

MARCH 8, 1994 VOL. 168, NO. 10

FOR THE RECORD

Home missions

This is the week of prayer for home missions in the Southern Baptist Convention. See pages 1, 5 & 8.

Study groups

SBC President Ed Young has reported initial suggestions by several study groups he appointed last year. See page 2.

Mid-Continent

The administrative committee of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board will appoint a subcommittee to consider a request to formally recognize Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College. See page 3.

Family Forum

Is it normal to put flowers by the roadside where someone was killed? See page 4.

Editorial

We must work together to minister to our cities. See page 5.

Life & death

Two Frankfort churches joined forces to sponsor a four-day seminar on issues at the end of life. See page 6.

Family in Crisis

The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission held its annual seminar last week on the theme of "The Family in Crisis." Speakers addressed a variety of problems plaguing the modern family. See pages 10 & 11.

Kentucky teens affirm 'True Love Waits'

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

Whether it's billed as a one-night study or a lengthy affair, the True Love Waits campaign has inspired numerous Kentucky Baptist teens to commit to sexual purity.

True Love Waits, the title of a national campaign sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, promotes sexual abstinence among teen-agers until marriage.

The Bible study and commitment program has gained endorsement by 19 other denominations and a host of agencies from every continent in the world, said John Lepper, director of the family ministry department for the Kentucky Baptist Convention and chairman of the state's True Love Waits committee.

"It's kind of like we've always believed this, but this little slogan and this program have become a vehicle for communicating straight with teen-agers," Lepper said.

Although he doesn't know the exact number of churches who have used the material, Lepper described

the response in Kentucky as "very positive" and "enthusiastic."

Kits available through the KBC family ministry department include commitment cards, promotional items and theme music as well as plans for family worship, a church-wide service, a Bible study and associational and state events.

And, Lepper said, Southern Baptist churches across theological and geographical spectrums in Kentucky have found a variety of effective ways to use the material.

"It's real adaptable," agreed Art Turner, youth minister at First Baptist Church in Mount Washington. "You can use it as a Bible study, in four weeks or in one night."

Turner was one of the first in the state to lead the True Love Waits program, Lepper said.

Turner facilitated the event at Melbourne Heights Baptist Church in Louisville last May, when he was

minister of youth there.

"The structure at Melbourne Heights was a one-night study," he said. "We had done a whole month of Bible studies on sexuality in the fall" leading up to the event.

A True Love Waits Bible study was scheduled for a night after parents and teens had a chance to meet for their own family worship, Turner said. Then on the next Sunday, Pastor Bill Shoulta preached about sexual purity.

Turner has led True Love Waits for other Kentucky groups, too, in environments such as a ski retreat in Gatlinburg, Tenn., and an associational rally, he said.

About 20 teens from Jefferson-town Baptist Church in Jefferson-town attended a weekend retreat in Gatlinburg. In addition to skiing and shopping, the youths had time for an in-depth study based on the True Love Waits material, Turner ex-
□ See Kentucky teens ..., page 12

**Key religion index hits all-time low**

PRINCETON, N.J. (RNS)—After a moderate rebound in 1991 and 1992, a key index of religious belief in America hit an all-time low in 1993.

Although the bottom-line figure was the lowest in 50 years, some of the eight indicators measured by the Princeton Religion Research Center Index showed an upswing. The index is based on polling done by the Gallup Organization.

Indicators on the rise include the importance people attach to religion and identification with specific faiths and denominations.

A perfect score on the index would be 1,000. That figure would be reached only if every single person in the country made a total commitment to God and church.

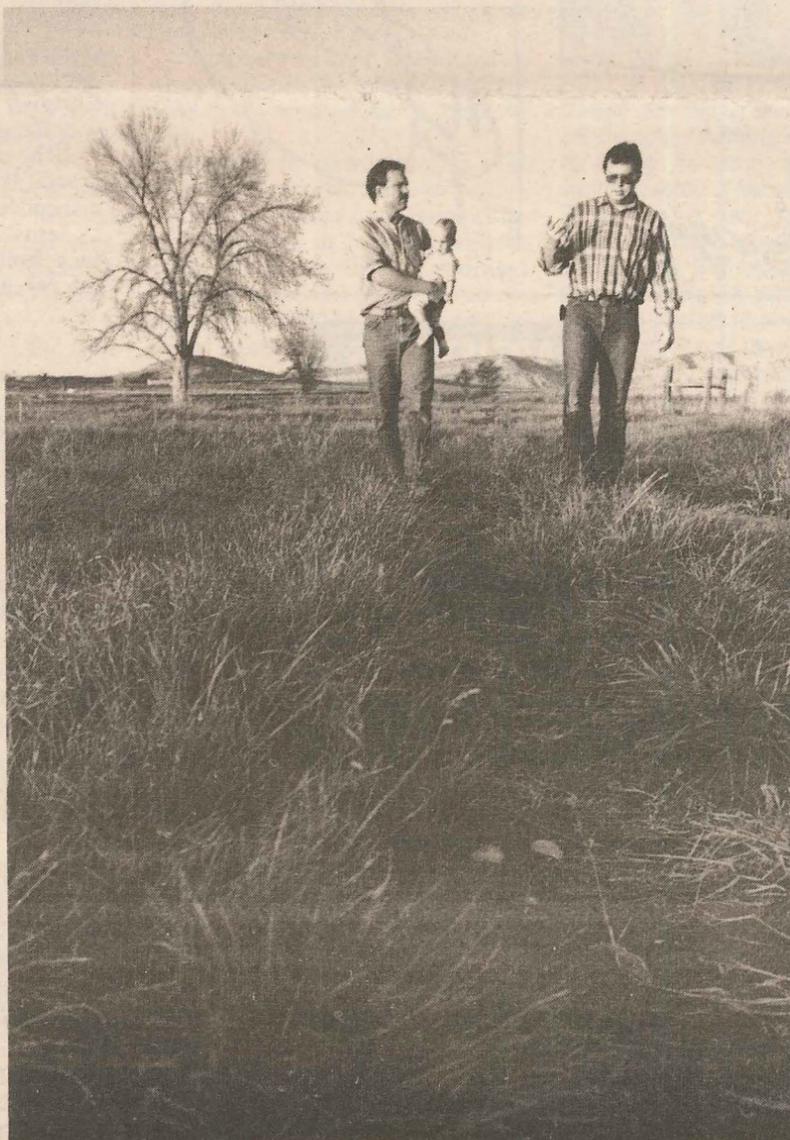
For 1993, the index registered a score of 649, just a slight drop from the 1992 figure of 653 but still the lowest mark ever recorded.

The decade of the 1980s saw a slow downward trend in the index. It bottomed out in 1988, stayed low for the next two years, then started to show renewed strength in 1991 and 1992.

Modern American religious belief and practice peaked during the 1950s, when the index twice hit a score of 750.

Here is a summary of how the eight individual components of the index fared in 1993:

■ Confidence in the organized church fell in 1993 to just 53 percent of the population. After suffering in the wake of the televangelist scandals of the 1980s, confidence in organized
□ See Key index down ..., page 2



HOME MISSIONS Pastor Darrell Carnley (left) talks with church member Mark Liesch while holding Liesch's daughter as they walk across a field in Thermopolis, Wyo. Carnley, pastor of Round Top Baptist Church in Thermopolis, is among about 4,000 missionaries supported by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. This is the annual week of prayer for home missions and the time Southern Baptists nationwide begin giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions. The Annie Armstrong offering provides a major portion of the HMB's annual budget for ministry, evangelism and church starting. See stories on this page and on page 8. (BP photo by Jim Veneman)

Homeless study kicks off Season of Missions

LOUISVILLE—As this year's Season of Home Missions began last month, Baptists across Kentucky studied about redemptive ministry with the homeless.

Now, as the home missions emphasis moves to the annual week of prayer and collection of the Annie Armstrong Easter offering, Kentucky home missionary Steve Golden hopes the focus of this year's home missions study won't quickly be forgotten.

Golden, director of Jefferson Center in downtown Louisville, works with Kentucky's homeless population every day. "There are more than 11,000 homeless people in this city of 600,000," he explained.

"It's Your Serve" is the theme of this year's Season of Home Missions. The theme highlights the need for Baptists to serve God by giving their time, money and prayers to ministries such as those of the Jefferson Center.

The Jefferson Center addresses homelessness through the Phoenix Project, which houses men for up to 18 months. Paul Whiteley works full-time as program coordinator.

"We work with (homeless men) to help them get on their feet, work with them on educational skills, job skills, social skills, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, even some financial and budgeting skills," Golden said.

"We encourage self-esteem and self-worth by providing each man with a private bedroom while he is housed here," Golden added. "Our program is designed to give individual attention to each person. Two residents accepted Christ while they were housed here."

In addition to the Phoenix Project, Jefferson Center provides a clothing closet for men and women and a mailing address for more than 2,000 people. Having a mailing address helps the homeless function in many ways, especially when applying for jobs.

Many homeless people are unemployed, mentally ill, addicted to drugs, people who chose to be homeless or youths who have run away from home. The fastest-growing segment of America's homeless population today is women and children.

Kentucky churches can help the Jefferson Center's ministry by buying, preparing and serving meals on weekends, when many soup kitchens are closed. The Jefferson Center serves lunch on Saturdays and breakfast on Sundays to 1,000 people a month.

Churches also could help by donating hygiene items such as razors, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant and towels.

Kentucky Baptists also support the work of the Jefferson Center—and thousands of other ministries nationwide—by giving through the Cooperative Program and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions.

BAPTISTS

Young presents ideas from nine SBC study groups

NASHVILLE—Input for the future of the Southern Baptist Convention from nine study groups commissioned by SBC President Ed Young has been handed over to the Executive Committee and other SBC agencies.

Young outlined some of the suggestions in a speech to Executive Committee members Feb. 22.

Presumably, the Executive Committee and other agencies impacted by the suggestions will have the opportunity to embrace the ideas, modify them or reject them.

Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Houston, labeled his remarks as "thoughts" and "not recommendations."

As part of his presentation, Young spoke at length about his concern that the denominational press should never engage in investigative reporting.

"As a man who seeks to understand and live by the Bible, I should not in any way seek to uncover anything about your life and publicize it in a negative way, whatever you have done, whatever I have done. We are to cover our brother's nakedness," he said.

Jack Brymer, editor of the Florida Baptist Witness and immediate past president of the Southern Baptist Press Association, said Young's comments on both the Baptist press and other areas of work "reflect gross ignorance" of denominational life.

"Probably 90 percent of the information in Baptist state papers is positive," Brymer said. "The overwhelming majority of space is given to reporting on missions."

Likewise, Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis took exception with Young's comments on reaching America's cities. Young called on the SBC to create a strategy for taking the gospel to residents of the nation's major urban centers. The HMB already has such a program, called Mega Focus Cities.

Other suggestions from Young and the study groups include:

- Helping "like-minded" independent Baptist churches learn how to affiliate with the SBC.

- Making the SBC an international convention.

- Involving more ethnic church leaders in decision-making.

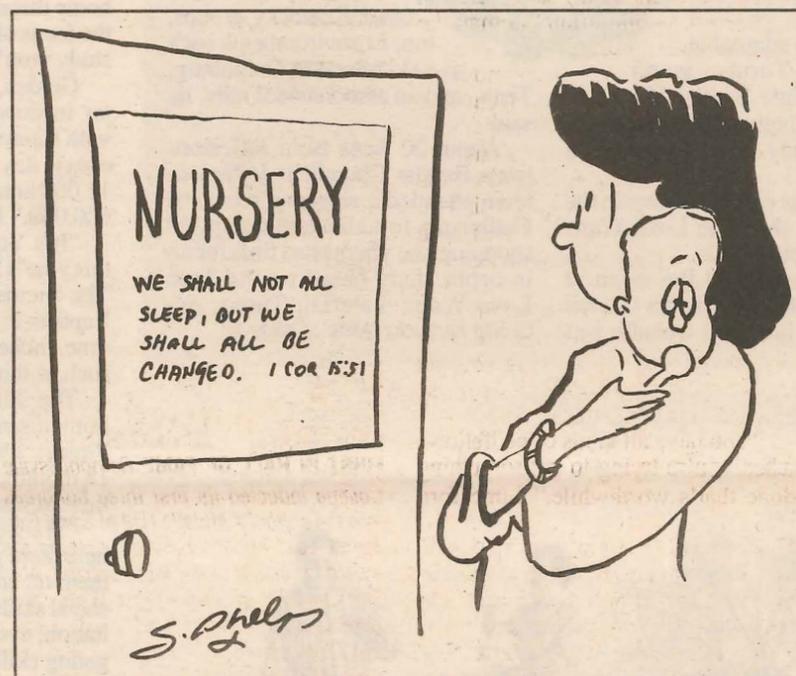
- Giving responsibility for promoting the Cooperative Program unified budget to some entity other than the Stewardship Commission.

- Re-examining the division of Cooperative Program funds between state and national entities.

- Placing a greater emphasis on family issues, linking up with parachurch figures such as James Dobson of Focus on the Family.

- Combining home and foreign missions into one effort.

Compiled from Baptist Press and Associated Baptist Press reports



'Patriarchal' church hinders women, Marshall tells Texans

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—Patriarchal structures and Christianity's ambivalence toward women, according to Molly Marshall, have made finding peace with God a struggle for many women.

Marshall, associate professor of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, was keynote speaker at the "Making Peace" women's conference, held in conjunction with the annual statewide conference of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission at Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

"The call to us in our day is to be as radical as Jesus in transcending social convention," Marshall said.

Jesus' life and ministry was ruled by a "politics of compassion," not by the prevailing "politics of holiness"

practiced by first century Judaism, she said.

Before women can make peace with others, they must make peace with themselves. And making peace with self comes as a "response to grace," according to Marshall.

To live in peace, women must come to terms with their own personal backgrounds and be honest about the context in which they live, Marshall said.

