer resolution has received "grassroots support" and is gaining momentum.

"Anywhere the religious majority rules religious practice, the religious minority in that community will be the victim."
Weston Ware, Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission

Senate passes Helms' school prayer rider

WASHINGTON (ABP)—School districts that prevent "constitutionally protected" prayer in public schools could lose federal aid under an education bill amendment approved Feb. 3 by the U.S. Senate.

The Senate voted 75-22 to approve the amendment offered by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., after Helms agreed to add the words "constitutionally protected."

The Helms rider was attached to the Goals 2000: Educate America Act (S. 1150)—the Clinton administration's proposal that would provide more than \$420 million in education funds and establish education goals to be met by the year 2000.

The legal impact of Helms' amendment, if it becomes law, is uncertain, since it would not expand opportunities for school prayer beyond what is already permitted by federal court interpretations of the Constitution.

But opposing senators and representatives of religious liberty agencies expressed concern about the amend-

ment's practical impact. School officials fearful of losing federal dollars could be pressured into sanctioning more than "constitutionally protected" prayer, they said.

Helms' amendment would deny federal funds to state or local education agencies that prevent participation in "constitutionally protected prayer in schools by individuals on a voluntary basis." It also would bar states or local school districts from requiring participation in prayer and from influencing "the form or content of any constitutionally protected prayer in such public schools."

Since the early 1960s, the U.S. Supreme Court has consistently barred school-sponsored religious exercises in public schools. Helms said the country has been in moral decline since the Supreme Court's landmark school prayer decisions.

Helms insisted that his proposal does not require a school district "to do anything in favor of voluntary prayer. It merely must refrain from instituting policies prohibiting volun-

tary student prayer."

Senate opponents, led by Sen. John Danforth, R-Mo., an Episcopal minister, said the amendment was unnecessary and amounted to a federal mandate to local school districts.

The Baptist Joint Committee criticized the Helms amendment, while the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission praised it.

James Dunn, executive director of the Joint Committee, called the amendment unwise and unnecessary. "Some senators who know better dived under their desks yesterday in their zeal to escape the heat on the issue of school prayer," he said.

Richard Land, CLC executive director, said the amendment poses no threat. "This amendment protects only those prayers at public schools which are already constitutionally protected," he said. "The bill does not expand the scope of prayers already protected in school and does not change the Supreme Court's precedents about what is voluntary and non-coercive."

"Some senators who know better dived under their desks yesterday in their zeal to escape the heat on the issue of school prayer."
James Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee

Catherine Marshall's 'Christy' finally coming to television

TOWNSEND, Tenn. (BP)—People who were close to the late Catherine Marshall know it was her dream to see her classic novel "Christy" come alive on the screen.

But it took a persevering Christian film producer to bring her dream to pass more than 10 years after Marshall's death.

Finally, after a 27-year wait, "Christy" has made it to the movies.

In March, millions of Americans will tune in to watch CBS-TV's adaptation of Marshall's 1967 best seller about a young woman's struggles to teach mountain children in Appalachia.

A two-hour premier is to be followed by six one-hour segments.

No one can explain exactly why it has taken so long for a movie of "Christy" to be made. An overwhelmingly popular book, it has sold 8 million copies to date.

Marshall sold the movie rights to MGM in 1968 but the novel sat un-

touched in a Hollywood vault for years.

Ken Wales, a Presbyterian layman and producer of the CBS movie, said industry insiders are watching to see how successful "Christy" will be.

"It's a test case," he said. "There isn't another viable best-selling book property that's better than 'Christy.' If 'Christy' succeeds, that will send a tremendous signal."

Wales did not have TV in mind when he bought the rights to "Christy" in 1986. He wanted investors to help him finance the filming of a full-length feature film, but all arrangements fell through. CBS began pursuing him in 1991, no doubt helped by the fact that the wife of CBS President Jeff Saganasky is named Christy—and is a fan of the book.

Wales spent the fall filming just a quarter mile from Bethel Baptist Church in Townsend, Tenn., a tiny town on the western slopes of the

Great Smoky Mountains.

Kellie Martin plays Christy Huddleston, the main character of the book, whose life was patterned after Marshall's mother, Leonora Whitaker Wood. Martin, 18, starred in the popular ABC series "Life Goes On."

Wales was working at MGM when the film studio bought the rights to Marshall's book. When the company was sold in 1969, all films in preproduction were canceled, and the "Christy" project went on the shelf for 17 years.

One day in 1976, after Wales learned Marshall would be speaking in Pasadena, Calif., he bought a copy of "Christy" and read it in two days. He made some inquiries through industry contacts and learned MGM was not giving up the rights, even to the author.

Wales then called Marshall and told her how interested he was in making the book into a movie.

"Ken, I want you to know some-

thing," Marshall said. "I've been so despondent over this."

She described how she had spent an hour on her knees that morning praying about the movie. Wales said a chill went up his spine. From that day on, he tried to wheedle the movie out of MGM's hands.

But in 1986 the window of opportunity opened. One Sunday, by some coincidence, Wales attended the same church in Pacific Palisades, Calif., as an MGM executive. When he inquired after the service as to the fate of the film, the executive informed him media mogul Ted Turner was planning to buy MGM. For a brief time, he explained, MGM officials would be willing to unload some of their old properties.

But could Wales come up with the money and a script? He immediately mortgaged his home to come up with the necessary finances. But finding a company with the money to actually film "Christy" took another six years.

FMB reports numerous overseas advances in '93

"God will achieve his goals in the world. Our task is to join him and be part of his plan."

FMB President Jerry Rankin

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has reported advances during 1993 in a number of categories, from overseas church membership to baptism totals.

The year's healthy report card—reflecting work of missionaries, their overseas Baptist partners and more than 11,000 Southern Baptist volunteers—is a welcomed beginning for the FMB's new president.

"I believe we're seeing a spiritual momentum that can't be deterred," said Jerry Rankin, who was elected president last June after 23 years as a missionary and field administrator.

"Over the years we've dealt with gains and losses, peaks and ebbs, but we've moved into a new era of steady increases," he said. "This spiritual momentum means God is moving. ... God will achieve his goals in the world. Our task is to join him and be

part of his plan."

