

FOR THE RECORD

Child abuse

This week's Recorder features a package of articles about the traumas of child abuse in Kentucky and beyond. See pages 1, 5, 6 & 7.

Ferguson retiring

Milton Ferguson has announced his retirement as president of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo. See page 2.

Dilday for president?

Russell Dilday, recently fired president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, says he doesn't plan to be a candidate for the presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention this summer, despite attempts to draft him. See page 2.

"Youthquake" hits

More than 300 West Kentucky teens gathered for the third annual "Youthquake" assembly in Barlow. See page 3.

Editorial

Forget "big" problems; focus on helping kids. See page 5.

Persecution predicted

Open persecution of evangelicals is now far away in Russia and some of its former Republics, according to an evangelical leader. See page 8.

Missionaries safe

All Southern Baptist missionaries are safely out of Rwanda, despite sometimes harrowing escapes. See page 9.

Kentuckians' mission trip includes unexpected leg

By Polly Ward
Floyd County Times

ALLEN—When Pastor Mark Tackett and layman Reed Volk of Pleasant Home Baptist Church near Prestonsburg went on a three-week foreign mission trip to Romania Feb. 20, they took with them \$30,000 worth of medicine and medical supplies donated by area medical personnel.

The pair was on a mission of mercy, dispensing medicine and the gospel to people who needed both.

Little did they know that they would bring back with them the hopes and dreams of one Romanian man who needed a miracle. And an artificial leg.

Tackett remembers well his encounter with the man.

"I was preaching at a church and the people were sharing their maladies and misfortunes," Tackett said. "This man had so much hope. He had saved money a long time for a prosthetic leg from the knee down, which was six month's wages (about \$300). He got it, and it broke in the first week.

"He shared with us what bad shape he was in and how hurt he was and he asked, would we bring the leg back to America or send him another leg?" Tackett continued.

"He had so much hope and confidence. ... The man told us, 'If you have come this far to help, make a commitment to help me. I cannot afford another leg.'

"There was no way to refuse him. I said, 'Absolutely, we'll take the leg back. I don't know anything about it (getting a prosthesis fixed), but in the name of the Lord, we will try to help you.'"

When Tackett returned home March 10, he had with him the artificial leg, a crude prosthetic device that consists of a brown leather lace-up boot supported by bands of metal with a wooden foot attached.

"It looks like something that came from the (American) Civil War era," he commented, adding that he had found someone to fix the device: "A blacksmith in Johnson County said he will redo it for us."

Beyond that, Tackett said, he isn't sure what to do, except to take the re-

□ See Mission trip includes ..., page 3



RINGS OF PRAYER Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin and children from Oakton Baptist Church in Chantilly, Va., seem to be drowning in the links of a 300-foot prayer chain the church's children constructed over a three-month period last fall. The youngsters and their leaders recently presented the chain to Rankin. It contains the names of nearly 4,000 missionaries and their fields of service written on construction paper links. (BP photo by Don Rutledge)

Poll: Sexually faithful more satisfied

WASHINGTON (EP)—The latest poll results are in: Good sex comes to those who wait and don't fool around.

A new survey commissioned by the Family Research Council, a pro-family lobbying group based in Washington, D.C., found the people most likely to report they are very satisfied with their current sex life are married people who strongly believe that sex outside of marriage is wrong.

The poll found that 72 percent of these married "traditionalists" report sexual satisfaction 31 percent higher than unmarried "non-traditionalists" and 13 percent higher than married "non-traditionalists."

Sexually happy people also tend to go to church. The poll found two-thirds of respondents who attend church weekly are very satisfied with their sex lives, compared to barely half those who never attend church.

A new form of child abuse: Society's neglect of children

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Americans are collectively abusing many of the nation's children by neglect, according to a growing chorus of researchers, social workers and children's advocates.

"The quality of childhood is deteriorating, and every caring American knows something is wrong," asserts Margaret Brodtkin, executive director of Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth in San Francisco.

"Many parents spend so much time scrambling between jobs and child care that they have almost no time to talk to children about what they want for lunch, much less explore what they think and feel," Brodtkin adds.

A "quiet crisis" afflicts America's youngest children, and society must take more responsibility, declares a 132-page report released last week by the Carnegie Corp. of New York. "It is time to sound—and answer—the alarm about the neglect of our nation's youngest children and their

families."

"Children and youth in America today confront an array of challenges and difficulties. ... These difficulties are the consequences of choices society has made and values embraced," writes Diana Garland, dean of the school of social work at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, in her book "Precious In His Sight."