"We live in a patriarchal society. Some of us don't want to acknowledge that," she said. "If we deny the systemic oppression in which we live, we cannot possibly gain peace."

Women in the church need to overcome "the sin of hiding" and learn to reclaim—or claim—their calling, Marshall said.

BAPTIST BITS

- **Mississippi River Ministry.** Southern Baptists from seven states will gather in Jackson, Miss., this week to discuss ways to minister along the Mississippi River. The March 11-12 convocation at First Baptist Church of Jackson will feature comedian Jerry Clower. For information, call Bob Jones at (502) 245-4101.

- **Chandler Stewardship nominee.** Ronald Chandler, director of stewardship for the California Southern Baptist Convention, has been nominated to become president of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission. If approved by the commission's board March 24-25, he would become president June 1.

- **Wolfe endorsed.** Fred Wolfe, pastor of Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala., and candidate for Southern Baptist Convention president this summer, has been endorsed in that race by a coalition of conservative strategists from various state conventions. The group, which met last fall in Louisville, apparently endorsed Wolfe at that time, according to press reports. During the February meeting of the SBC Executive Committee, of which Wolfe is chairman, members offered a special prayer for Wolfe's candidacy. Later, the group prayed for any

other contenders, after one member asked for equal time.

- **Rankin's son to Truett.** Russell Rankin, son of Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin, has been named public relations director for the new George W. Truett Theological Seminary of Baylor University. Organizers have said the new seminary is being started to counter changes being brought about by conservatives who now control the Southern Baptist Convention's six seminaries.

- **Community ministries yield faith.** Community ministries produced professions of faith in Jesus Christ in 62 percent of Texas Baptist churches responding to a survey by the Baylor Center for Community Research. Nationwide, 92 percent of Southern Baptist churches report sponsoring at least one community ministry.

- **Call for callers.** As part of the Cross Over Orlando evangelistic emphasis prior to this year's Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, Greater Orlando Baptist Association is seeking volunteers to help make thousands of phone calls to help launch three new churches. Native Hispanic, African American

and Anglo callers are needed for times on June 11 and 12. For information, contact Ronnie Reynolds at 1906 W. Lee Rd., Orlando, Fla. 32810, or call (407) 293-0450.

- **Pastor leaving Binkley.** Linda Jordan, pastor of a church kicked out of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1992 for licensing a homosexual to the ministry, is resigning, citing repercussions from that episode as her reason. "Change demands a high price, especially for those in leadership," said Jordan, senior pastor of Olin T. Binkley Baptist Church in Chapel Hill, N.C.

- **N.C. president questions seminary.** The president of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina has taken Southern Baptist Theological Seminary to task for not permitting its alumni association to have exhibits at any meetings of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. "This is another example of the exclusivism now being practiced in the Southern Baptist Convention," said Alfred Ayscue, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Mt. Airy, N.C. "If Southern Seminary has determined the CBF to be something other than Southern Baptist and off limits, then it ought to return the \$175,000 given Southern by the CBF last year."

Key index down

Continued from page 1
religion had been on the rise.

- Confidence in the clergy dropped again, to 52 percent of the population, two percentage points lower than the year before.

- Belief in God or a universal spirit remains high, with from 94 percent to 99 percent of Americans expressing such belief over the last five decades.

- Preference for a particular religious faith or denomination rose two points in 1993, to 92 percent of the population.

- Opinions about the relevance of religion to answer today's problems remained steady, at 60 percent of the population.

- Church membership dropped one percentage point, to 69 percent of the adult population, in 1993.

- Religion was deemed very important to 59 percent of Americans in 1993, the highest measurement this indicator has received since the 1970s.

- Church attendance as reported by those interviewed dropped one percentage point, to 40 percent of the adult population.

Results of this nationwide poll of a representative sample of American adults are considered accurate to within plus or minus two percentage points.

KENTUCKY

Subcommittee to study Mid-Continent

By Marv Knox
Editor

Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College has asked the Kentucky Baptist Convention to "find a way (to) officially sanction" the Mayfield school.

Mid-Continent President LaVerne Butler delivered the request to the KBC Executive Board's administrative committee Feb. 28 in Louisville.

The issue came before the convention at the KBC annual meeting last November. During that meeting, Bill Dodson, a retired pastor and former chairman of the college's trustees, introduced a motion asking the convention to "officially recognize" Mid-Continent.

Dodson told convention messengers he was not speaking for Mid-Continent, but was acting on behalf of himself and the executive board of Graves County Baptist Association in the Mayfield area.

Speaking to the administrative committee last week, Butler echoed that notion. "This was not initiated by us—by staff, faculty or trustees," he said.

"Mid-Continent is eternally grateful for the cooperation and encouragement of all Kentucky Baptists given through the years," Butler reported. "Mid-Continent has not asked for nor received any Cooperative Program (unified budget) funds" from the KBC, nor is it "asking for Cooperative Program funds at this time."

Mid-Continent is a Southern Baptist institution, because it is owned by 14 Baptist associations, nine of which are in Kentucky, he said.

The school "has conjoined purposes" with the KBC and Southern Baptist Convention organizations, he added, noting it promotes SBC work and does not conflict with the SBC, KBC, associations or churches.

And many observers believe the school "literally saved the Purchase Area (the section of Kentucky west of the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers) for Southern Baptists from the independent movement," he said.

"With these facts in mind, we respectfully request that the administrative committee find a way whereby the Kentucky Baptist Convention can

officially sanction Mid-Continent College."

Official sanction would provide the school with three benefits, he said: a reduced "anxiety level on the part of many Kentucky Baptists," an enhanced ability for development and opened avenues for scholarships for its students.

Asked if Mid-Continent's trustees endorsed the request, Butler said the trustees discussed it and delegated the duty to their executive and finance committees, which made the request.

"I think the full board would be behind this," said Charles Gresham, chairman of Mid-Continent's trustees and pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Central City.

"This must be a very thorough process," stressed Jimmy Gentry, chairman of the administrative committee and pastor of Lewis Lane Baptist Church in Owensboro.

Committee members voted to create a five-member subcommittee of the administrative committee to study the issue and empowered Gentry to name the members. He said he will make his appointments after he has had time to pray and consider possible nominations.

In other business, the committee:

■ Hired four contract consultants to work part-time with Executive Board departments.

Elaine Ozment, a doctoral student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, will work with deaf and literacy ministries in the direct missions department.

Support for the position primarily will come from the KBC's Mission Kentucky campaign to start new churches across the state, since the effort is expected to produce deaf congregations.

Bill Rogers, a retired KBC staff member who has been a special assistant to KBC Executive Secretary-Treasurer Bill Marshall for several years, will serve retired ministers through the annuity department.

Philip Copeland and Bill Thomas, both doctoral students at Southern Seminary, will be consultants in the church music department.

Copeland, interim minister of music at Deer Park Baptist Church in

Louisville, will be a consultant for youth music. Thomas, minister of music at First Baptist Church of Shepherdsville, will be a consultant for associational music.

■ Agreed, pending legal consultation, to ask the Executive Board to commit the KBC to participation in Kentuckians Against Casinos, a new coalition fighting the expansion of gambling.

The request came from the KBC public affairs committee, which normally would propose such ventures to the entire KBC during its November meeting.

But the public affairs committee is asking the Executive Board to act on behalf of the convention due to the timeliness of the issue, said Malcolm Lunceford, public affairs committee chairman and a Frankfort pastor.

Kentuckians Against Casinos currently is comprised of the Kentucky Council of Churches, the Temperance League of Kentucky, the Kentucky Charitable Gaming Association, the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, Keeneland racetrack in Lexington and the Kentucky Education Association.

Committee members expressed the need to fight casinos but also voiced concern about doing so with such "strange bedfellows" as horse breeders and a racetrack.

"You have all kinds of bedfellows when you're trying to get something done that's worthwhile," Lunceford said.

Committee members also said they were concerned about jeopardizing the convention's tax-exempt status by joining in such a coalition. They asked the KBC's attorney, James Taylor of Louisville, to research the matter before the Executive Board meets in May.

■ Voted to propose a 3 percent cost-of-living salary adjustment for the board's professional staff in the 1994-95 fiscal year. The secretarial and clerical staff's positions are being re-evaluated and will be reviewed separately.

Both salary proposals will be considered when the Executive Board votes on its next budget during the May meeting.



FIRST IN HALL OF FAME Campbellville College inducted its first three honorees into the school's Athletic Hall of Fame Feb. 19. ■ **Top:** Annetta Harding, accepts the award on behalf of her late husband, Abel Turner Harding, from Wayne Wells, treasurer of the Campbellville College Boosters Club. Harding founded the Boosters Club. ■ **Middle:** Billy Smith, former Campbellville basketball player, accepts his award from Ronnie Hord, president of the Boosters Club. Harding coached basketball at Taylor County High School for 17 years and is a former president of the Southern Kentucky Athletic Conference. ■ **Below:** Betty Conover, the all-time leading scorer and leading rebounder in Campbellville College history, accepts her award from Donna Wise, coach of the Lady Tigers. Conover currently teaches at James Alton Middle School in Vine Grove. (Photos by Joan McKinney)

Georgetown announces Baptist aid

GEORGETOWN—Georgetown College has announced a new Baptist Scholars program to provide financial aid for Baptist students.

Three grant programs will benefit Baptist students enrolling as first-time freshmen or as transfer students beginning with the Fall 1994 semester.

The Georgetown Matching Grant Program for Baptist Churches will match dollar-for-dollar any church-sponsored grant up to \$2,500, for a total of \$5,000 for admitted students with ACT scores of 25 or above. The college also will match a church-sponsored grant up to \$1,500 for a total of \$3,000 for all other admitted students with ACT scores up to 24. The Minister's Grant is a \$2,500 annual grant available to sons and daughters of ordained Baptist ministers. The grant is renewable for four years, for a total of \$10,000.

The Christian Service Grant is a \$1,000 grant available to Baptist students who intend to enter a church-related profession. It also is renewable for up to four years, for a total of \$4,000.

For more information, call (800) 788-9985.

Page joins children's home staff

SOMERSET—George Page has been named southern region director for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

He will be responsible for overseeing the work of Operation Hope, a 12-bed youth shelter in Somerset recently acquired by the Baptist agency, as well as for developing additional services for children and families in southern Kentucky.

Page has worked with the Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources since 1969, most recently as assistant director of children's residential treatment. He previously served as director of Lake Cumberland Boys Camp in

Monticello, Woodsbend Boys Camp in West Liberty and Frenchburg Boys' Center.

He and his wife, Teresa, have two children: Heather McCutchen of Lexington and Ashley Page, a freshman at the University of Kentucky.

Page lives in Wayne County, where he is a member Immanuel Baptist Church in Monticello. He teaches the senior men's Sunday school class there.

He is a graduate of University of Tennessee, with a master's degree in social work, and completed undergraduate work at Scarritt College in Nashville.



George Page



YOUTH ESSAY CONTEST

TOPIC: "Why I Believe True Love Waits"

GRAND PRIZE: \$100 and publication of winning essays in the Western Recorder

**CATEGORIES: A—9th-12th graders
B—College students and other singles above age 18**

DEADLINE: All entries must be postmarked no later than May 1, 1994

THE FINE PRINT: This contest is sponsored by the Western Recorder. Entrants must be members of Kentucky Baptist Convention churches who have signed "True Love Waits" commitment cards to abstain from sex until marriage. Entries will not be returned. Winners will be selected by a panel of judges named by the Western Recorder staff. Essays must be 500 words or less in length. Mail entries to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253. Include church name.

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

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'Can I wait till I get to heaven?'

"Sarah worships the ground her grandmother walks on," the family told me on my first visit to their home.

Sarah was only 4; her grandmother, just 46. Helen's faith was strong as she continued her battle with the cancer that had now invaded her bones.

Although she still prayed for a miracle, Helen began to prepare Sarah as well as other members of the family for the time when she would not be there for them. She was keenly aware of how painful it would be for Sarah if she were to feel abandoned, without saying the needed goodbye.

As the weeks passed, Helen began to tell Sarah stories about heaven, picturing it as a wonderful place of peace and love that God has prepared for those who love and serve God. She assured Sarah she was going to heaven and would meet her there.

So loving and caring were Helen's descriptions of her destiny that Sarah had a peace about her grandmother's

imminent departure.

In Sarah's concept of time, she didn't think it would be long until they would be together again.

Helen shared a humorous story with me. One day, Helen was in her easy chair in the living room while Sarah was in the bedroom playing.

Sarah began to jump on the bed and inadvertently broke her grandmother's tray.

Upset, Sarah told her grandfather what she had done. The grandfather, sensitive to Sarah's pain, said, "You don't have to tell Grandmother right now; you can wait till later today."

Sarah was quiet for a few seconds, but her grandfather could see the wheels turning in her head. Then she asked him: "Can I wait till I get to heaven?"

During several visits, Helen and I shared this story and other great insights from Sarah and had many good laughs together.

In the last few days of Helen's life,

VIEWPOINT

More than life

The Christian right has kept silent about the 2.5 million of the nation's 107 million women who were robbed, assaulted or suffered a threat in an attempt to commit such crimes. Injuries were nearly twice as likely to occur if the offender was a husband or boyfriend.

Several years ago, I thumbed through reports of the meetings of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1930 to 1950. Although women did

not speak at those meetings, during business sessions many of the resolutions dealt with the sins committed by women only, such as bobbed hair, painted cheeks and women who wore pants.

Now, the resolutions are about abortion—a sin men cannot commit. Since millions of fetuses have been aborted, somewhere there are millions of men who have fathered unwanted babies. John 8:1-11, tells the story of the Scribes and Pharisees who brought a woman to Jesus, saying, "She was caught in

BAPTIST FORUM

On the lighter side

The following collection of "Bible riddles" is for your reading enjoyment and for sharing with family and friends.

■ Who was the first man in the Bible to know the meaning of rib roast? Adam

■ Where does it talk about Honda cars in the Bible? In Acts 1:14. "These all continued with one accord."