Here's a summary of the 1993 report:

■ **Churches.** Churches that Southern Baptist missionaries relate to have nearly doubled in six years, increasing from 17,769 in 1987 to 35,188 in 1993. In the last year alone, the number grew by 2,391, a 7.29 percent increase.

■ **Church membership.** Membership in overseas churches the FMB relates to climbed from 3.45 million to 3.74 million last year, an 8.26 percent increase.

■ **Baptisms.** The 262,758 baptisms by overseas Baptists, missionaries and volunteers was a record for the third straight year. Baptisms increased by 4.31 percent, climbing from 251,901 in 1992.

■ **Newly constituted churches.** An emphasis on church growth is credited with contributing to a record

number of congregations constituted into churches last year. Totals rose from 1,606 in 1992 to 2,019 in 1993.

■ **Mission and preaching points.** Missionaries, overseas Baptists and volunteers also helped mission and preaching points increase from 23,889 in 1992 to 25,327 in 1993. This is a 6 percent growth rate for preaching points—gospel outposts that may mature into churches.

■ **Bible teaching ministries.** 1993's record total of 2.23 million people enrolled in Bible classes now falls under a new title of Bible teaching ministries rather than Sunday school. The name change more accurately reflects the various forms of Bible teaching in the world of missions, but the bulk of it still comes from traditional Bible teaching in Sunday school.

■ **Overseas mission force.** As overseas figures grew, so did the

number of people serving in the largest mission force in the FMB's 148-year history. The mission force closed out 1993 with 3,954 missionaries, up from 3,893 in 1992. The board also appointed a record 495 personnel—223 career and associate missionaries and 272 two-year personnel. That's a 22.5 percent increase over 1992, when the board appointed 404.

■ **World A.** Another high point in this year's summary comes from "World A," that part of the world with little or no access to the gospel, often because of religious or governmental restrictions. In 1993, the board sought to reach 85 of the world's 212 least-evangelized people groups. Also in 1993, mission workers in World A helped establish 37 new churches and baptize 746 people. They also began 237 preaching points and now work with 131 churches with a total membership of 54,553.

The wall fell, but barriers remain for European Baptists

By Mike Creswell
SBC Foreign Mission Board

DORFWEIL, Germany (BP)—The Berlin Wall may have fallen, but repressive governments and power-hungry state churches still erect barriers to evangelical work across Eastern Europe.

That was the message Baptist leaders from 18 European countries deliv-

ered to a consultation on human rights and religious freedom held Jan. 26-30 in Dorfweil, Germany, sponsored by the European Baptist Federation. They gathered to plan how to deal with problem areas.

Baptists are a minority religious group in the region and still have to fight for their rights. In some countries they worry about the direction new laws on religion may take as a

bewildering variety of para-church groups and non-Christian cults flood most of the countries.

Baptist hopes for work in Eastern Europe soared as the Soviet Union and its empire broke apart, but "very soon we noticed that many things came back," said Karl-Heinz Walter, EBF general secretary.

Leaders at the consultation repeatedly agreed with a description offered

by Denton Lotz in an opening message. Lotz, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, likened the situation in Eastern Europe to the New Testament account of a man who was delivered of a demon. The demon returned to the man, bringing other demons with him.

The demon of communism left but has come back with other demons, Lotz said.

Religious oppression by insensitive governments still haunts the region. One key problem identified in discussions: Baptists in the region usually don't know national and international laws protecting religious rights. Some countries have signed international accords that include sections on religious rights, but local government leaders either do not know of such agreements or ignore them.

Baptists in almost all the countries said their ties to Baptists in other lands have been crucial to helping them win religious rights. They praised EBF and BWA leaders for giving them more stature when dealing with governments. In several cases leaders of the two Baptist bodies have intervened directly on behalf of local Baptists.

Resurgent majority churches—Orthodox in some countries, Roman Catholic in others—are creating problems for minority evangelicals in many areas. In some countries Orthodox leaders openly oppose Baptist work. In several others, Orthodox leaders have allied themselves with former communists to regain power and create state churches.

Majority churches across Europe are reacting to the rapid growth of evangelicals in many places. Such growth threatens the favored status of Roman Catholics and Orthodox churches, which are supported by the governments of many countries in the region.

EBF leaders plan to work with the Baptist World Alliance to improve relationships with such churches. Two major dialogue sessions with Orthodox leaders are planned for later this year.

Country-by-country reports on religious liberty

DORFWEIL, Germany (BP)—Here are country-by-country highlights of religious liberty problems and progress in Eastern Europe as described by Baptist leaders attending a Jan. 26-30 consultation in Germany:

■ **BULGARIA:** A strong propaganda campaign against Baptists and other evangelicals continues to plague work, said Theo Angelov, president of the Bulgarian Baptist Union. Baptists have tripled their numbers in four years, but former communists now run the government and have allied themselves with the Bulgarian Orthodox Church to oppose evangelicals.

■ **LITHUANIA:** Baptists have just 320 members in six churches, but their numbers have doubled in the past two years, said Albertas Latuzis, a pastor and chairman of Lithuanian Baptists. Baptists have much more freedom than during communist times, but the new constitution lists only nine religious groups as "recognized." Baptists aren't on the list.

■ **ALBANIA:** An estimated 5,000 evangelical believers now meet in five dozen churches—impressive figures for a country that just a few years ago had no churches and billed itself as the most atheistic country in the world, said missionary Chris Burnett. More than 100 church-related organizations are working now in Albania, he said. Some Christian workers are under surveillance and some telephones have been tapped. Muslims also are eager to win Albania. More than 200 mosques, schools and hospitals have been built by Muslims in the last two years in an effort to reach the country.

■ **GEORGIA:** Baptists now have 35 churches and 7,000 members, a small group for a republic with about 5 million inhabitants, said Guram Kumelashvili, who leads Georgian Baptists. But Baptists include five ethnic

groups and are growing rapidly. Growth would be even faster if Baptists didn't encounter constant opposition from government and Orthodox Church leaders, he said. The Orthodox patriarch used his annual Christmas message to blast Baptists and other non-Orthodox groups. Last March Baptists rented a sports hall to carry a satellite-transmitted broadcast of a Billy Graham crusade, but an Orthodox-organized group blocked the entrances. "We called the police but nobody came," Kumelashvili said.