"We know that every dollar spent on Head Start saves three dollars later in remedial education and medical care, yet this country has never fully funded Head Start," notes Larry Owens, director of family services for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. "When you know that something works, yet you don't do it, I guess that is a form of child neglect."

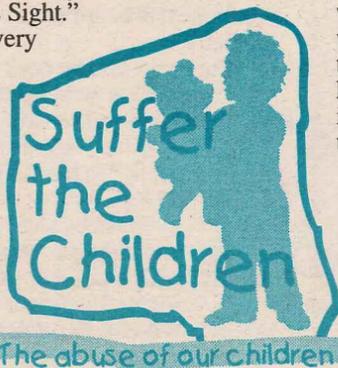
In last year's much-quoted Atlantic Monthly article, "Dan Quayle Was

Right," Barbara Dafoe Whitehead contends society's problems are partly attributable to the growing selfishness of American adults. "What had once been regarded as hostile to children's best interests (is) now considered essential to adults' happiness," she asserts.

"Many adults today want to believe that whatever is best for them is also best for kids," she adds in an interview. "But one of the things that's very clear is that adults' interests and children's needs are not the same."

Adults must sacrifice in order to provide for their children, she explains. "It has

been a distinctive part of our national tradition to sacrifice for children so that each generation will be better off than their parents. That is, until the current generation."



Moving? See page 4 (0419)

Statistical evidence of the challenges faced by modern children has been widely reported:

■ American children are more likely to be poor, drug-dependent, pregnant, murdered or incarcerated than children in any other industrialized nation.

■ Nearly 70 percent of all childcare workers earn less than the average parking lot attendant.

■ One-fourth of all births in the United States today are to unwed mothers.

■ One-fourth of American children under age 3 live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level.

■ In the United States, nine of every 1,000 infants die before they reach their first birthday—a mortality rate higher than that of 19 other nations.

■ Most U.S. kids spend three hours or more a day sitting passively in front of the television.

■ Teen suicides have tripled in the last 30 years.

But the time has come to move
□ See A new form ..., page 7

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

■ **The governing board** of the Baptist General Association of Virginia passed a resolution April 13 decrying the firing of Russell Dilday as president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and affirming the investment policies of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board.

■ **Officials** of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission have sent a four-page letter severely criticizing three editorials in the Biblical Recorder, newsjournal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, to every Baptist pastor in the state. This is believed to be the first time an SBC agency has sent a letter to state pastors criticizing a state agency. The commission's March 15 letter was sent to 3,547 pastors at a cost of about \$1,300.

■ **Rates will not change** at mid-year for any of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board's medical plans in the Personal Security Program and Seminarian Security Program. Rates in the Annuity Board plans have not changed in almost two years, despite industry-wide increases of about 16 percent, Annuity Board officials said.

■ **Trustees** of the Southern Baptist Radio & Television Commission voted to change the agency's name to Communications Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention last week. The SBC Executive Committee will be asked to approve revising the commission's charter to reflect the name change. In other action, trustees re-elected Wyman Copass, pastor of Yellow Creek Baptist Church in Owensboro, as first vice chairman.

Dilday asked to run for office; endorses Henry instead

FORT WORTH, Texas—Russell Dilday has been asked to run for the presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention but instead has endorsed Florida pastor Jim Henry as a candidate.

Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church of Orlando, Fla., previously had announced his intention to run for office when the SBC meets in his hometown this June. His likely opponent is Fred Wolfe, pastor of Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala., and current chairman of the SBC Executive Committee.

Dilday confirmed April 14 that many Southern Baptists disturbed by his firing as president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary have asked him to allow his nomination for SBC president.

But Dilday said Henry is better able to represent Baptists angry with the SBC's current conservative leadership, which has controlled the presidency and the SBC since 1979.

Most recently a director of missions in Silva, N.C., pleaded for Dil-

day to be a candidate in an open letter to Dilday and Baptist news media April 14.

"It is time for Southern Baptists to decide that both conservatives and moderates will share equally in the governance of the convention," wrote John Reid, director of missions for the Tuckasee Baptist Association in North Carolina.

Reid said he wanted to "put forward" the idea of Dilday running and see what people think about it.

"I told him neither yes nor no," Dilday said of his response to Reid. "If I had to make that decision right now, it would be no."

Both men already in the presidential race are considered conservatives, but Henry is less involved than Wolfe in denominational politicking. Henry is seen as an alternative to the close-knit conservative power structure, which has endorsed Wolfe.

With Henry in the race, Dilday said, no other candidate is needed.

Henry's candidacy represents "a strong wave that is calling the con-

vention back to a constructive conservatism," Dilday said. "I have great confidence in Jim Henry's willingness to be the leader" of that movement.