■ Who is the smallest man in the Bible? Some people believe that it was Zacchaeus. Others believe it was Nehemiah (Ne-high-a-miah), or Bildad, the Shuhite (Shoe-height). But in reality it was Peter the disciple. He slept on his watch!

■ How were Adam and Eve prevented from gambling? Their paradise (pair-o-dice) was taken away from them.

■ What did Noah say while he was loading all the animals on the Ark? "Now I herd everything."

■ When did Moses sleep with five people in one bed? When he slept with his forefathers.

■ Where in the Bible does it talk about smoking? In Genesis 24:64. Rebekah lighted off her camel.

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

■ What was the first theatrical event in the Bible? Eve's appearance for Adam's benefit.

■ Why are there so few men with whiskers in heaven? Because most men get in by a close shave.

■ Who was the best financier in the Bible? Noah. He floated his stock while the whole world was in liquidation.

■ What simple affliction brought about the death of Samson? Fallen arches.

■ What did Adam and Eve do when they were expelled from the Garden of Eden? They raised Cain.

■ What are two of the smallest insects mentioned in the Bible? The widow's "mite," and the "wicked flee."

■ What were the Phoenicians famous for? Blinds.

■ Where was deviled ham mentioned in the Bible? When the evil spirits entered the swine.

■ Who introduced the first walk-

ing stick? Eve, when she presented Adam a little Cain.

■ Where is medicine first mentioned in the Bible? Where the Lord gives Moses two tablets.

■ Where in the Bible does it suggest that men should wash dishes? In 2 Kings 21:13. "And I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it, and turning it upside down."

■ Where did Noah strike the first nail in the Ark? On the head.

■ What man in the Bible spoke when he was a very small baby? Job. He cursed the day he was born.

■ At what time of day was Adam born? A little before Eve.

■ What man in the Bible had no parents? Joshua, the son of Nun.

■ Where is tennis mentioned in the Bible? When Joseph served in Pharaoh's court.

■ Was there any money on Noah's Ark? Yes. The duck took a bill, the frog took a greenback and the skunk took a scent.

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

I recounted Sarah's "wait till I get to heaven" story, and used it to express the pain in my own heart as I saw this beautiful person, whom I now also loved, slipping away.

I added: "I have some questions that will wait till I get to heaven, too. Like why someone as good and loving as you should die so young. And why so much pain?"

Perhaps Helen was drawing so close to the other side she had begun to think more like an inhabitant of that other world, for she said to me: "Zelma, I think when we get there, all of this is going to be so insignificant that it won't even matter."

Helen's words did comfort me. Maybe she now knows for sure about all of this. But I am still earthbound, and still struggle with whys and need a place to express my feelings.

I often think of Helen's words to me and the beautiful way she prepared Sarah. And I know we both are comforted.

"Thank you, Helen."

Zelma Pattillo, chaplain
Hospice of Montclair
Birmingham, Ala.



FAMILY FORUM: TEEN-AGERS

Death & teens

By Wade Rowatt

Q. Is it normal to put flowers by the side of the highway where someone was killed? My daughter's boyfriend died in a wreck last month. She and two of his friends have placed flowers at the spot of the accident twice.

A. Grief expresses itself in many emotions after the initial pain and shock. As Christians, we know of our victory over death, but we grieve our lost relationship and future with the deceased.

Beyond the funeral, our society has little to offer. Once the funeral is over, where do we turn? For three or four days, everything comes to a halt, and we grieve together. But grief can take months and years.

Although your daughter was not family, she was close to this young man. She was not finished grieving, and she needed to express her feelings. Only she would know exactly what those flowers are intended to say. Perhaps they mean "don't forget him too soon" or "drive with caution at this place" or "someone very special died here."

In the past decade, displays of flowers at a crash site have grown more popular with youth. It helps them along with the grieving process.

The fact that other teens help her do this shows peer support. They probably talk about him and their feelings as they gather and deposit those flowers. Expressing their memories helps life return to normal.

Why not talk with her about the flowers? Express your hurt at her loss and listen, listen to her thoughts, questions and heart-felt emotions. Give her a chance to ask any lingering questions about death. If you can't discuss things with her, perhaps your pastor, youth minister or a counselor can.

If this practice of placing flowers continues past five or six months, she should talk with someone trained to address her grief. Also, if she becomes extremely depressed or stops her normal lifestyle, she needs professional help. Accept her, walk with her, listen to her, but keep a watchful eye that she doesn't slip into deep problems.

Wade Rowatt is professor of psychology of religion at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

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

EDITORIALS

We must work together to minister to our cities

America's cities, with their crime, poverty and homelessness, seem pretty remote to most Kentucky Baptists. We're primarily a small-town and rural people, with suburbanites thrown in for good measure. Very few of us confront the challenges of urban, inner-city living and ministry as we go about our lives.

But cities represent a rapidly growing and increasingly significant segment of our national and global population. As Chicago pastor Charles Lyons recently reminded participants in the Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference, Christians must be serious about spreading the gospel and meeting human needs in the cities if we're going to be serious about following Christ's Great Commission to take the good news of God's love to the whole world.

Cities will be an important focus in Kentucky and Southern Baptist churches this week, as we conduct the week of prayer for home missions and begin collecting the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering to support the ministry of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. The theme for this year's home missions emphasis is "It's Your Serve—Minister in Christ's Name." The focus for the emphasis will be on how ministry contributes to the effectiveness of home missions in the cities, with particular attention given to homelessness.

While the problem of homelessness may seem remote to most Kentucky Baptists, it's a crisis of epidemic proportions across our nation. In fact, the number of homeless Americans has increased by as much as 500 percent in the past decade, according to Home Mission Board statistics. "This is the most broad-based, transient population segment the country has ever known," HMB researchers reported. "During the dust-bowl days of the Great Depression, the migration to the 'Promised Land' that California represented was comprised primarily of people from the Southwest and other rural, drought-stricken areas. But today's homeless come from many segments of the population, and for many reasons."

If you've ever had an opportunity to minister to homeless people, you know they defy simple description. Significant numbers of them suffer from mental or emotional problems. But thousand upon thousands of today's homeless had every reason to believe they would spend their

lives as typical middle-class Americans, with jobs and homes and tangible futures. Like a frighteningly high percentage of us, they were just one layoff, illness, divorce or paycheck away from the street.

Baptists are making a difference in their lives. Through churches and ministry centers, we are providing help and hope. Residents of our cities—homeless people, impoverished people, people who speak a symphony of languages, people who know the pain of being down-and-out as well as those who understand the loneliness of being up-and-out—are receiving the message of Christ and resources for daily living.

Through participation in the home mission study, we can learn how all of us, even those of us from rural Kentucky, can help meet the needs of America's cities. Lyons, whose Armitage Baptist Church sits in the middle of a tough Chicago neighborhood, pleaded the case for Baptists serving God in the cities: "You can be a part of our ministries. Always pray for us. Team up with an inner-city church and help them serve the Lord in the city." Do something.

Partnership with a city congregation or mission center will provide one specific avenue through which your church can minister to the cities. So will contributing to the Annie Armstrong Offering. Its goal is \$40 million this year, and that mark is attainable if churches and individuals will participate. That money will be used to strengthen ministry in the cities, as well as the small towns and rural reaches of our country.

Long ago, the prophet proclaimed: "If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the need of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like noonday. The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called the Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings" (Isaiah 58:10-12). Those words were true then; they are true today.

Marv Knox

Cities represent a growing segment of America's population. They merit Baptists' best ministry efforts.

Is your church just the Sacred Society of Sad Saints?

Dwight L. Moody, the famous preacher, filled an aristocratic church with a pew full of boys and girls from the street.

The presence of these children so disturbed the sophisticated members of the church that when Moody was presented for membership in the church, the board suggested he think it over and pray about it for a month. The next month, Moody came before the board again.

"Did you follow our suggestions?"

they asked him.

"I did," Moody responded.

"And what did the Lord say?" they questioned.

Moody answered,

"He told me

not to feel bad about it, because he has been trying to get into this church himself for the last 26 years!"

That is the way many people picture the church. They see the church as a cold, exclusive spiritual country club which does not care about people. One man referred to the church

as the 4-S crowd, the Sacred Society of Secluded Saints.

That is not the church at its best. That is not the church as it was meant to be. And that is not the church as it was in the New Testament.

The happiest people I know are people who through faith in Jesus Christ have a pardon for their past, a peace in the present and a promise for the future.

The most joyous occasions are when Christians gather to celebrate their new life in Christ and fellowship with one another. These are those

Christians who get religion like a Baptist, experience it like a Methodist, are positive about it like a Disciple, are proud of it like an Episcopalian, pay for it like a Presbyterian, propagate it like an Adventist and enjoy it like a Pentecostal.

That's the church at its best. Not a Sacred Society of Sad Saints, but a body of brothers and sisters in Christ, who rejoice in the fact that in Jesus they have been given eternal life.

Gene Crowder, pastor
Columbia Baptist Church
Columbia

"Church at its best" is a community of rejoicing Christians.

MINISTERIALLY SPEAKING

How long is eternity? Attend a piano recital and see for yourself

As the parent of a recently recited piano student, I can relate to the description a trans-Atlantic airplane pilot gave to that job: "Eight hours of sheer boredom followed by eight seconds of sheer panic."

With apologies to piano teachers, this parent must compose the sad, melodic truth: Recitals are boring.

They're not "it's five minutes until quitting time and I wish I could go home" boring. They're not even "I'd get up and walk out of here if I hadn't spent \$6.75 to see this dumb movie" boring. They're "I think I'm slowly sliding into a coma" boring.

The only break in the boredom is the shot of adrenalin you get when your child is about to perform. You pray those 10 fingers will play those songs as perfectly as

they have 953 times before at home, with nobody watching.

Of course, the few minutes your little maestro sits at the keyboard are wonderfully exciting. Lindsay played the world's most exquisite adaptations of "The Jolly Clown" and "Lady Bug Waltz." And she and her friend Linlee banged the fire out of duet versions of "Forward March" and "Old MacDonald." Who needs Van Cliburn when your own kid makes that grand piano come to life?

The recital went way downhill from there, however. We heard some Mozart, Beethoven, and even Scott Joplin. But we endured hours and hours and hours of stuff from composers nobody but piano teachers, piano students and parents who buy piano students' piano books ever heard of, like Bastien and Palmer.

That's no criticism of Jamie, Peter, Elizabeth, Tim, Alissa and the rest of the cast of thousands of pianists. Nor is it critical of their teacher, who draws music from their fingertips.

It just recognizes a plain fact: The love

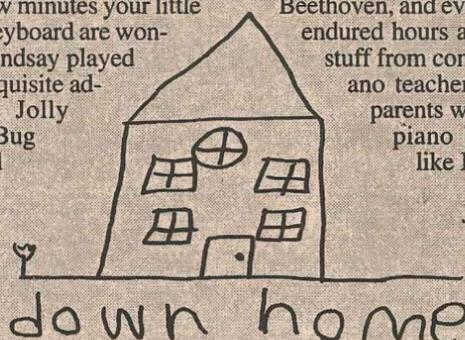
of parent for child transforms even the mundane into the sublime. No song is bad when your kid is playing.

Unfortunately, this transformation rarely carries over for other people's children. "Lady Bug Waltz" wouldn't have sounded the same—to me, at least—played by anybody else's child.

This phenomenon isn't limited to music. How many parents can clean up after their sick children but get utterly grossed out with the neighbor kid's runny nose? If you don't think this is true, work in your church's nursery a few Sundays.

Come to think of it, I'm glad we're all God's children. We need divine parental love too.

Marv Knox



Church seminar explores issues at the end of life

By Dawn Richerson
State Correspondent

FRANKFORT—How should Christians respond when a family survives with the help of life support systems but has little quality of life?

And what about a patient's right to determine his or her own course through living wills?

These were among the difficult questions faced by about 100 people attending a four-day study in Frankfort called "Issues at the End of Life: Making Health-related Treatment Decisions." The study was co-sponsored by Emmanuel Baptist Church and First Baptist Church of Frankfort.

Study leaders included an ethicist, psychologist and attorney.

Paul Simmons, former ethics pro-

fessor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, discussed the choices patients and families face regarding life support systems.

"Is it morally right at some point to say, 'Let's turn off the machines?' Or are we only to be passive?" he asked.

Simmons outlined several recent cases from around the United States:

■ A California man dying of five different diseases did not wish to continue medical treatment. Ultimately, the state Supreme Court ruled that a competent adult may deny treatments that violate a person's moral wishes.

■ Nancy Cruzan of Missouri was resuscitated after an automobile accident. She lived for years in a persistent vegetative state because state law required written evidence of her wishes to stop the life support. Her parents finally won the right to stop the life support after a lengthy battle that reached all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

■ A nurse refused to call for the resuscitation team after caring for a young policeman dying of lung cancer who already had been resuscitated 52 times. The nurse, who had listened to the young man plead with doctors and nurses not to resuscitate him, called the hospital's actions unmerciful.

■ Kentuckian Martha Sue daGrella remained in a persistent vegetative state for more than nine years after being beaten severely. Her mother and other advocates said she had expressed a desire not to be kept alive on life support systems. The case ultimately was decided by the Kentucky

Supreme Court. Although she reportedly felt no physical pain, daGrella lingered for 13 days after nutrition and hydration were withdrawn.

Although Christians hold strongly divergent views on such issues, Simmons argued that the essence of a person leaves when the brain no longer functions.

Simmons suggested that Christians should base end-of-life decisions on one question: "What does mercy require?"

The heart of the debate, he said, is whether it shows mercy to prolong life beyond we are prolonging? "Is it really life higher or prolonging? Or is it death?" he asked.

"So many of our problems come when we fight death for all the wrong reasons," he continued.

Patients often don't understand the rights they have to refuse prolonged treatment, added Guthrie True, a Frankfort attorney. "Advance directives" such as living wills, health-care surrogates and durable powers of attorney help individuals prepare for end-of-life decisions, he said.