■ **MOLDOVA:** Baptists hope Parliament elections in February will lead to the changing of a law on religion adopted two years ago. Baptist leader Victor Loginov said the law starts well but ends by forbidding proselytizing. While Baptists do not favor stealing members of other church groups, Loginov said, in the past such an anti-proselytizing law has been used by the Orthodox Church to attack Baptists and other evangelicals. Because of infant baptism and its national church status, the Orthodox Church has considered all citizens Orthodox, regardless of whether they believe in God or have any connection with the Orthodox Church.

■ **RUSSIA:** Aside from well-publicized Orthodox opposition, a lack of adequate buildings makes life uncomfortable for Baptists, said Baptist leader Victor Ryaguzov. But a more serious problem is new religious groups who bring strange practices and make outreach difficult. "You can imagine the feelings of the Orthodox people when the preacher jumps on a Bible and says, 'This is my foundation!'" he said. Also active are Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses and other cult-type groups familiar to America.

■ **BELARUS:** Baptists have much more freedom than fellow Baptists in other areas,

reported Stepan Komartchuk, president of Belarussian Baptists. That's a big change from communist times, when churches were severely persecuted and some Baptist pastors spent years in prison. About 10,000 Baptists worship in 130 churches in Belarus, a country with about 10 million people. The Orthodox Church is very strong in Belarus, Komartchuk acknowledged, "but the law of religion in our country does not allow any religion to be the state religion or to be over the others." Baptists can minister in prisons and hospitals, have opened many new Sunday schools and a Bible correspondence program.

■ **HUNGARY:** Baptists have won legal recognition under a new constitution, as have at least 50 other religious groups in the country, said Kornel Gyori, general secretary of Hungarian Baptists. But Roman Catholics claim about 70 percent of the population and are trying to regain their church-state status. Unlike those in some other Catholic-dominated countries, however, Baptists and other evangelicals can provide their own teachings for children in schools. "We can write, publish or build anything if we have the money. We can also hold services in prisons and in the military," he said.

■ **CZECH REPUBLIC:** Few quarrels have erupted between church groups, mainly because the country is highly secularized, said Pavel Vychopen, leader of the Baptist union. Catholics, the Reformed Church and Lutherans take part in an ecumenical council to which Baptists also belong, Vychopen said. At one recent gathering Protestants and Catholics prayed together. Baptists now have the freedom to evangelize and even teach the Christian faith in schools. They also have access to prisons and are trying to get access to the military, he said.

Baptists give aid in Yugoslavia

Continued from page 1

Steele coordinates the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's relief program from his base in Ljubljana, Slovenia. He and his wife, Debbie, and their two children lived in Belgrade, Serbia, until worsening conditions last year forced them to relocate to Slovenia, another new country formed out of what was formerly Yugoslavia. Slovenia borders Austria.

Southern Baptist aid is being delivered in Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia with help from Baptists living in all three areas.

The civil war ravaging these remains of Yugoslavia has killed thousands and caused one of the biggest refugee movements since World War II.

Southern Baptists' first \$225,000 aid program two years ago delivered 400 tons of food to the region. The second one, last year, delivered \$250,000 worth of food—480 tons.

A third \$250,000 program already has delivered 80 tons of food since December.

More aid will be delivered in the next two months. An additional \$50,000 is providing about 50 tons of food to southern Serbia, the area formerly known as Montenegro.

Southern Baptists have provided another \$30,000 for emergency medical supplies through the FMB and also have established a cattle project in Croatia to help improve cattle stock on farms there.

Getting supplies into the war zones has proved difficult, Steele said. But since local inflation has devalued the Serbian dinar, he and his Baptist co-workers can buy food inexpensively with Western currencies such as U.S. dollars or German marks.

Dane Vidovic, a deacon of First Baptist Church in Belgrade, said he and other Baptists in the city depend on food and other goods supplied by Bread of Life, an aid organization Baptists operate in cooperation with Pentecostals.

Bread of Life leaders report Southern Baptists are the backbone of their aid program.

They feed about 1,000 families a month; up to 80 percent of the food is provided by Southern Baptists. Baptists in both Croatia and Serbia also have organized relief agencies to help refugees.

Designated gifts for hunger relief may be sent through the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40243, or the FMB, Box 6767, Richmond, Va. 23230.

'What do I need to do?' boy asks

MBABANE, Swaziland (BP)—The children filed into the brightly lit school auditorium in Swaziland, where Southern Baptist missionaries Wayne Myers and Sonny Sweatman had been invited to show the "Jesus" film.

The two Foreign Mission Board workers were expecting only the primary-age children, but the entire school showed up, including administration—about 600 in all.

When the projector began rolling, a sudden hush fell over the auditorium. The children sat mesmerized by the story of Jesus unfolding on the screen.

Returning the next day to complete the film, the children eagerly watched as the life of Christ appeared on the screen. The vividness of Christ's last days brought strong reactions from them; it was as if they were there. As the Resurrection took place, the auditorium rang with cheers.

The movie ended. Before leaving, Myers told the students why he was a Christian and the two missionaries introduced special evangelistic literature they had brought.

They expected the students to depart in orderly files as they had

the previous day. Instead the missionaries stood in shock when the teachers simply dismissed the students, who rushed in mass to receive the literature, pushing and shoving to get copies.

As the last of the children left and the two missionaries gasped for breath, Sweatman felt a light tug on his shirt sleeve. Turning around, he saw a small 10-year-old boy.

"What do I need to do?" the boy asked.

Since the boy was holding an enrollment form for a Bible correspondence course, Sweatman assumed he needed help with it. "Let me help you fill it out," the missionary replied.

"No!" the boy responded immediately. "What do I need to do to know Jesus?"

Stunned by the child's urgency, Sweatman took him to a quiet corner of the auditorium. There the boy invited Christ into his life.

"It's truly a privilege to be serving in Swaziland and to see God working in the lives of people in this small corner of southern Africa," Sweatman said. "Thanks to Southern Baptists for providing evangelism tools."