True said competent patients may by law say what treatment they want or do not want. However, he encouraged all adults to make their wishes clearly known in advance.

"A living will must be honored by your physician, your family and any health care facility," True said. "Express it very clearly and in writing. Communicate to those around you exactly what you mean."

A living will is simply a legal statement of what life-sustaining measures a person desires to be given in case he

or she becomes unable to express their desires.

Going one step further and designating a health-care surrogate—someone to express your wishes when you aren't able—can give even more latitude, he said. But the best protection is executing a "durable power of attorney," he added.

Psychologist Jane Brake of Frankfort discussed psychological issues related to end-of-life decisions. She offered several pointers on dealing with the stress of such situations:

■ Talk with other people, such as chaplains, lawyers, pastors, physicians, counselors, relatives and bioethics experts.

■ Make your wishes known. She cited a Veterans Administration study which found family members often could not accurately assess what a patient would have wanted. "It made no difference how long they had been married. The only variable was whether they had discussed the matter in advance."

■ Think about how you define quality of life. While the courts may not consider quality of life in its rulings, all people think about it.

■ Have reasonable expectations, detach emotionally with love.

Brake warned the crowd to take control of their situation whenever possible.

"Don't let the system intimidate you," she said. "Remember that you have a right to information. Doctors are no better qualified to make moral decisions than anyone else, but we tend to put them in these roles."

Pros and cons of elective death

Moral objections to elective death

- Death is the last enemy.
- The sanctity of life.
- The last requirements of love.
- The role of hope in recovery.
- The lessons to be learned in dying.
- The sin of playing God.

Moral warrants for elective death

- Human dignity.
- Placing quality of life above quantity of life.
- The demands of mercy.
- The weight of a patient's request.
- Death is not the final victor for Christians.

Source: Presentation by Paul Simmons

Domestic violence hits Christian homes

NASHVILLE (BP)—Christians are not immune to the family violence that has reached epidemic proportions in the United States today, experts warn.

"Before we become smug and perhaps self-righteous, consider that incestuous abuse tends to involve religious, churchgoing men as perpetrators," said Joe Richardson Jr., a psychologist and personnel counselor at the Board in Nashville. "Abuse also crosses all races, religions and socioeconomic backgrounds. In other words, abuse is also a Southern Baptist problem."

"The church must accept the fact that abuse—physical, emotional and neglect—occurs within the church," he said.

That message is confirmed by Lee McGehee, police chief in Ocala, Fla., an active Southern Baptist and a trust-

ee of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

"While I feel that a majority of child abuse occurs in unchurched families, I have seen abuse—especially emotional abuse—within Christian families," he reported. "Within these families, however, are other signs of dysfunctionality: pressures for success, financial security, community or church reputations and so forth."

"Just because't isolate us from Satan's attacks," McGehee said.

Churches can do many things to address this issue, said David Gushie, assistant professor of Theological ethics at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. "The greatest answer to this problem in our society is that we have lives tamed by the Spirit of God."

"The Bible clearly teaches that in marriage men and women are to be loving, gentle and kind to one another and to exhibit the fruits of the Spirit. That contrasts markedly to the scenes of domestic violence."

Pastors need to address from their pulpits the family-abuse issue, Gushie said.

"It is not God's will that we would take the family and make that a place where people get abused, and that fact ought to be said from the pulpit," the ethicist said. "Therapeutic approaches are part of the answer, but straight-out preaching is what is most needed

from our churches."

Also, churches need to offer ministries that grapple with and address directly the issue, he said. "The church ought to be a place of community support—a trusting environment—where people can deal openly and authentically with things they are wrestling with, such as family violence and abuse."

As a police chief, McGehee said he is gravely concerned about research showing child abusers were themselves victims of child abuse.

Gushie said this generational connection between those who abuse and those who were abused explains how abuse turns up among Christians as well. "Christians can't exempt themselves from having grown up in that kind of environment," he said.

McGehee said he also believes Christians must confront underlying societal evils, such as alcohol and drug abuse, pornography and television violence, which contribute to family violence and physical, sexual and emotional abuse today.

"I recently saw a political cartoon that showed two men standing on a street corner," McGehee recounted. "Behind them were signs saying: 'Now playing: Blood Bath,' 'Abortions R Us,' 'Women in Chains.' The caption under that cartoon said, 'I just don't understand why kids have such a lack of respect for human life these days.'"

Assisted suicide bill sent to Senate

FRANKFORT—Assisted suicide could become illegal in Kentucky if the state legislature approves a bill already passed by the House.

House Bill 276 was approved by a 63-27 vote in the House March 3 and has been sent to the Senate. The bill would make it a felony offense to assist someone else in committing suicide.

Punishments could include imprisonment for one to five years. Doctors who broke this law could lose their medical licenses.

The bill also would make it a crime to coerce someone into committing suicide. This offense would carry a prison term of five to 10 years.

The Louisville Courier-Journal quoted the bill's sponsor, Rep. Bob Heleringer, R-Louisville, as saying the new law was necessary to protect Kentuckians from someone like Jack Kevorkian, the notorious suicide doctor in Michigan.

"We're not criminalizing the act of suicide," he said. "We're trying to protect people who are very vulnerable."

Has religion disappeared or is it just changing?

By Mark Baggett
Alabama Baptist

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (ABP)—Whatever happened to religion?

Even President Bill Clinton—joining a growing number of religious leaders, columnists, and commentators—recently wondered whether the United States has become too “secular.”

His remarks echoed the theme of “A Culture of Disbelief,” a 1993 book by Yale professor Stephen Carter, who suggests that it has become embarrassing to mention any religious affiliation in public, much less profess one’s faith.

Carter and other authors—such as Richard John Neuhaus in “The Naked Public Square”—argue that evidences of religious faith are disappearing from American mainstream culture.

But the widespread lament may indicate a very real interest in religious issues.

“I don’t think religion has disappeared,” said Bill Leonard, chairman of the department of religion at Samford University and a former profes-

sor of church history at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. “The fact that so many people—from the left and from the right—are asking what happened to religion is evidence that it hasn’t disappeared.”

But, Leonard said, Americans are in a transitional period of history, and that has brought about the cultural shift.

When Americans discuss the nature of civil religion, he said, they are discussing “a common core of values by which a population can shape its identity, if not agree on those values.”

In earlier times, he said, those core values were Protestant. New religious groups have had to fight to participate in that discussion from colonial times to the present.

“America has never willingly invited new religions into the arena,” he said.

Now the religious mix includes both a proliferation of new religions and “non-religion,” or secularism.

“We’re in a crisis about this, not because religion is failing, but because we are processing old religions, new religions and non-religion,” he

said.

“For example, we bemoan the ban on school prayer. But if we were to start a prayer in schools tomorrow, who would pray? Baptists on Monday, Jews on Tuesday, Catholics on Wednesday, Mormons on Thursday and Buddhists on Friday? Would Baptists be willing to have school prayer where Mormons and Muslims would pray for their children?”

“This is evidence of secularism. Secularism doesn’t really know what to do about faith, just as people didn’t know what to do, for example, with Jimmy Carter’s born-again faith, which may have started the whole thing.”

Leonard’s colleague at Samford, Beeson School of Divinity Dean Timothy George, also sees a process of secularization and believes that it goes beyond the threat of “secular humanism.”

“There has been a long-standing erosion of beliefs and values—a long, slow evolutionary kind of change,” George said. “The New Right movement in the late 1970s and early ’80s by people like (Jerry) Falwell and Pat

Robertson is a manifestation of the protest or deeply felt concerns about that erosion.

“There has been a sense of crisis, an impending doom about moving away from a sense of core values. People see a sea-change taking place; abortion protests and gay-rights protests are symptoms of that concern.

“We must bear witness in an alien, even pagan culture. It’s no longer just humanist. I think it goes beyond the secular humanist label. It’s really neopaganism.”

Both George and Leonard believe the Christian church must address the rise of secularism with integrity.

“What’s called for is a renewal of our own sense of identity,” George said. “The church needs to be the church. The people of God need to be the people of God. That’s the greatest impact we can have on society, which is not to say that we shouldn’t take a public stance. But we’ve got to be faithful witnesses with integrity in the Christian community, giving a positive proclamation and also a negative prophetic response to some of these trends.”

“The fact that so many people—from the left and from the right—are asking what happened to religion is evidence that it hasn’t disappeared.”

Bill Leonard, Samford University religion department

BJC files brief opposite CLC on N.Y. case

WASHINGTON—The Baptist Joint Committee has joined a friend-of-the-court brief asking the U.S. Supreme Court to stick with its Lemon test and rule against a New York school district created to meet the special needs of a religious community.

The brief places the BJC on the opposite side of the issue from the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. The CLC, which has replaced the BJC as the Southern Baptist Convention’s religious liberty watchdog, joined a different friend-of-the-court brief in January.

The BJC opposes state accommodation to meet the special needs of a community of Hasidic Jews in the village of Kiryas Joel, N.Y.

The state legislature created a special school district to resolve a conflict over providing special education services to disabled students in the village. Hasidic Jews, who practice an insular lifestyle, found the Monroe-Woodbury Central School District’s policy of providing special education services in public schools unsatisfactory.

New York’s top court said that because the special services were available to disabled Hasidic students without the special district, the primary effect of creating the district is “to yield to the demands of the religious

community.”

That decision was appealed to the Supreme Court by the Monroe-Woodbury and Kiryas Joel school districts and New York Attorney General Robert Abrams. The two school districts sought not only reversal of the lower-court ruling, but also asked the high court to reconsider the Lemon test. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments in the case March 30.

Lemon requires governmental actions to have a secular purpose, neither advance nor inhibit religion and avoid excessive entanglement between religion and government.

The CLC and other groups of religious conservatives have asked the Supreme Court to abandon the Lemon test in favor of a different standard. But the BJC and its allies have urged the court to retain Lemon as is.

The CLC argues that the Lemon test fosters hostility, not neutrality, toward religion and should be replaced with a four-part test that would ask:

■ Does the state action allow or accommodate independent religious choice?

■ Does the state action interfere with the religious liberty of non-adherents by inducing or coercing them to alter their religious practice?

■ Does the state action go beyond accommodation and show favoritism toward one religious choice which would not be shown to other religious or non-religious choices?

■ Does the state action use the taxing and spending power of government to provide some financial incentive, benefit or penalty to a particular religious activity which is not given to other religious or non-religious alternatives?

In its brief, the BJC defends Lemon against criticism that it is unworkable. It says other criteria proposed to replace the test would lead to no more predictable results.

The quarrel Lemon’s opponents have “is not with the court’s formulation of a test; it is that the court’s decisions take the establishment clause seriously,” the brief asserts.

The brief also disputes the school districts’ contention that the special district is a permissible accommodation of church-state separation.

BJC General Counsel Brent Walker said his agency “is profoundly concerned that government accommodate the free exercise rights of its citizens. But accommodation must not be done in a way that violates the establishment clause, as it did here.”

Based on reports from Associated Baptist Press and Baptist Press

Justice Blackmun now opposes death penalty

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The senior justice of the U.S. Supreme Court has announced he will no longer support the death penalty, contending the judicial system is unable to apply it both consistently and fairly.

Justice Harry Blackmun wrote in a Feb. 22 opinion that the death penalty as administered is unconstitutional. His reversal on the issue is not expected to alter the direction of the nine-member court, which is still dominated by death penalty propo-

nents.

Blackmun outlined his new position in a dissenting opinion in which he objected to the court’s decision not to hear the appeal of a Texas death row inmate.

“I shall no longer tinker with the machinery of death,” Blackmun wrote.

The 85-year-old justice said he and his colleagues have struggled for more than 20 years to ensure fairness and consistency in capital punishment

but have failed to do so.

“Rather than continue to coddle the Court’s delusion” that fairness has been achieved, Blackmun said he is “morally and intellectually obligated to simply concede that the death penalty experiment has failed.”

Requirements that the death penalty be “inflicted evenhandedly” and with “objective standards” contradict the concept of individualized sentencing which fundamental fairness demands, Blackmun said.

NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Court rejects fetal life case.** The U.S. Supreme Court Feb. 27 refused a request to clarify how far states may go in protecting fetal life.

Patrick Murphy, a Cook County public guardian for Baby Boy Doe, wanted the Supreme Court to intervene after lower courts refused to order the mother to deliver the baby by Caesarian section for medical reasons. The high court, without comment, rejected the case.

Cook County officials had sought an injunction to force the Caesarian delivery because the fetus was not receiving enough oxygen. Doctors testified that without a Caesarian-section delivery, the unborn fetus was at risk of sustaining brain damage and of not surviving a normal delivery. The mother refused the Caesarian procedure because of religious beliefs, and ultimately the child was born without injury.

■ **Court accepts porn case.** The U.S. Supreme Court Feb. 27 agreed to decide whether defendants convicted of distributing child pornography must be aware that the materials involved actors under 18. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which covers California and other Western states, had ruled that the First Amendment requires that people charged with distribution, shipping or receiving child pornography must know that the materials involve underage actors.

■ **Woman wins religious expression.** An employee of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services recently was awarded \$13,500 in damages and fees in settlement of a religious liberty case. Judith Lyn Soap contended her employer violated her constitutional rights by restricting her off-duty religious activities. Department of Human Services supervisors had restricted Soap from working on her own time at her church’s crisis pregnancy center and from conducting a Bible study at her home.

■ **Casinos buy most liquor.** Mississippi’s casinos dominated the state’s liquor purchases for the last half of 1993, according to figures released by the state Alcoholic Beverage Control division. Casinos occupied 17 of the top 20 places on the list, which identified total cases purchased by organizations licensed to distribute liquor by the drink.

Paul Jones, executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention’s Christian Action Commission, said no one should be surprised since most casinos ply patrons with free drinks while they gamble.

MISSIONS

New 'Season of Home Missions' combines events

Where does the money go?