English communion turns into bitter cup

KINGSCLERE, England (EP)—In the communion service, Christians remember the Last Supper. But a communion service in England nearly became the last supper for an English vicar and a dozen worshippers recently.

The communicants suffered gastric distress after drinking wine from the communion chalice at the Anglican church in the southern England city of Kingsclere.

According to Today newspaper, the chalice was later found to contain lamp oil.

Vicar Brian Leathley explained that a cruet meant to contain water was accidentally filled with lamp oil for the altar candles, so the wine wound up being mixed with oil rather than water.

Leathley was the most seriously affected because he finished off the cup at the end of the service. He told Today, "It was serious. I certainly did not suffer from constipation, and spent many periods of meditation in the smallest room in the house."

'Jesus' film reaching many

ORLANDO, Fla. (RNS)—A massive evangelization project sponsored by a wide range of U.S. Protestant groups continues to make inroads in Russia, despite political turmoil and efforts to place curbs on proselytizing by foreign religious groups.

That report comes from Paul Eshleman of the CoMission Project, a joint undertaking of more than 80 evangelical Christian groups in an effort to send 12,000 missionaries to Russia over the next four years.

Eshleman is director of The Jesus Film Project of Campus Crusade for Christ International, headquartered in Orlando, Fla., which is distributing its film about the life of Jesus in Russia's public schools as part of the CoMission operation.

"God has worked in Russia beyond even our expectations," said Eshleman of the project after a month-long tour of Russian schools.

"The political situation has caused a great deal of uproar and turmoil," he said. "But God's hand has kept the door open so we can continue to bring the story of Jesus Christ to that nation."

The film is being shown as part of a voluntary public school curriculum the CoMission Project is promoting, called "Christian Ethics and Morality: A Foundation for Society."

During his visit to Russia, Eshleman and other leaders of the CoMission visited Vladimir, a city located three hours northeast of Moscow. There, 141 public school teachers have integrated a Christian ethics curriculum into their classrooms, according to Eshleman's report.

An estimated 7,000 students and 1,000 teachers have seen the "Jesus" film in the Vladimir area.

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BAPTISTS

FMB meetings to hit the road; volunteerism boosted

By Robert Dilday
Virginia Religious Herald

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)—Southern Baptists outside Virginia will have more opportunities to see their missionaries appointed under a plan adopted by trustees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board Feb. 9.

Board members agreed to reduce from six to five the number of yearly FMB meetings, with three of those meetings away from their Richmond, Va., headquarters.

Currently the board regularly meets out of town only in April, al-

though occasionally trustees conduct business and appoint missionaries during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. Other meetings are held in October, December, February, June and August.

"It's time to respond to the many invitations we get to hold our meetings in other cities," said trustee Steve Hardy of Burlington, N. C., who chairs a committee examining ways to streamline trustee operations.

The plan—which is expected to be effective by the summer of 1995—eliminates the three-day June and August meetings, replacing them with about a weeklong midsummer meet-

ing in a retreat setting, probably at Baptist conference centers in Ridgecrest, N.C., or Glorieta, N.M.

The October meeting—which focuses on approval of the FMB's budget—would continue to be held in Richmond, as would either the December or February meeting. Trustees agreed a sixth annual meeting would be arranged if SBC leaders requested an appointment service during the denomination's June convention.

In other action, trustees approved a comprehensive strategy for utilizing volunteers on the mission field. In recent years, benefits and drawbacks of volunteerism have been debated in trustee committee sessions.

The growing number of Southern Baptists eager to participate in short-term mission trips has overwhelmed career missionaries trying to carry out their own ministries while coordinating the activities of volunteer groups. Trustees have been reluctant to ignore offers of service from church members who support the FMB, but equally reluctant to unleash a wave of volunteers on mission fields with limited resources and personnel.

The new volunteer strategy acknowledges the "central focus of the Foreign Mission Board's work is

based on sending career missionaries, but it also recognizes that the needs of our world are so vast that they require a comprehensive strategy that makes maximum use of all Southern Baptist resources, including volunteers."

Each mission, or group of missionaries in a country or region, is encouraged to develop a volunteer plan "that complements rather than compromises its local indigenous strategy."

In addition, missionaries will be asked to assign personnel to coordinate the volunteers; training in the use of volunteers will be added to orientation for new missionaries; and written agreements will be obtained from volunteer groups delineating responsibilities and restrictions.

In his report to the board, President Jerry Rankin cited recently released figures showing growth in most FMB ministries, but admitted the statistics do not "put us on track" to reach the goals of Bold Mission Thrust, the Southern Baptist plan to share the gospel with every person on earth by the year 2000.

"However, God does not move by human increments, but his Spirit is like the wind which blows where it will, and we cannot tell from whence it comes nor where it goes," he said.

FMB trustees take aim at Parks again

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)—For at least the third time in recent months, former Foreign Mission Board President Keith Parks has drawn the ire of FMB trustees in a continuing war of words over the financial security of the agency he led for 12 years.

Trustee Ron Wilson of Thousand Oaks, Calif., charged Parks Feb. 9 with attempting to "harm the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and gain support for the missionary enterprise" of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, which Parks now serves as global missions coordinator.

The board subsequently approved a motion to "refute" comments by Parks and Harlan Spurgeon, another former FMB staffer who is now Parks' assistant, that the board has adequate resources to support missionaries if FMB income drops due to increased contributions to the CBF.

Earlier in their meeting, trustees rescinded ac-

tion taken last year to dedicate a sesquicentennial history of the FMB to Parks.

Last October a trustee in a meeting of the board's strategy committee said he was uncomfortable that the book would be dedicated to Parks in light of his comments on FMB funding and other matters. Strategy committee members agreed with him and asked the policy committee to reconsider the dedication.

At this month's meeting, policy committee Chairman Bill Hall of Danville offered his panel's recommendation that the book be dedicated to the 10 presidents who have led the agency since 1846.

The Kentuckian denied the change was aimed at Parks. "We felt that to be fair about it we needed to pay tribute to all the men," he said. "This is a comprehensive history not just of 12 years but of 150 years."

The winter of '94

Those of us in our 40s can remember two significant winters before 1994.

In March of 1960 we had a ton of snow, particularly in western Kentucky. I remember that we missed so much school we had to make up days on Saturday.

I also remember that my dad, who worked in Evansville, had to stay there for a week. Again in 1978, we had a huge snowfall and I have vivid memories of shoveling snow.

The winter of 1994, however, now tops the other two in my memory. I think all of Kentucky was buried in snow the week of Jan. 16. Here in Louisville, we had a record snow of 16 inches and a record cold of 22 degrees below zero. Shelbyville Road, a major artery in Louisville, was still snowpacked when we drove to church more than a week later. Needless to say, a lot of people did not make it to work that week.

But across our child care system were some people who could not leave work.

Instead, they stayed on the job and managed homes full of children with extreme cases of cabin fever. I salute all of them!

My special thanks go to David Pollard and John Campbell at the Baptist Youth Ranch in Elizabethtown. They remained on duty from Sunday through Thursday at a facility where staff usually only work eight hours at a time.

I also want to acknowledge the staff at Glen Dale Children's Home who had to handle the birth of two calves on the coldest night ever in addition to caring for the children.

I am also especially appreciative of Spring Meadows Children's Home Director Mike Dixon and his staff. Spring Meadows maintenance workers were out in some of the coldest weather to help clear a way into our central office.

The staff at our newest program in Somerset, who had to contend with broken pipes in addition to caring for the children, also deserves special praise as do staff members in Mayfield, Dixon, and Morehead.

Times of trial like the "Winter of '94" just go to show that KBHC has great staff!

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

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BAPTISTS

Trustees see brighter days for Sunday School Board

By Bob Allen
Associated Baptist Press

NASHVILLE (ABP)—Sunday School Board trustees elected a 46-year-old Texas oil company executive to serve as chief financial officer of the Southern Baptist Convention's publishing arm Feb. 8.

President Jimmy Draper hailed Ted Warren's election as vice president of the business services group as an important step in a long-term goal of reclaiming lost customers and re-establishing the image of the 103-year-old board as a provider of quality materials and services.

In his report to trustees, Draper expressed "optimism about the present and future." Stories of successful products and projects buoyed spirits throughout the Feb. 7-8 trustee meeting at the board's Nashville headquarters.

Trustees completing their service

on the board, including Chairman Dan Collins, an attorney from Greer, S.C., waxed eloquent in expressing their esteem for Draper, who became president in 1991.

The adversarial relationship that existed between conservative trustees and Draper's predecessor, Lloyd Elder, has melted into a strong collegiality, and trustees took numerous opportunities to voice their confidence in Draper's leadership.

Enough concerns remained, however, to temper trustees' elation. While total revenue for the board in 1992-93 grew 2.8 percent, to more than \$208 million, they remained 2 percent below budget, Draper said.

Also, dated curriculum sales, the board's largest revenue-producing line, continued a precipitous but apparently slowing decline. "This is our cash cow," Jerry Rhyne, director of the business and finance department, told trustees.

While dated literature sales have softened for several years, a string of declines ranging from 4 percent to 6 percent dates back a year and a half.

Those declines coincide with the establishment of Smyth & Helwys, an independent publishing house offering alternative literature primarily for Baptists displeased with the more conservative direction of the Sunday School Board and the SBC.

One estimate is that Smyth & Helwys has claimed about 3 percent of the board's total customers.

Smyth & Helwys, however, is but one of 27 major competitors monitored by the board, said Gene Mims, vice president for the board's church growth group.

A greater challenge, he said, is an industrywide change in buying patterns. Most Southern Baptists once looked to the board as their sole provider of church materials. "Wake up," he urged trustees. "That's not where

we're living."

Historically, Mims said, a handful of high-revenue products have subsidized others that earned less or lost money. To succeed, the board must develop more income-producing materials, he said.

Draper reported that a corporate overhead study that led to staff reductions in 1993 will save approximately \$2.4 million this year.

Despite that savings, Draper said, the board is behind projections for new dollars to be plowed into new ventures. He predicted a time frame of three-to-five years "to get where we need to be."

Kirk Humphreys, president of Century Investments Inc., in Oklahoma City, Okla., was elected new chairman of the board. Vice chairman Jerry Sutton, pastor of Two Rivers Baptist Church in Nashville, and secretary Roy Miller of Lexington were re-elected.

While total revenues for the Sunday School Board grew 2.8 percent, to more than \$208 million, income remained 2 percent below budget last year.



Seek to know how Baptist Young Women in your church are helping others and growing spiritually. If your church does not have BYW, contact Kentucky WMU, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, or call (502) 244-6485 for free materials.

Whitsitt was important figure, Patterson says at Southern

By Pat Cole
Southern Seminary

LOUISVILLE (BP)—Although William Whitsitt's notoriety in Baptist history is most often linked with a controversy over Baptist origins, the 19th century seminary president made significant contributions as a scholar, academic leader and minister, according to Baptist historian Morgan Patterson.

In a Feb. 1 Founders' Day address at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Patterson said Whitsitt was the "most versatile scholar" to teach at Southern during

the school's first 50 years.

"A preoccupation with the controversy should not be allowed to obscure the fact that (Whitsitt) was a major figure in the life of this institution ...," said Patterson, who retired in 1991 as president of Georgetown College.

"Because of his teaching ability, his scholarly mind, his attainments, his capacity for work, his probing mind, his administrative experience and his commitment to the preparation of ministers of the churches, he was an exceedingly valuable asset to the school."

Whitsitt joined the Southern Seminary faculty in 1872 and was named president in 1895. He was pressured to resign the presidency in 1899 amid a controversy created when he challenged a popularly held belief that Baptists could trace their beginnings through an unbroken chain of succession to the apostolic era.

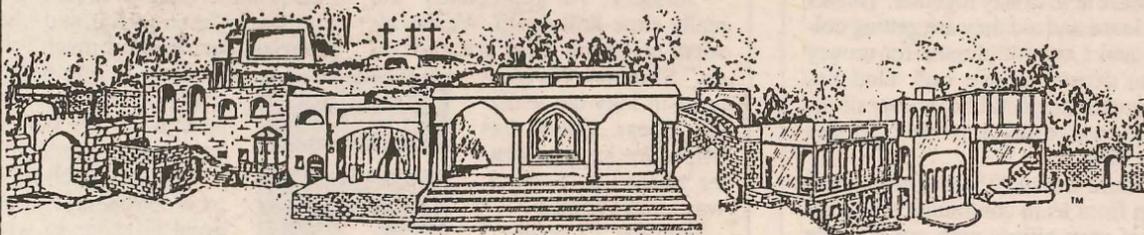
Instead, Whitsitt, basing his position on historical research he did in England, argued Baptists sprung from English Separatists in the 17th century.