Gifts to this year's Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions have been allocated for use in a variety of ways. The \$40 million national goal envisions support for:

- Missionaries and field ministries of the Home Mission Board
- Evangelism
- New church extension
- Language church extension
- Black church extension
- Chaplaincy ministries
- Associational missions
- Church and community ministries
- Special ministries
- Volunteer Ministries
- Special projects
- This year, all receipts above \$40 million will go toward funding the "15,000 Campaign," an effort to start 1,500 new congregations each year during the decade of the 1990s.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—For the first time ever, Southern Baptists across the country are observing a "Season of Home Missions" this spring.

In years past, the annual home missions emphasis has included four separate events—a home missions study, a week of prayer, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and home missions day in Sunday school.

Beginning this year, the four elements have been coordinated to create a "Season of Home Missions." They will have common themes, graphic elements and emphases.

"The Season of Home Missions is a simplification of the whole process," said Dan Euliss, director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's promotion office. The season is a coordinated effort by the HMB, Brotherhood Commission, Woman's Missionary Union and Baptist Sunday School Union.

"We brought all of the elements under one promotional effort in order to make it easier for Southern Baptists," Euliss said.

Euliss believes the outcome will be positive for people in the pew and the home missions cause.

The Season of Home Missions includes:

- Home missions study, Feb. 20-23. The focus of this year's study is ministering to the nation's homeless. The study shows what home mission-

aries are doing and gives practical steps churches can follow to begin their own ministry.

- Week of prayer for home missions, March 6-13. During this focus, Southern Baptists will pray for a renewed missions commitment, for home missionaries, for increased giving, for increased ministry with the homeless, and for their own involvement in home missions.

- Home missions day in Sunday school, March 13.

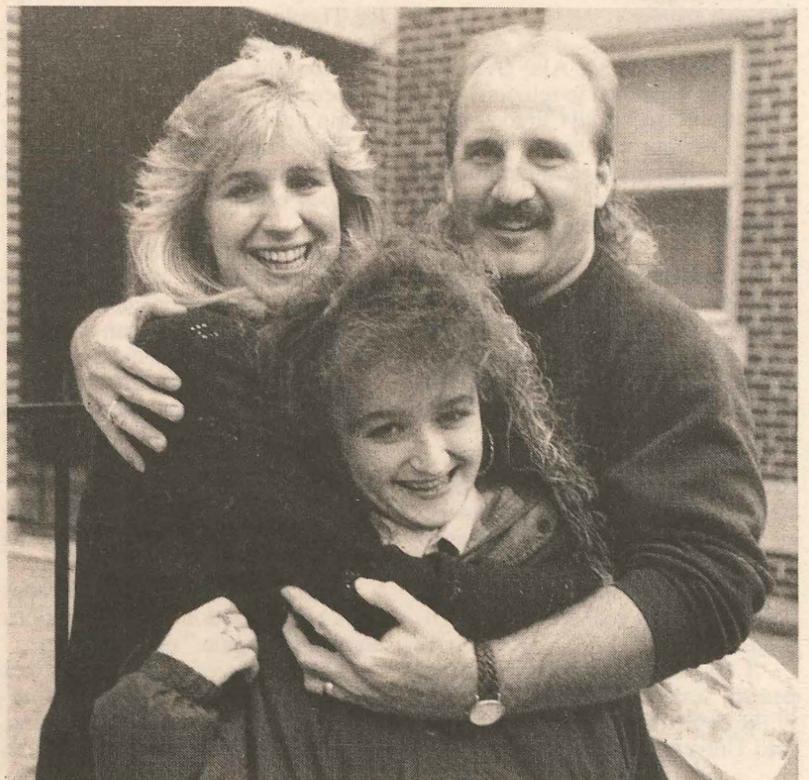
- Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions. The



IT'S YOUR SERVE
Season of Home Missions

national goal for this year's offering is \$40 million. Most churches promote and collect this offering throughout the spring, particularly around Easter.

HOME MISSIONS ■ **Above right:** Brian and Carol Zimmerman are home missionaries featured in materials for the week of prayer for home missions, March 6-13. The Zimmermans work with youth, like Tina Gerber (center), at the Mallory Center in Baltimore. In addition to programs at the center, the Zimmermans and volunteers walk the inner city streets to spend time with teen-agers. ■ **Right:** Finding creative ways to reach people who live in apartment complexes, condominiums and mobile home parks is the mission of Sandy Woodside, home missionary in Kansas City. Nationwide, 96 percent of multi-housing residents do not attend any church. (Photos by Bill Bangham and Laura Sikes)



Annie Armstrong's hometown a home mission field today

By Sarah Zimmerman
SBC Home Mission Board

BALTIMORE (BP)—If Babe Ruth could visit his hometown, he might be delighted to find the Baltimore Orioles playing at Camden Yards.

If Frances Scott Key returned to Chesapeake Bay where he was inspired to write "The Star Spangled Banner," he might be humbled by the park established in his memory.

If Annie Armstrong returned to Baltimore where she was born, baptized and buried, "she would be grateful for those who are laboring in the harvest, but she would ask, 'Where is everybody else?'" speculates Mike Fahey, director of missions for Baltimore Baptist Association.

Born in 1850, Armstrong was instrumental in the creation of Woman's Missionary Union. Southern Baptists' annual Easter offering for home missions was named in her honor in 1934.

Armstrong was known for leading Baptists to send boxes of supplies to home missionaries on frontier fields. At that time, the "frontier field" was Indian Territory, now called Oklahoma.

Today, Oklahoma is a strong Southern Baptist state and Baltimore could be considered a pioneer area.

The needs for ministry in modern Baltimore exemplify the needs Southern Baptists hope to address nationwide with gifts to this year's Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Armstrong was baptized at Baltimore's Seventh Baptist Church when she was 20 years old. At the time, Seventh was a community church in an upper middle-class suburb, notes Ellen Udovich, church and community ministries director for Baltimore Baptist Association and Seventh Baptist Church.

As the suburbs moved farther from downtown, Seventh's neighborhood became a white working-class community, then a black lower-class community, Udovich says.

Now it's the stereotypical picture of an inner city. Stereotype and cocaine are the street drugs of choice. Many residents struggle with mental illness. Many children are not nurtured or encouraged by their parents.

"I think Annie Armstrong would cry if she came back here," says Barbara George, a nurse and Mission Service Corps volunteer working in a medical clinic sponsored by Seventh Baptist Church.

Armstrong was not known for tears, however. Instead, history portrays her as an outspoken, strong-willed leader who challenged Southern Baptists to become involved in

ministries with children, the sick, immigrants and blacks.

In that respect, Armstrong would be proud of Seventh Baptist Church. In response to its changing community, the church began an after-school craft club, nursery school for preschoolers and clothing thrift shop.

The church now owns row houses across the street, housing senior adults with low incomes, facilities for weekday ministries such as literacy and tutoring programs and the Good Shepherd medical clinic where more than 100 patients are treated each month.

Within a year after joining Seventh Baptist Church, Armstrong and her parents left the church to help start Eutaw Place Baptist Church, which is now Woodbrook Baptist Church. Armstrong was a member there until her death in 1938.

Church starting is still a priority in the association, which has a goal of three new congregations a year, Fahey said. His personal goal is for the association to double its 77 congregations by the year 2000.

Yet the association loses one or two congregations a year, Fahey says. Most of the dying churches are Anglo congregations in the city of Baltimore. Typically, church members move to the suburbs, African-Americans move into the community, the church does not reach out to the new

neighbors and the church dies.

Fahey encourages existing inner-city churches to start African-American churches. He also challenges suburban churches to "keep an eye on the city and look for meaningful partnerships" with inner-city congregations.

In some cases, that means responding to reversed trends.

Canton Baptist Church and Neighborhood Center, led by home missionary Jon Spencer, was founded in 1908 to provide ministry in an area settled by Welsh immigrants.

The former industrial, blue-collar neighborhood fell into decline as the economy shifted from industry to high-tech, Spencer says. Now it is changing again as a "new population of wealthy" moves into renovated homes and loft apartments fashioned from old warehouses.

"Our traditional focus on social ministry must change," Spencer says. "We will still have those needs, but we have to recognize the differences."

Fahey says Spencer and his wife are "just the people" to respond to an upwardly mobile community.

Fahey calls the association's staff and volunteers a "good team with a great future," but he says Baltimore's hope depends on the prayers of God's people. "In prayer, people become aware of where God is at work and he moves them to respond."

China detains three Christians; pressure increasing

HONG KONG (BP)—Three American Christians were released by authorities in China Feb. 15 after being held for five days on charges of violating a new law restricting foreign religious work.

Public Security Bureau officers escorted American Dennis Balcombe onto a plane leaving China's Henan province bound for Hong Kong, according to press reports. Balcombe is pastor of the Revival Christian Church in Hong Kong.

Two other Americans from the Hong Kong church, identified as Paul "Star" Fergusson of Texas and Daughin Chan of Oklahoma, reportedly traveled on their own to the same airport in Zhengzhou, Henan's capital, and flew back to Hong Kong.

Four other visiting Christians detained and released with them—two from Indonesia and two from Hong Kong—also left China.

Seven Chinese Christians also

were arrested.

News reports said the foreigners participated in an unregistered house church meeting attended by at least 70 local Christians in the city of Fangcheng. One report said they were sleeping in a private home Feb. 10 when police conducted a midnight raid on that home and several others. Another reported 90 Christians, including the foreigners, were sleeping in a building when it was surrounded by police.

Authorities detained the foreigners in a city guesthouse for five days, charging them with violating three articles of Order Number 144, one of two new religion laws in China.

The order, announced Feb. 5, warns that foreigners can preach in China only with government approval and "must not establish religious organizations, organs for managing religious affairs or centers or schools for religious activity. (They) must not

recruit religious followers, appoint religious teachers or conduct any other proselytizing activities among the Chinese people."

The second law bans house churches and other congregations not belonging to government-sanctioned church organizations. It also limits activities even in approved churches, including sermons or programs that might damage "social stability."

Many Southern Baptists live and work in China. Most of them, however, teach English in universities or provide other professional skills and social services.

Balcombe is not a Southern Baptist. When he arrived back in Hong Kong, he charged he and the others were searched, held under guard in unheated quarters, deprived of sleep during days of interrogation and refused permission to call their embassies or families. They were released, he alleged, only after authorities

gained enough evidence to charge local Christians. Their possessions and about \$13,000 were confiscated and not returned, he added.

Balcombe reportedly owns a business in China and has related to house churches there for many years. He has had "multiple run-ins with the authorities" in China, including a near-arrest last year, according to one Christian observer in Hong Kong.

His arrest "probably is something the Chinese government would like to have highly publicized, because they want to discourage this kind of thing," the observer said.

"Lots of other Christian agencies and people go in all the time, but they don't do it this blatantly. It does send a warning to all Christian agencies to be careful. It indicates the Chinese government will carry through with these new regulations. The situation for foreigners doing religious work in China will be tighter."

Most Southern Baptists living in China are not immediately threatened, observers say, but the latest expulsions indicate the government is cracking down.

Baptist workers lie low after Hebron mosque massacre

JERUSALEM (BP)—Southern Baptist workers in the West Bank and Gaza stayed out of sight as stillness settled into the normally bustling Israeli-occupied territories Feb. 25.

A curfew—imposed hours after a Jewish settler's massacre of Muslims worshipping in a Hebron mosque—stilled angry Palestinians who took to the streets in protest.

In Gaza, Southern Baptist representative Paul Lawrence of Leeds, Ala., stayed inside with his wife, Harriet, and two children. They were joined by Glenn Glover of Birmingham, Ala., a Southern Baptist Inter-

national Service Corps worker unable to speak Arabic who otherwise would be shut in alone.

Other representatives who live in Gaza were traveling outside the area.

Gaza and the West Bank were parts of Arab nations until Israel captured them in 1967 during the Six Day War.

"About noon the curfew took effect, and it got absolutely quiet," said Southern Baptist representative Bev Hicks, who lives in the West Bank and works alongside her husband, Ray, to strengthen churches of Arab Christian believers. The Hickses are

from Cincinnati.

Before the curfew, Mrs. Hicks heard shots and then exploding tear gas canisters. Neighbors told her afterward what happened: an Arab had picked up a stone to throw at a bus of Jewish settlers, and a settler raised a window and shot him dead.

"I kept hearing shooting, and I heard a lot of louder popping sounds," she said. "It was on the news, and people saw our house on the TV. I've had more calls than I've had since we've been here from people to see if I'm OK."

Her husband had traveled to Cy-

prus the night before the massacre to attend a planning meeting with other leaders of Southern Baptist work in the Middle East.

The Hickses' three children, Micah, 8; Melakee, 11; and Sommer, 16, attend school in Jerusalem. The day of the massacre, Mrs. Hicks drove them to school, not realizing what had occurred in Hebron.

"The kids got home about 2 o'clock, and we stayed away from the windows," she said. "We listened to the army Jeeps go back and forth saying it was a curfew, and we all slept together on the floor in one room."

Tajikistan family's murder cited as evidence of new persecution

WASHINGTON (BP)—Religious persecution was the motive behind a mass murder of Baptists on New Year's Eve in Tajikistan, according to on-site testimony reported to a U.S. congressional commission.

An ethnic Russian Baptist, Vladimir Limorev, and eight others—including his four children—were brutally beaten, then killed or left to die in a burning home in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, a former Soviet republic in Central Asia. Limorev and his family were active members of Dushanbe Baptist Church.

During a Feb. 16 Capitol Hill briefing, a former Soviet political prisoner listed the nine victims among 16 people confirmed as Christian martyrs in 1992-93 in areas of the former Soviet Union.

The briefing speaker, Boris Perchatkin, is president of the Russian-American Institute for Adaptation, which has offices in Portland, Ore., and Moscow. The institute serves as a voice for Christians in the former Soviet Union in danger for their faith.

Perchatkin named a total of 34 Christians severely beaten or martyred for their faith during the past two years.

"There is no doubt these particular murders were committed for religious

motives," he said. "These are cases we have been able to document from eyewitness testimony, coming from close friends and relatives of the victims. There is no way of knowing how many others suffered the same fate."

The congressional commission Perchatkin addressed—commonly known as the Helsinki Commission—is a watchdog group appointed to enforce human rights accords hammered out by the United States and European nations.

Religious persecution in the Soviet region nearly stopped in 1989 because of appeals from the West but is coming back now with renewed vigor, Perchatkin said.

"Although the Empire of Evil has collapsed, still the evil has not only remained, but has taken on a more ferocious character," he said. "If earlier the most active of Christians were sent to prison, now they are robbed, tortured, crippled and killed. But in the pages of the Western press there is not one word about this."

Where former communist officials still rule under different banners, evangelicals suffer administrative harassment much like they experienced during the heyday of Soviet communism, Perchatkin reported.

WORLD VIEW

■ **Mongolian Baptists recognized.** The young Baptist church in Ulan Bator, Mongolia, received legal recognition from the Mongolian government Feb. 1, the first such action in the country's modern history. Christian groups of any kind have existed for only a few years in the formerly communist nation bordering China and Russia.

■ **"Jesus" out of prayer.** The name of Jesus Christ has been dropped from the opening prayer of Canada's House of Commons by the unanimous consent of members of Parliament. Three references to Christ were deleted from the Commons prayers, as were some archaic references to the British Empire and the Royal Family.

The new prayer, which is read each day before the Commons opens its doors to the public, calls on the blessings of "Almighty God."

■ **Women priests official.** The Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, appealed for church unity at the conclusion Feb. 23 of a five-year legislative process that will result in women being ordained as priests in the Church of England.

The first female priests are to be ordained March 12 in Bristol Cathedral. However, opponents from within the church have vowed to challenge the new policy in court and have predicted opening the door to women as priests will be the death of the Church of England.

■ **He didn't know who he was.** While calling on parishioners recently, Dennis Ackroyd noticed a guitar and asked the owner if he would consider playing in church. The owner agreed, and Ackroyd told him, "Good! I'll give you a couple of months to practice."

Later, the pastor realized that the owner of the guitar was Grammy Award-winning Eric Clapton, a premier rock guitarist. True to his word, Clapton showed up at the tiny church in Ewhurst, England, and delighted the congregation with guitar renditions of favorite hymns.

■ **Baptist hospital praised.** Yemen's English-language newspaper has profiled the success of Southern Baptists' Jibla hospital in the wake of a highly publicized court case that threatened to close the hospital.

"The nation (should) be more than appreciative of Baptists and their help," the Yemen Times concluded. "The Jibla Baptist Hospital has been serving Yemen for almost three decades. By any standard at all, the Christians at the hospital are ... religious and live by high ... moral values."

■ **Record Scripture distribution.** The Bible League, which has been the main supplier of Bibles to China's underground house church movement, has been sending Bibles to China in record numbers—an average of 100,000 Scriptures each month for the past 18 months.

FAMILY

Seminar calls for renewing 'traditional' families

"There is a way back from this moral abyss, but it is only found in God's word and God's institution of families."

Richard Land, Christian Life Commission executive director

By Louis Moore
SBC Christian Life Commission

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)—American family life can be restored by a concerted emphasis on the role of the husband and father in the traditional two-parent family, according to speakers at the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission's "Family in Crisis" seminar.

These families must be places where husbands and wives share mutual affection and respect and where children are disciplined in love, speakers said.

Seminar leaders also criticized elements of American society they be-

lieve are destroying the family, such as sex outside marriage, drug abuse, pornography and homosexuality, along with educational institutions, government entities and media outlets that enable or glorify such behavior.

For the first time since the CLC began holding annual seminars, the 1994 meeting was held in a local church, First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla. The seminar drew the second-largest registra-

tion of any CLC seminar ever, 746, and was the largest CLC seminar in more than a decade.

"The family is the most basic unit of society," said Southern Baptist Seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr. "God intended it that way."

"The family has almost ceased to function in a nurturing, moralizing way in major segments of society," added CLC

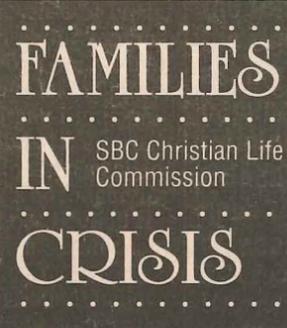
Executive Director Richard Land. Christians must not only reawaken

intact families but must reconstruct within communities of believers a biblical understanding of the family as God meant it, he declared.

"There is a way back from this moral abyss, but it is only found in God's word and God's institution of families," Land said.

Baptist Sunday School Board President Jimmy Draper said the hope of America lies in returning to biblical principles of the family.

"The crowning achievement of God was the creation of the family," he said. "When sin entered the world, things changed, but God did not abandon his plan for the family. It was his plan for a unified world."



SEMINAR SHORTS

The following briefs summarize some of the addresses given during the Christian Life Commission's annual seminar, held Feb. 28-March 2 in Oklahoma City.

■ Media called "malignancy."

The entertainment and media industries are "a malignancy on the soul of America," according to Tom Elliff, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Okla.

"The entertainment and media industry, consciously or unconsciously, are working in concert to undermine the very core of our country," he said.

The media "have ceased becoming a reflection of the values of America and are pressuring us to share their values."

He prescribed both avoidance and confrontation for Christians.

"Avoid association with anything in the entertainment industry that smacks of evil," Elliff urged. "It is time for you and me to become selective."

But turning off the TV "is not a good enough answer" to immoral content, he said, because "what happens to my neighbor does affect me. ... It lowers the moral value of our community."

■ Trouble traced to 17th century.

Al Mohler, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, traced the roots of America's cultural war to the Enlightenment, an intellectual movement of the 17th and 18th centuries that celebrated the power of human reason.

American culture now suffers because of the rise of individualism and the glorification of personal fulfillment, Mohler said. He cited five factors in the demise of American culture:

■ Social engineering, which views the role of the family as subordinate to the interests of the government.

■ Ideological feminism, which is in "open and declared" war on the family.

■ The therapeutic cult, which focuses on "liberating the individual" through psychotherapy.

■ The consumer culture, in which materialistic desires keep fathers from assuming responsibility in the home and force mothers out of the home and into the work force.

■ The media elite, who promote values in opposition to average Americans.

■ Entitlement led to ruin.

Accepting the idea that happiness is a right which all Americans deserve has resulted in the disintegration of the family, said William Bennett, former cabinet-level staff member in the Reagan and Bush administrations.

Sometime in the 1960s or '70s, American citizens embraced the belief that they were entitled not only to the pursuit of happiness but to happiness itself, Bennett said. "If we weren't getting it, it was somebody's fault."

Happiness "has moved ahead of commitment in modern American thinking," he declared.

"When that occurs, the dissolution of critical institutions is bound to follow.

"The family is, was and will always be the first, best and most important department of health, education and welfare. Its dissolution is the most important fact in American life."

■ Pornography called evil. Every Christian ought to be involved in the fight against pornography, according to Jerry Kirk, founder and president of the National Coalition Against Pornography.

"Pornography is anti-child, anti-woman, anti-man, anti-marriage, anti-family, anti-church and anti-God, and it is filling America," he said.

"Every believer needs to be concerned and involved within the limits of time to take back the night and to protect ourselves, our families and God's family by eliminating child pornography and all illegal pornography from America."

Kirk said "pornography promises love but produces lust; it promises fun but produces despair; it promises self-fulfillment but produces self-doubt and self-hatred; pornography promises freedom but produces addiction, shame and guilt; it promises joyful sex and health but it leads to promiscuity and to devastating diseases and in many cases death."

"Every one of you is a victim," he claimed.

"The only question is how directly you are a victim and how powerfully you have been impacted," he said.

■ Black families need action. The crisis shaking the foundations of families in the African American community requires decisive action on the part of churches and individual Christians, said Fred Luter Jr., pastor of Franklin Baptist Church in New Orleans.

"Satan is boldly taking from us what was given to us at Calvary," he said.

Luter cited five reasons for the crisis in African-American homes:

■ Absentee fathers and husbands.

■ The loss of discipline.

■ The drug epidemic.

■ "Gangsta" rap music.

■ Unhealthy peer pressure.

Luter said each of these reasons for the breakdown must be countered with the help of churches and individual Christians, both African American and Anglo.

"We must disciple and develop the black male," he said. "If you want to save the family, you've got to save the man. As the man goes, so goes the family."

"We've got to get men back into the church," he said. "And we've got to teach them how to be husbands and fathers."

■ Majority may not be right. No other law would be needed if Americans lived by the Ten Commandments because "every other law is simply an amplification of those basic laws," said Arkansas Lt. Gov. Mike Huckabee.

"Right and wrong are not determined by the mere consent of government. Law is based on something higher than majority opinion," said Huckabee, who also is a Southern Baptist minister and former president of the Arkansas Baptist convention.

■ Gang support called tragic. It is tragic that the acceptance and protection teen-agers find in gangs is not being provided by more wholesome groups, evangelist Jay Strack said.

As the influence of American families decreases, the role of other forces such as gangs will increase, he predicted.

In trying to rescue teens from the influence of drugs and rock music, Strack advised pastors, educators and parents to avoid citing outdated sources that appear in Christian books that have not been revised over the years.

"Nothing will disqualify you more than to quote some group ... that hasn't been around for 15 years" or refer to a drug such as LSD that is losing popularity, Strack said.

"We've got to do our homework to help our sons and daughters and those we care about to make intelligent decisions."

Having forgotten that love is spelled t-i-m-e, Christian parents must develop in their children a sweet taste for the things of God, Strack said.

Compiled from reports in Baptist Press and Associated Baptist Press

Christians beginning to win cultural war, some say

By Greg Warner
Associated Baptist Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (ABP)—Christians are beginning to win America's "cultural war," according to preachers and politicians speaking to the annual seminar of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission last week.

"Something is stirring in America," said William Bennett, former

Reagan-Bush appointee and likely 1996 Republican presidential candidate.

Bennett cited evidence that conservative Christians are making "inroads."

"I think we are on the edge of a moral, religious revolution in this country," Bennett said.

"There is a significant awakening within the heart of America," concurred Tom Elliff, pastor of the host

church, First Southern Baptist of Del City, Okla.

"I'm not saying it is coming as rapidly as I think it ought to come," he cautioned, but there is "growing uneasiness" in America about who is shaping the culture.

Elliff's primary target: "the entertainment and media elite."

"Many people are waking up to the fact the media is into mind control," he declared.

Richard Land, CLC executive director, said he also sees moral Americans waking up and taking charge. "I think I can hear the stirrings of the sleeping giant," he said, quoting Japan's emperor after the World War II bombing of Pearl Harbor.

"There is a real sense of urgency" about America's sad moral state, "but also a sense that God is moving and God is working," Land reported.

Bennett, who served as secretary of education under President Reagan and drug czar under President Bush, cited three evidences that the conservative cause is making inroads:

■ Americans are beginning to recognize the need for change.

■ A book by Harvard law professor Stephen Carter, "The Culture of Disbelief," is convincing many that religious Americans have been unfairly criticized for exerting influence on the culture.

■ "People are starting to fight back in the right way ... by good arguments, good examples, good reasons."

Despite a myriad of social ills, Bennett said, some critics still argue that America suffers from too much religious influence, not too little. "The foolishness and emptiness of that is now becoming more apparent to people."

But Bennett was reluctant to say conservatives are yet winning the cultural war.

When his new book, "The Book of Virtues," moved passed "Private Parts" by shock-radio's Howard Stern on the New York Times' best-seller list, Bennett said a friend was ready to announce that conservatives had "turned the corner."

"We've not turned the corner yet," Bennett cautioned.

The prime casualty in the cultural war is the family, speakers agreed. Pornography, trash TV, feminism, gay rights, abortion, euthanasia, abuse, adultery, promiscuity and "condomania" all undermine the family structure, they said.

Several speakers also decried attempts to redefine the family as anything other than the biblical ideal—one man and one woman in a faithful, lifelong union perhaps blessed by natural or adopted children.

The attempt of homosexuals to "reconstruct" the family as "any physically intimate grouping willingly entered" violates God's plan and the country's good, said Daniel Heimbach, ethics professor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. Heimbach, who served the Bush administration as a domestic-policy adviser and assistant Navy secretary, recently led a lobbying effort to keep gays out of the military.

While the family is the primary target in the culture war, ironically it is also the cure for what ails America, seminar speakers said.

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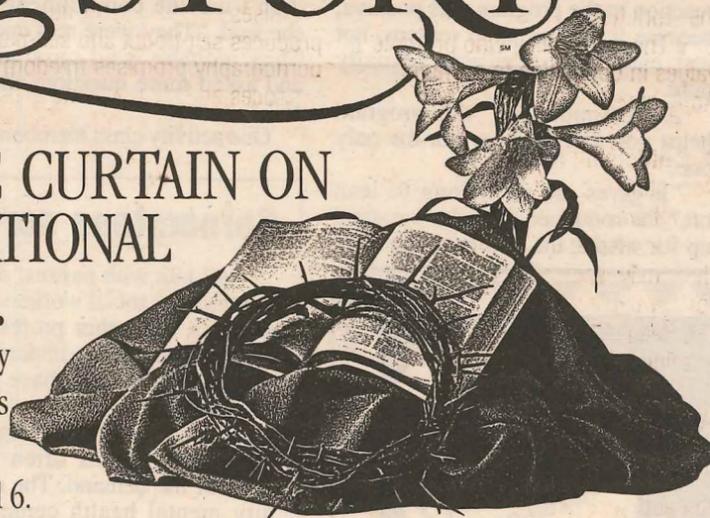
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KENTUCKY

Kentucky teens affirm 'True Love Waits' commitment

What is True Love Waits?

True Love Waits is a program supported by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in which families and churches work together to encourage teen-agers to remain sexually pure until marriage. The program includes education about the risks of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, as well as the biblical mandate for sex only within marriage. Teens are encouraged to sign pledge cards in which they commit to abstain from sex until marriage. For information, call the Kentucky Baptist Convention's family ministry office at (502) 245-4101.