The subject Whitsitt pursued was of great importance for historians and others interested in historical accuracy, said Patterson, a former church history professor at Southern and a former dean and current visiting professor at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif.

"Its significance has not been diminished in the subsequent 100 years, as all trained Baptist historians have embraced and taught essentially the conclusions of Whitsitt in this area," Patterson noted.

"Thus, the contribution of Dr. Whitsitt to historical scholarship in our denomination has not been small, and he deserves major credit for upholding the value of historical research and documentary evidence in drawing conclusions about the events of history as we seek our denominational roots and identity."

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PEOPLE

KENTUCKY KERNELS

Nearly two-thirds of American adults believe "it does not matter what religious faith you follow because all faiths teach similar lessons about life."

Source: Barna Research Group

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **BOWLING GREEN**—First Church called **Phil Mitchell** of Winston-Salem, N.C., as minister of music. He will begin in mid-March.
 ■ **BRADFORDSVILLE**—Bradfordville Church called **Kevin Byrd** as pastor. He previously was youth director at South Campbellville Church.
 ■ **BURLINGTON**—Woodhaven Church celebrated its eighth anniversary Feb. 13.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Pleasant Hill Church called **L.D. Kennedy** as interim pastor.

Green River Memorial Church ordained **Damon Eubank, David Cox** and **Marshall Caulk** as deacons Jan. 30.

■ **CRESTWOOD**—**Kenny Blankenship** resigned as minister of youth at Harrods Creek Church.

■ **HENDERSON**—Immanuel Temple ordained **David Bartlett, Jamie Randolph** and **Mike Sugg** as deacons Feb. 6.

■ **INDEPENDENCE**—Beechgrove Church ordained **Robert Bell** to the ministry.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—**Thurmond Coleman Sr.**, pastor of First Church in Jeffersontown more than 37 years, will be honored Feb. 18 by Senior Citizens East with a roast. Tickets are available by calling (502) 267-9102.

■ **MADISONVILLE**—First Church ordained **Douglas Mings** as deacon Feb. 6.

■ **MIDDLESBORO**—First Church called **Mark Hill** as minister of music and youth.

■ **PADUCAH**—**Willis Henson** celebrated his 22nd anniversary as pastor of Lone Oak First Church.

■ **SOMERSET**—Beacon Hill Church has begun "First Place," a Christian diet and Bible study course.

■ **WESTPORT**—Westport Church ordained **Sarah Martin** to the ministry Feb. 13.

■ **CORRECTION**: **Rick Reynolds** resigned as pastor from McKinney Church in Science Hill, not in McKinney, as previously reported.

Glasgow woman extends her witness through teaching

By Heather Zapanta
State Correspondent

GLASGOW—If Barbara Yarbrough could do only one thing for her students, she says it would be to instill an insatiable desire to learn and function as productive Christian citizens.

She may not admit it, but looking back on her lengthy career in education, the Baptist laywoman already has done much to achieve that goal.

When Yarbrough is not teaching her primary school class at E.D. Terry Elementary School in Glasgow, she may be found leading educational workshops at a Baptist conference center or writing preschool curriculum for churches.

Yarbrough is widely used as a resource person in Baptist life, by the Kentucky Baptist Convention as well

as the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Early on, Yarbrough knew that teaching was her calling. She earned an undergraduate degree in religious education from Wake Forest University and a master's degree in early childhood education from Columbus College.

She considered a career in missions, but ultimately found her mission was in education. "For me, the joy is in teaching," she said.

"I want to be able to be the best kind of Christian I can be, under whatever circumstances I'm in," she explained.

Due to the nature of his position with J.C. Penney's, her husband, Bob, has kept the family on the move for 33 years. But Yarbrough believes God has prepared a special place for her with each move.

While in Covington, Va., in 1983, Yarbrough wrote a grant for and initiated a unique educational program she still is proud of. In it, school buses designed to function inside as classrooms went to children in mountain communities who otherwise had no way to reach a school.

Most of her work has dealt with educating children through teaching and curriculum writing. She has worked in Georgia, Virginia, North Carolina and now Kentucky.

Her current class involves a multi-age grouping of kindergartners through third graders. Besides teaching the basic skills, she also teaches children to make wise choices.

This method incorporates all the senses, she said, since that is the best way for children to learn. As she teaches children their ABCs or numbers, they work on cooking, planting

and building projects.

And in her own life, Yarbrough said trials have taught her to be a stronger person and better Christian. That, in turn, influences her teaching.

Her family has faced many challenges. During high school, her son became involved with drugs. He since has overcome that problem, and Yarbrough said the process has brought them closer together.

Now she and her husband are working to overcome his lymphoma, which is cancer of the lymph nodes.

During hard times like these, Yarbrough said, she is more in tune with God and works harder to listen to his voice.

"I never have been angry with God or asked 'Why me?' or 'Why us?' That is because I think those kinds of things happen to people, and I'm now different from other people."

In a strange land

For the past two weeks all of us at Oneida have been feeling somewhat like the Israelites during the Babylonian Captivity. When their captors required of them a song, they responded, "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?"

Remembering the blessings of bygone days, they found it difficult, if not impossible, to sing happy songs in their foreign environment. We have found it difficult to break forth in happy songs during these days.

The absence of Barkley Moore has made us recall the joys associated with his presence in earlier days. We have wanted to ask for advice, only to realize he is not here.

As with the Israelites, we must know that even our melancholy, our inability to sing a song may itself become a song. Thoughts of sorrow may lead to a true melody. We are praying this may be our experience.

Messages of sympathy have come from hundreds of admirers, expressing their love for him and his family. They have consistently pledged their continuing support, both in memory of Barkley Moore and for the sake of the ministry it will continue to provide. A permanent list of the memorial gifts will be maintained.