Continued from page 1

plained. One feature was a "real upbeat" video, "It Ain't Worth It," which features a professional basketball player who still is a virgin, Turner said.

Then, "we talked about why it's real important to wait," he said.

The True Love Waits material lists five reasons for a young person to wait until marriage to have sex:

- True love for God, who says to wait.

- True love for self.

- True love for dating relationships.

- True love for the teen's future mate.

- True love for the teen's unborn child.

"We also talked some about AIDS, plus the common sense side—not wanting to get pregnant," Turner continued.

But one of the strengths of the program is that it sends positive messages rather than negative ones, he added.

Bill Houpt, minister of youth at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, agreed.

"My kids really grabbed this program, because it's positive, not negative," he said.

Houpt said 42 teens at the church have signed commitment cards.

"A real strength of the program is that the kids actually sign (their commitment cards) in a family worship service," he said, which keeps the family at the center of dealing with sexuality.

"Another positive element is that the program allows you to be commit-

ted again, even if you've messed up before," he said.

Also, "it's given the kids a great accountability process among themselves," Houpt said. "They've learned to stand up for each other."

Although some people may have concerns about the necessity of "going public" with a commitment to sexual purity, "The church commitment worship service really sealed it for our kids," Houpt said. "The church is 100 percent behind it."

"The kids surprised me with their boldness," he continued. Wearing True Love Waits T-shirts at school has opened doors for explaining their stance on sex and for offering a Christian witness.

"Three young people in the school accepted Christ as a result of my kids sharing ... about True Love Waits," he said. "It's no longer a program to them, it's a way of life."

Houpt has found the program to be so successful that he and some teenagers from his church have been instrumental in helping other churches warm up to the program.

Heather Smith, 17, said her first reaction to the program was positive, because it "shows good reasons, not just bad," for remaining sexually pure.

Also, Smith said, "this program helps you know you're not the only one."

"It gives me something to lean on," she continued. "It helps me stand up for what I am, and for what I be-

lieve in."

Some people at school do ridicule her, Smith said: "One friend makes fun of me because I haven't slept with guys. But then, she'll (say things like) she wished she hadn't done it."

Smith has spoken with Houpt at three churches and an associational meeting, and has appeared on a local TV station regarding her involvement in the True Love Waits program.

Houpt said he led the True Love Waits campaign "right by the letter" as the kit suggested. But other churches, like Greenland Baptist in Corbin, chose a different approach.

"I did it through Sunday school, as a four- or five-week series," said Tammy Abbott, who became interested in True Love Waits when she heard about it at Cedarmore Assembly last summer.

Although Abbott is not one of Greenland's youth workers, she has taught ninth through 12th grade girls in Sunday school for more than two years. She said she felt like it was important to share the material with her class.

"We did the seminar part, but didn't use the commitment cards," she said. "They were real open to it. They probably paid more attention and asked more questions than usual."

One activity class members partic-



Cornerstone serves today's families

As I talk with pastors, directors of missions, social workers, school officials, and other professionals, there is a common understanding that today's families have tremendous needs.

Unfortunately the resources to meet those needs often fall far short of the demand. The community mental health centers have

long waiting lists for those not experiencing an immediate crisis.

Pastors, especially those gifted in counseling, find themselves with far more requests for help than they have time to provide. Other pastors recognize the need but have few places to refer hurting families and individuals.

It is because of this need that we began Cornerstone Counseling services in partnership with local associations and other groups. We opened our first office less than 18 months ago and now have six offices. More are being planned.

Through Cornerstone, we are providing a Christian-based service through trained professionals. All of our therapists have at least a master's degree. Each counselor receives clinical supervision from an individual who has spent years providing counseling and who is

certified as a clinical supervisor. Each counseling site also has developed linkages with a local psychiatrist and other professionals to whom individuals and families who need additional care can be referred.

The range of services provided is wide.

Counselors help couples whose

marriages are in trouble. They counsel with families where there is conflict between teenage children and parents. They work with individuals experiencing depression. They assist individuals and families trying to cope with the many different emotional and psychological problems faced by people today.

The counselors provide the help from the perspective of a strong Christian faith. The counselors recognize that it is a faith in Christ which can sustain when all else fails.

If you need help, call one of our local Cornerstone offices. You can call (800) 456-1386 to learn where our closest office is to you.

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

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Brazil volunteers take last look back on partnership

By Marv Knox
Editor

ELIZABETHTOWN—Kentucky Baptists looked back in gratitude upon the Brazilian chapter of their partnership missions efforts last week.

About 170 volunteers who participated in the Kentucky Baptist Convention's joint venture with Baptists in the Brazilian state of Espirito Santo gathered for a banquet in their honor at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown Feb. 25.

They represented the end of an era—the vast majority of Kentuckians who journeyed to Espirito Santo in 1993 for the fourth and final year of the Kentucky/Brazil partnership.

They received praise from Bill Marshall, the KBC's executive secretary-treasurer, and from Thurmon Bryant, vice president for missionary personnel at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

"Thank you" is not enough," Marshall said, noting his gratitude to the volunteers surpassed the power of words to describe.

By way of thanks, he told about the first six KBC couples who traveled to Espirito Santo to decide if

Kentucky should enter the partnership.

"We almost felt we should say no, for a number of reasons," he recalled. "Still, we came back to a strong feeling this is what we should do. But suppose nobody—like you—volunteered."

The voluntary participation of hundreds of Kentucky Baptists, who gave up vacation time and paid their own expenses to fly to Brazil and minister in Jesus' name, made the partnership successful, he said.

"We are part of a mighty wave of a volunteer movement that started years ago," Marshall stressed. "You are a part of it. It means nothing if people like you don't go and serve."

Bryant, himself a former missionary to Brazil, echoed that theme.

Kentuckians support Southern Baptist foreign missions by volunteering for partnership missions, by sending their children to be career missionaries and by providing financial support, he said.

"Without people like you, we wouldn't have much to do," he insisted.

"God has wonderfully raised up in our midst a resource, the volunteer," Bryant added. He reported some of

the statistical results of the four-year Kentucky/Brazil partnership:

- Conversion of 4,000-plus new Christians.

- Formation of 40 churches.

- Construction of 27 chapel buildings.

- Sponsorship of eight medical clinics, which treated more than 13,000 patients.

- Training of 16,000 people in vacation Bible schools.

- Participation of more than 850 Kentucky volunteers.

- Demonstrating how to provide missions leadership, so that Espirito Santo Baptists now are partners with a less-equipped state in Brazil.

"You have caught on to what cooperation means more than you ever have in your long life," Bryant said. "You set the work forward a number of years."

And the effects will continue to spread in Kentucky, as people who journeyed to Brazil to tell people about Christ feel more comfortable sharing their faith with their friends and neighbors, he predicted.

Kentucky Baptists who participated in the partnership said it blessed their lives.

The high point of his Brazil trip came when an overflow crowd of 367 people attended the dedication service for a chapel his group built, said Richard Easterling, pastor of First Baptist Church in Liberty.

Easterling had not planned to take the trip last year. But he went along to fill a vacancy created when Bill Spurlock, his longtime friend and former church member at Kirksville Baptist Church in Richmond, died two weeks before the trip was to begin.

His voice quivering with emotion, Easterling told how Spurlock's family urged him to go in his friend's place, and how 40 Brazilians came to faith in Christ during evening worship services under a tent.

"As long as God allows that little chapel to stand, it will be the scene of people coming to faith in Jesus Christ," he said.

Shane Hayes, a high school senior and member of Red House Baptist Church in Richmond, said his partnership trip helped him see how he could make a difference in the world.

It also taught him three lessons, he said: "To depend on God and be flexible. To stick with Christian brothers and sisters. And that I'm empowered

to be a missionary at home too."

Tina Weitkamp, a nurse and member of First Baptist Church of Fort Thomas, told about administering both physical and spiritual care to hurting people.

The trip she took to Brazil last summer was her second, and she predicted she'll take many more mission trips. "Once it gets in your blood," she explained, "you want to keep doing it."

Four Brazilian Baptists who served as interpreters for the partnership also expressed their appreciation for the venture.

"You have become part of my life. I consider you as part of my family," said Ruth Alves de Souza, a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. "Through this partnership, I felt God's call to be a Christian social worker."

Similar sentiments were expressed by Dircon Costra Jr., a student at Cumberland College in Williamsburg, and Fabiane dos Santos, a student at Georgetown College in Georgetown.

"Nobody in this room loved the partnership more than I, except maybe the Lord," said Peter Simoes, who was an interpreter for more than three years.

"My vision of missions has been expanded," he said. "I've seen many lives changed—as many as 400 in one week."

"Thank you for what you did. You did it not for the Kentucky Baptist Convention or for your churches. You did it for the Lord."

In a related matter, Calvin Wilkins, the KBC's partnership coordinator, received a letter of appreciation from Ilton Pereira, executive director of the Baptist convention in Espirito Santo, and Tony Gray, a Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil.

They thanked the KBC for allowing Espirito Santo Baptists to use unspent partnership funds for "projects important to the work here in Espirito Santo."

"May the Lord continue to bless ... Kentucky Baptists," they wrote.

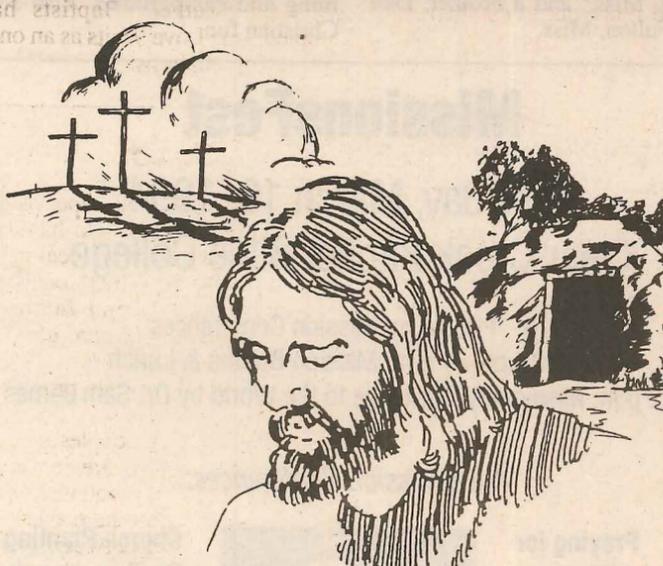
Such blessing will be needed for Kentucky Baptists' new partnership ministry with Russian Baptists, said Wilkins and Benton Williams, the KBC's partnership director.

They are recruiting volunteers to conduct a variety of partnership projects in the Moscow and St. Petersburg areas.

The Foreign Mission Board's Bryant, who traveled with Kentucky's first fact-finding group to Russia, urged Bluegrass Baptists onward: "You switch gears to move from Brazil to Russia. Go forth with the right motivation and purpose."

The Brazil partnership taught high school senior Shane Hayes three lessons, he said: "To depend on God and be flexible. To stick with Christian brothers and sisters. And that I'm empowered to be a missionary at home too."

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PEOPLE

KENTUCKY KERNELS

During the past year, the typical American adult spent the equivalent of two entire months watching television programming. Americans average about four hours a day of TV viewing.
Source: Barna Research Group

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **CLAY CITY**—Marion Brewer celebrated his 27th anniversary as pastor of Powells Valley Church.

■ **COLUMBIA**—William Stephens of the Baptist Sunday School Board will speak at Columbia Church March 13-15 from his latest book, "The Bible Speaks to End Times," the 1994 adult doctrine study book for the Southern Baptist Convention. For information, call (502) 384-3176.

■ **COVINGTON**—Immanuel Church will celebrate its homecoming March 27. Lunch will follow the service. Luther Clemmer will be the special guest.

■ **FORDSVILLE**—Pleasant Hill and Fordsville churches ordained Joy

Staples to the ministry. He is pastor at Pleasant Hill Church.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Victory Memorial Church called Lori Elliott as interim minister of music. James Drury retired as minister of music after serving the church seven years.

■ **MAYFIELD**—Craig Tacket of Georgetown College recently led a Youth Fest Weekend at Sharon Church. Numerous commitments and rededications resulted from this event.

■ **OLATON**—Reuben Johnson resigned as pastor of McGrady Creek Church.

■ **SOMERSET**—Beacon Hill Church called Montgomery Moore as director of recreational ministries.

Romo: Language missions needed

ALBUQUERQUE N.M. (BP)—America's growing ethnic diversity requires greater diligence by Christians to reach people of other races in the 21st century, said the Home Mission Board's director of language church extension.

"People are continually coming to America who are culturally and linguistically distinct," Oscar Romo said at the board's annual language missions leadership conference. "Many of them have no knowledge of what the Bible or the church is."

Virtually all Americans are immigrants or the descendants of immigrants, Romo noted.

"For over a century the new arrivals were from Europe. Today, the new arrivals are from Third World countries, mostly Latin America and Asia," he said. "Given the high birth rates of these new Americans, the minority by the mid-21st century will be the Anglos."

Today, Southern Baptist churches worship in about 100 languages in America each week.

Romo warned, however, that "cultural myopia" could lead to a regimented, western-dominated evangelism strategy that does not translate the gospel into a group's cultural context.

We are not alone

As children, we often encountered a keen sense of being alone. It may have been in a situation where great fear, even temporary, gripped us and we were desperate for the presence of a parent, a friend or anyone who could give us hope.

It may have been a time in which we felt a sense of genuine accomplishment and we needed someone with whom we could share it. Perhaps it was a "business as usual" day but we longed for some friend who would, just by their caring interest, let us experience the joy of knowing, "We are not alone."

As children of our loving Heavenly Father, we come face to face with such occasions at Oneida. We thank God many times every day for being here and revealing himself to us so we know we are not alone.

God reveals his presence through answered prayer as we plead for guidance, understanding and love for the people with whom we work. We know he is here by the "joy unspeakable and full of glory" which he showers on us.