Perhaps the most tangible sign of well-being at Oneida came on Monday when 19 young people became students for the first time. The questions they were asking about facilities and opportunities indicated they were rapidly becoming an integral part of life at Oneida.

Several people wrote letters the day before the homegoing of Barkley Moore:

"Enclosed is a check for \$1,280. My husband fell and was unable to work for several months. Initially no insurance benefit was received. We re-filed our claim. We had already paid all bills so we decided to donate any money which might

come to us. It came last week and we are sending it on to you. We know it will be wisely used at Oneida. We feel so blessed to come and volunteer. The warmth, friendliness and commitment of the people there we haven't seen elsewhere."

Another writes, "Becoming a single working mother when my children were small, I have had rocky times for 15 years. At one time I called Oneida about sending one of them there. With the Lord's help we were able to stay together. Thanks to scholarships, loans and aid they are getting college educations and I am not pressed for money

to the degree I once was. God has watched over us and taken care of us. I'd like to give this donation to be used as he leads."

A third writes, "Please find a small token from us in continuing appreciation of your efforts with our son. He has a place in his heart for Oneida. He always manages to attend any activity in which an Oneida team or group appears in this area. He is now in college doing exceptionally well."

From a letter written the week before Barkley entered the hospital, "Just a note to let you know we are excited about all the new projects and additions going on at Oneida. We look forward to the Recorder to help keep us informed about God's work through your ministry. It's hard to believe our son graduated four years ago and is now almost through college."

In order that you may hear from the beneficiaries of our work—your work—at Oneida, such expressions of gratitude will be carried in this column often. They are some of the things that make us want to "sing the Lord's songs" even in "a strange land." Other workers at Oneida will assist with special material as well.

A.B. Colvin is administrator of Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. 40972

THIS IS ONEIDA



A.B. Colvin

Snowbound Young Disciples

"If you're going to get snowbound, Clear Creek is the place because there's so much to do with so many youth," Jennifer, 17, described the Young Disciples youth group. While most of the state was paralyzed by the winter storm, our campus youth "had lots of fun" and deepened Christian relationships.

Jeramee, 16, appreciates "the really close-knit group. We can always call each other for stuff to do." Shannon, 17, graduates in May but realizes "Clear Creek has helped me learn no matter where I go I can always make friends."

Nicole, 13, said, "I don't really like Clear Creek, but I like Young Disciples. I've had fun this week while we've all been together."

Stephanie, 13, acknowledges "Clear Creek is OK, but I still miss my friends. Our lock-in was pretty good."

Ty, 15, shared "I've had some bad experiences here, but I'll miss some of the people when I leave. Being snowed in has been good. On Wednesday all the people on Holly Hill ate lunch together at the Dean's house. Sixty-one of us had a good time."

"When it snows, I always get sick. Then I have to stay in while everyone else goes sledding. Darrell and Cheryl are really the best

leaders," said Jeff, 16.

My daughter Mary, 17, said, "I didn't want to come. Now I like it pretty much, especially the people. Because of the snow, I got to know new people. I will miss them when I graduate."

Fourteen-year-old Heather said, "When I first came to Clear Creek, I thought I would hate it. Living on campus can be really fun, and when I moved, I realized how much I was

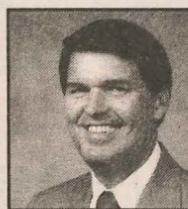
missing. Living here is really worth it, even though we are kind of far from civilization."

Leader Darrell Hammon considers it an unusual privilege to work with Young Disciples. "We have so many different people and backgrounds. Each individual is a leader. The snow gave us opportunities for sledding, football in the snow, and a quickly-planned lock-in which God blessed."

His wife, Cheryl, will always remember "walking home after the lock-in. It was 6 a.m. and it felt like we were on an episode of 'Little House on the Prairie.' The next night 19 teen-agers were at our house for spaghetti. If I have to be stranded, I would want Clear Creek because of the close family we have."

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

PEOPLE

6-year-old finds 'good bed' with adoptive family

By Tim Palmer
Missouri Word & Way

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP)—It's a metal crib, one of 15 plain metal cribs in the room where the little boys at the Special Garden orphanage sleep every night. I photographed the roomful of cribs when I went to Baia Mare, Romania, to get my son Andrei.

Now I look at the photo when I want to remember the life we took him from, in the hope and faith that we can give him a better life. Andrei looks at the photo differently. "It's a good bed," he says, pointing to the crib that was his.

Andrei is 6 years old and until mid-December had never known life outside an orphanage. In his new life, he sleeps in the bottom bunk in a bedroom he shares with his brother, 8-year-old Geoffrey.

Sometimes Andrei misses the friends he left behind at Special Garden. My wife, Catherine, and I try to honor his grief, even as our hearts ache to see him feeling sad.

But children, thank God, are resilient. Soon the twinkle returns to Andrei's grey-blue eyes and he's back having fun.

He has a firm hold on our hearts. From the moment we met each other in a hallway at the orphanage, when a nurse told him I was his "tata" (father) and he would go with me to America, Andrei has been my son.

We weren't sure Andrei would know how to have fun. We weren't too sure of anything when we set out on the road to adoption, except that we wanted God's will to be done.

Andrei entered our consciousness one day last year when Cathy got a phone call from her friend and fellow missionary kid Janice Duffy in Tennessee. Janice and her husband, Roger, had adopted a baby girl out of Romania in 1991.

Now they were going to try to adopt her older sister, Janice reported—and guess what? There was an older brother, too.

Cathy recently had finished writing her 10th novel, titled "For the Love of a Child," which has an MK heroine who adopts a 2-year-old. Life was imitating art—we already had started the process to adopt a newborn in Missouri.

After agreeing among the three of us that adopting an older child would have many advantages—he could play baseball with us, for one—we turned our attention to Andrei. We and the Duffys worked through Nashville-based Small World Ministries, one of six U.S. adoption agencies authorized to do adoptions out of Romania.

If we quickly could move along in the demanding adoption process, ... maybe we could have Andrei home for Christmas.

And that's exactly what happened. Roger Duffy and I spent nine days in Romania—two more days than planned—and we arrived back in America Dec. 21 with Andrei and his sister Andrea.