We know we are not alone by the love, affection and appreciation expressed by the people with whom we work and worship.

Beyond all these precious assurances, we know we are not alone as we receive prayer support and material blessings which come from our friends who are faithful in writing and giving.

Recently, I discussed our school with the father of two students who have stood high academically, socially, spiritually and in any other measurable way. I asked about his opinion of the education they received here. Before I could finish my question, he replied quickly and enthusiastically, "No doubt about it. They have received the best education available anywhere."

From another faithful friend: "I am mourning

with you and praying with you in your great loss. But a great God will send someone to carry the work forward, as he always does. I personally loved and respected Mr. Moore as a great leader and Christian and I will miss him, but with God's help Oneida will continue ... with God's help, I will be helping as I am able."

A faithful supporter of Oneida wrote, "Our church had a memorial service on Sunday night. Those of us who just felt comfortable with his ability and willingness to 'take care of things' will miss him. God provides, so we will trust him to give us and you what is needed."

A graduate of nearly 20 years ago wrote, "When I came to Oneida, I was a spoiled brat who didn't know even how to make a bed, let alone function on my own and take responsibility for my own actions. With a tremendous amount of patience and guidance, Barkley Moore showed me love, understanding and how to be the best person possible. My children (7) have been raised with the values I learned at OBI. Oneida is my home and always will

be. It was the only stable part of my life. No matter where I have been, I have counted on Oneida to be there."

Unaware of what would be happening in 10 days, a couple wrote, "We are enclosing a check. We kept thinking we would get back and work some more this year. It looks like it will be spring before we can return. You are doing a great work there and we were proud to come and be a part of it. May 1994 be the best year yet!"

With friends like these, we know we are not alone.

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

THIS IS ONEIDA



A.B. Colvin

John Pate, former KBC staffer, dies

LOUISVILLE—John Pate, a longtime employee of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board, died March 2 of heart failure. He was 59.

Pate had taken early retirement from the KBC staff in June 1993 due to medical problems.

A native of Fulton, Miss., Pate came to the KBC in 1975 as general services supervisor and later was named director of the support services department.

He previously worked for the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission in Memphis, Tenn., in a variety of capacities.

Pate was a member of Westport Road Baptist Church in Louisville. He previously taught junior boys Sunday school and Royal Ambassadors.

Funeral services were held in Fulton, Miss., March 4, with burial there as well.

Pate was preceded in death by his parents and three sisters. Survivors include a sister, Marjorie McDole of Shannon, Miss., and a brother, Dan Pate of Fulton, Miss.



John Pate

CLASSIFIED ADS

SBC TOUR: Orlando, Fla., June 12-16, 1994. Airfare, room and shuttle as low as \$449/person. Extensions available. Ray Hayes (502) 477-2379.

SEEKING: Tyrone Baptist Church is seeking names and addresses of former members or family members of former members in preparation for centennial activities Aug. 6-7, 1994. Write Centennial, P.O. Box 262, Tyrone, OK 73951.

SBC HOUSING: Here's a "suite" offer! Ramada Suites, two-bedroom, two-bath with fully equipped kitchen, living room with sleeper sofa. Complementary continental breakfast, three pools, four jacuzzis, lake with paddle boats. All this and more located only 5 minutes from Convention Center, 5 minutes from Sea World, 10 minutes from Walt Disney World, 10 minutes from Universal Studios at a special promotional rate only available through Community Travel. Promotional airfare also available. Call Debbie collect at (606) 441-7993.

NEEDED: Minister of music/children and youth, full-time position. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 239, LaCenter, KY 42056.

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

MissionsFest

Saturday, March 19, 1994
Clear Creek Baptist Bible College

10 - 11:30 a.m. Mission Conferences
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Mission Booths & Lunch
1 - 2 p.m. Missionary Challenge to the World by Dr. Sam James

Adult Mission Conferences:

Praying for Missions
Anna Mary Birdwell, KBC
WMU Associate

KY/Russia Partnership Missions
Rev. David Aker,
DOM Pulaski
Association



Dr. Sam James
Vice President, FMB

Church Planting
Dr. Tony Hough,
KBC Direct
Missions
Associate

Migrant Work
Rev. Sam Smith,
DOM Shelby
Association

Youth Conference hosted by the BSU in Kelly Hall.
Children's mission activities in the Family Life Center Gym.
Lunch will be served by the Disaster Relief Team (\$1/person)

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

MISSIONS

Baptists compete for souls at Winter Olympics

By Mike Creswell
SBC Foreign Mission Board

LILLEHAMMER, Norway (BP)—They didn't win medals, but a Southern Baptist team competed hard at the Olympics.

A 15-member team of Foreign Mission Board missionaries and Southern Baptist volunteers from the United States put in long hours in sub-freezing temperatures to spread the gospel among athletes and visitors.

While Bonnie Blair and Dan Jansen speed-skated into Olympic history and figure skaters Nancy Kerrigan and Tonya Harding faced off on Olympic ice—more than a dozen people were praying to receive Jesus Christ as Savior.

But those spiritual decisions were only part of the Baptist team's work. The workers prayed with scores of others seeking a closer relationship to God. They also evangelized hundreds, passed out cases of Christian literature, provided personal counseling to many and made numerous contacts for follow-up.

"We're not just passing out paper," missionary team coordinator Fred Dallas of Friendswood, Texas, said in an interview in Lillehammer. "Lots of groups can do that."

Instead, team members tried to build friendships so they could establish a meaningful dialogue on the Christian faith. Repeat visits and conversations were sought.

"I talked to one woman the other night and you could see the pain, the longing in her face to have a relationship with the Lord," said volunteer David Atkins, minister of music and youth at Little Cypress Baptist Church in Orange, Texas.

Team members talked to people on the icy walkways before and after events, as well as in restaurants, coffee shops and other public places where crowds took refuge from temperatures hovering in the teens.

Volunteer Jim Faulk of Waco, Texas, set up shop at a new McDonald's restaurant, telling people about Christ between bites of burgers and fries. Faulk, a contemporary Christian musician producing his fourth album, works with Action Ministries.

Dallas, who has coordinated three

Olympic ministries, directed a mammoth outreach effort at the 1992 Summer Games in Barcelona, Spain. As a missionary to Spain, Dallas lives near Barcelona, but he has spent most of his time in Lillehammer since last October preparing for the Winter Games.

Hundreds of Baptist volunteers from several countries took part in the Barcelona effort. But this time weather and other factors led Dallas to assemble a small team of Southern Baptist ministry professionals who could adapt more easily to Lillehammer's chilly confines.

Action Ministries, led by David Guinn of West Point, Ga., provided volunteer team members from the United States.

Guinn has a special interest in Olympics outreach. A former world-

class wrestler, he took part in the 1968 Summer Olympics in Mexico City. His 177 wins and six losses ranked him fifth in the world that year. But he turned from the mat to the campus when he became a college youth minister.

Like any coach, Guinn was proud of the team he brought to Lillehammer.

"All of them are trained in working with students, evangelism and discipleship," he said. "For what we're doing they're the best you could find anywhere."

The Olympics offered a rare chance to evangelize people from scores of nations, Guinn added.

"It's the closest to Pentecost we'll ever find. It's where the whole world comes together, people are responsive and they'll listen to you," he said.



Lillehammer Baptist Church opens doors to the world

LILLEHAMMER, Norway (BP)—Norwegian Baptist pastor Roald Juliussen attacked the Winter Olympics with the same passion for ministry that his country's athletes applied to training for skiing, skating and other winter events.

The pastor of Lillehammer Baptist Church had been preparing his congregation for helping host the 1994 Winter Olympics for four years.

"I think this congregation was the first to congratulate the commune of Lillehammer for winning" the right to play host to the Games, he said with a smile.

Ministering to a world-class sporting event was a sizable undertaking for the 76-member congregation housed in an attractive building a few

blocks from downtown Lillehammer. The church threw open its doors and invited Olympics fans to come for coffee or to special nightly services, all under the theme: "Christ's Way through Norway."

A daily coffeehouse featured a large-screen TV showing Olympics events nonstop. Some days the church's young people hauled a sled equipped with a coffee urn to serve shivering Olympics fans waiting in line for events.

Each night the church offered worship services with special music, dramas and Bible-based messages. A 15-member Southern Baptist evangelism team used the church as its home base through a special partnership worked out between Juliussen and Southern

Baptist missionary Fred Dallas, the team's coordinator.

Dallas has been in Lillehammer since last October preparing for the Olympics and has preached in the church almost every weekend he has been in town. "Fred has an open door here. He's a man who has gifts to make contacts with people outside the church," Juliussen explained.

Dallas emphasized the partnership with the church was just that—a good working arrangement that pleased everyone. "We really did want to work alongside them, not just use their facilities and go home," he said.

But the church also welcomed other groups that came to minister during the Olympics: French evangelicals, Norwegian Baptist youths and

seminary students, a group from Spurgeon's College in London and others.

The church base gave the visiting Southern Baptist team another platform for ministry. Team members spent many hours there talking to young people about their faith. They also found themselves giving ministry advice to Norwegian seminary students headed to their first pastorate in coming months.

Lillehammer Baptists also took part in an interdenominational church committee that brought Baptists, Pentecostals, Orthodox, Reformed believers, Roman Catholics and Salvation Army members together with the predominant Lutheran Church, the state church of Norway.

HOCKEY WITNESSING
Southern Baptist missionary Wayne Jenkins explains—over the noise of an Olympic ice hockey crowd—the Olympics-related evangelistic pins adorning his cap. Olympic pins of all kinds are hot items for swapping and selling during the games. So Baptists designed their own with the name of Jesus over an Olympic torch. The pins provided many opportunities for Christian witness. In the top photo, missionary Tim Vaughn (left) talks to a passerby after an Olympic ice hockey match. (BP photos by Mike Creswell)

PEEK INSIDE A MIND-TINGLING WEEK AT GEORGETOWN COLLEGE

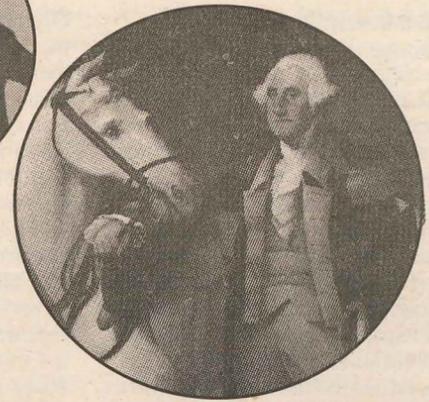
Scholars Developing Scholars In The Christian Tradition



Eric Burns, former NBC News correspondent and author of *Broadcast Blues*, was the featured speaker for the Danford Thomas Lecture Series.



The BSU Drama Troupe prepared its newest performance for Kentucky churches.



The Honorable Sherry K. Jelsma, Kentucky Secretary of Education, Arts and Humanities Cabinet, was guest speaker at the "General George Washington" portrait dedication.



Founders' Day: Keynote speaker Carl Henlein ('61), leading national claims litigation attorney, and President Crouch welcomed new members of the GC Foundation Board.

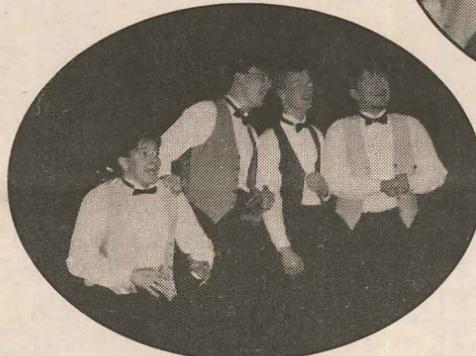
Do you know Baptist students who might want to join this exciting circle of scholars developing scholars? See below for information about new scholarship opportunities at Georgetown College.



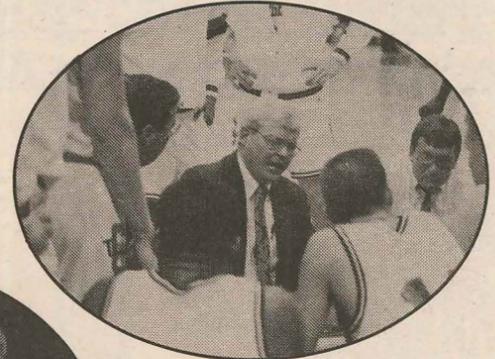
Former GC professor Irene Corey, international theatrical costume designer known for her design of the popular television dinosaur Barney, presented a lecture prior to an exhibit of her designs at the GC Art Gallery.



Campus newspaper editor Eric Rigney congratulated 1957 *Georgetownian* editor, Dr. Don Zacharias, president of Mississippi State University, after he received one of this year's Alumni Achievement Awards.



The chorale presented "A Gershwin Cabaret" to help fund the group's summer mission performing tour of Russia.



Ranked #1 in the nation, the men's basketball team is looking toward the national tournament where Charles Grote ('61), CEO of Gentec, will be inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame.

Georgetown College announces special opportunities for Baptist students!

Matching Grant Program For Baptist Churches

Georgetown College will match dollar-for-dollar any church-sponsored grant up to \$2,500 for a total of \$5,000 for admitted students with an ACT of 25 or above. Georgetown will also match dollar-for-dollar a church-sponsored grant up to \$1,500 for a total of \$3,000 for all other admitted students with an ACT up to 24. These special scholarship opportunities are offered to Baptist students enrolling as first-time freshmen or as transfer students beginning Fall 1994 semester.

Christian Service Grant

A \$1,000 grant is available to Baptist students who intend to enter a church-related profession:

- ◆ \$1,000 guarantee, renewable up to four years for a total of \$4,000
- ◆ One-on-one mentorship programs
- ◆ Weekend preaching and ministry opportunities

Minister's Grant

A \$2,500 grant is available to sons and daughters of ordained Baptist ministers and is renewable for four years for a total of \$10,000.

For more information, contact the Office of Admissions at 1-800-788-9985.

GEORGETOWN

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