Before our trip, the best advice I got concerning international adoption came from Sandy McLaughlin of Holt International Children's Services in Bucharest. I had asked her whether it was feasible to complete an adoption during a one-week stay in Romania.

"It is important to be flexible and patient," she advised. "Tight schedules tend to cause a lot of undue stress in the adoption process."

Andrei and I landed in St. Louis on Dec. 21. Our welcoming party was small—Cathy, Geoffrey and Cathy's parents, Harold and Betty Cummins. But dozens of others shared the moment with us in spirit.

I came to realize that what we were doing struck a responsive chord in the hearts of people who love children.

And people in Romania love children, I discovered. Reports on American television of deplorable conditions at some orphanages have given the country a bad name, but as Sandy McLaughlin said, "They're doing the best they can with what they have—and things have improved."

Small World representative Tudose "Doru" Diaconu talked about his country as we watched the Transylvanian countryside roll by on our 12-hour train ride from Bucharest to Baia Mare. Former dictator Nicolae Ceausescu had decided Romania should arrive at a population of 30 million by the year 2000. To that end, he outlawed abortion and made birth control unavailable.

"The official policy was to have a lot of children in the family, and if not in the family, in the orphanages." Ceausescu's reasoning, Doru explained, was that more young people in the work force would mean a better life for retired people. Today Ceausescu is four years in the grave and Romania has 249 orphanages. At Special Garden, Adriana Herman is the doctor for 120 youngsters.

The first words she spoke to Roger and me went a long way toward easing my fears that the children had been in the care of uncaring people.

"It is hard for us to give you these children," she said.

We assured her they would be loved and cherished. And we promised to try to get her an otoscope—an instrument to check for ear infections that no American children's physician would be without.

What about the children who are still there? They seemed happy enough, and the fact that Andrei

FIRST PERSON



sometimes misses the orphanage reminds us that to him it was home. He looks at his friends' pictures and says their names, laughing at certain ones.

I'm afraid they'll pass from his memory, and I suppose they must, to make room for new friends, for a world of knowledge opening up to him as an American kindergartener.

And of course we've entered a new world ourselves, as adoptive parents. Some people feel compelled to express their reservations or even give dire warnings about the "issues" we will have to deal with in the future.

Yes, we know the first years of a child's life are supposed to be the most important. But if everyone were afraid to adopt a child older than age 2, all those children would be consigned to a life without a family. They would miss out on knowing a parent's love, the first model for God's love.

I don't think that's what our heavenly Father had in mind. We're trusting in the sufficiency of his grace.

A few nights ago Cathy was tucking Andrei in and she asked him, "What about this bed? Is this a good bed?"

He looked at her and he looked around him and he replied, "It's a good bed."

NEW FATHER At the Special Garden orphanage in Romania, 6-year-old Andrei shares one of his first smiles for the camera with his new father, Tim Palmer, managing editor of Missouri Baptists' Word & Way. (BP photo)

Woman now works for agency that gave her a family

BUCHAREST, Romania (BP)—For all the gifts Sandy McLaughlin brought to share, the world didn't exactly fling open its arms to welcome her on the cold dawn of Jan. 31, 1961. In fact, she was one child too many for her Korean mother, who left her four days later near a police station in Seoul, South Korea.

Part of her umbilical cord was still attached when authorities found her and processed her at City Hall as an abandoned child.

But she believes God had a plan for her. Thirty years later, on a trip back to Seoul from her adoptive home near Erie, Pa., she began to understand it.

Now the 33-year-old social worker with smiling eyes is a Southern Baptist tentmaker in Romania, the last one approved before the Foreign Mission Board discontinued the program relating to Baptist professionals employed overseas.

She draws her paycheck from Holt International Children's Services—the very agency that delivered her out of the bowels of a South Korean orphanage and into the waiting arms of a Baptist family when she was six

months old. Holt is approved by the Romanian government to place abandoned children into families in the United States.

Foreign adoption is one way Romanians are reducing the number of children in orphanages that sprouted like weeds during the reign of communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

If McLaughlin's project with Holt is successful, it will increase the ability of Romanians to care for their children. She labors to help Romania rear its children in real families—either the ones they were born into or with new Romanian parents. Foreign adoption then could be a choice in cases where children cannot be placed inside Romania.

"The general population of Romanians love their children and will sacrifice their lives for them," McLaughlin said. But economics have forced them to let the state care for children they can't afford to feed and clothe.

McLaughlin's own beginnings drive her to lead the effort to keep kids out of institutions—backed by a 30-member staff and funded through a three-year, \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. government.

"When I pick up one of these babies, I always see myself, I always feel myself," she said.

"It bothers me when children are wet or want to be held, or are hungry and want to be fed, and nobody is coming to give them attention. I stress to people in our training: 'If you don't love them, who will?'"

Holt is an international Christian adoption agency started in 1956 by Harry and Bertha Holt. The Holts were moved by seeing the thousands of homeless children in South Korea after the Korean War and adopted eight of their own. McLaughlin has been working with Holt full time since 1986, and off and on since 1981.

Up to 30 percent of children in Romanian orphanages still have birth families who visit them regularly, McLaughlin estimated. Her project aims to aid the others. Of them, 30 percent have no family.

McLaughlin knows how adoption by loving parents enhanced her chances of success. "My parents are my real parents," she said. "I wouldn't trade them for anything in the world. Next to God, they are the most important aspect of my life."



"When I walk into a room full of little kids with their arms reaching up to me, my only thought is, 'They need a family. They need to have what I have,'" she said. "You want to grab them all up ... and say, 'Everything is going to be OK,' and take them home. But I can't."

Other people can. It's her job to help find them.

Families interested in adopting a child from Romania—or other countries where Holt works—may write to Holt International Children's Services at Box 2880, Eugene, Ore. 97402, or call (503) 687-2202.

FOR ADOPTION In the maternity ward of University Hospital in Bucharest, Romania, physician Ana Culcer holds up an infant only days old who needs a family. Culcer and Gina Schiteanu (center) have worked with Southern Baptist tentmaker Sandy McLaughlin (right), of Holt International Children's Services to help Romanian Baptists grow up in healthy families. (BP photo by Warren Johnson)



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