In other news related to Dilday's firing March 9 by Southwestern trustees, the seminary's faculty bought a full-page ad in the Baptist Standard's April 20 issue to defend Dilday. The Standard is the official newspaper of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Dilday "strongly affirms traditional, conservative Southern Baptist views of the Scripture," the faculty wrote in the statement, intended to be a rebuttal of charges leveled against Dilday by trustees.

A separate document from the school's music dean also challenges trustee accusations that the seminary's music curriculum is "out of step with church music as revered and sung in most Southern Baptist congregations."

Dean James McKinney said trustees earlier had affirmed the music school after conducting a thorough investigation of its programs. Further, the music school has made some changes, he said, such as adding courses in evangelistic music, evangelistic piano playing, instrumental arranging, pageants and electronic media.

Leading the criticism of the music school has been trustee secretary T. Bob Davis, a professional dentist and amateur pianist.

Of Davis' criticism, McKinney wrote: "Perhaps it should be pointed

out that these harsh criticisms were made by a person who has never served as a full-time minister of music in a church, who has no undergraduate preparation in music, who plays the piano in a style that was fashionable in the 1950s, who has limited music-reading ability, but who has set himself up as judge and jury on how to train church musicians."

Citing growth in the seminary's music program, McKinney asked, "If the 'music curriculum is out of step' as stated by trustee Davis, why are so many churches wanting our graduates and why are so many students wanting to enroll here?"

The statements of both the faculty and the music school faculty will be included in a mailing from Dilday supporters to all Southern Baptist churches—an attempt to counter a similar mailing from trustees.

Kenneth Cooper, a Dilday supporter and former chairman of the seminary's advisory council, along with other members of the council, raised the \$18,000 required for the latest mailing.

Meanwhile, the trustee chairman of the presidential search committee, Miles Seaborn of Fort Worth, has named a professor and student to serve as advisory members of the committee. The appointees are Curtis Vaughan, distinguished professor of New Testament, and Paul Robertson, a 32-year-old theology student from Athens, Ga.

Compiled from Associated Baptist Press and Baptist Press reports

'Reconciliation' meeting nixed

BATON ROUGE, La. (ABP)—Nearly half the trustees of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary want to meet to make amends for the way they fired the school's president, but their efforts have been blocked.

Approval of 20 trustees, or half the board, would be needed to call the special meeting over the objections of the chairman.

After lobbying feverishly for several days, supporters of the idea—led by Robert Anderson of Baton Rouge, La.—reportedly got the 20th vote April 13. But within hours, two trustees backed out amid rumors the meeting would be used to reinstate Russell Dilday, who was abruptly fired by trustees March 9.

Anderson said the 20 merely wanted to "establish reconciliation" by apologizing for misdeeds on both sides of the dispute, resolving details of Dilday's severance agreement, and finding the fired president a long-term role with the school, perhaps as chancellor. Anderson said he would like to see a building on campus

named for Dilday and ensure that Dilday's severance benefits could not be abruptly discontinued if he said something to anger the trustee officers.

But within hours of notifying trustee chairman Ralph Pulley April 13 that a majority of trustees were in agreement, the consensus evaporated.

"Somebody sent the word out that our agenda was to reinstate the president," Anderson said. While that was not true, Anderson said, the damage was done.

Trustees Paul Balducci of Mobile, Ala., and Craig Atherton of Wichita, Kan.—who both voted to fire Dilday initially—backed out of the called meeting, he said.

Pulley, contacted by ABP April 15, first said he knew nothing of a called meeting. When asked about Anderson's efforts, the Dallas attorney said, "It won't amount to anything."

Among those reportedly joining Anderson in calling for the reconciliation meeting was Kentucky's trustee, Lynn Cooper of Madisonville.

Ferguson sets retirement for 1996

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)—Milton Ferguson, president of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary the past 21 years, has announced his retirement effective July 31, 1996.

Ferguson, who will turn 66 next month, made the announcement April 18 during the first session of a two-day trustee meeting in Kansas City.

His plan was affirmed the night before by the trustee executive committee, who emphasized the

retirement was at Ferguson's own initiative.

Ferguson said he does not plan to be a lame duck president the next two years but will be "aggressive and strong" in the interim period.

Trustees were to begin preliminary steps in a search process for Ferguson's successor as the Western Recorder went to press Monday morning, April 18. Further developments will be reported in next week's issue.



Ferguson



THE COMBINATION DUNKING BOOTH AND BAPTISMAL SERVICE WAS A SUCCESSFUL YOUTH FUNDRAISER ... YET NOT WITHOUT SOME CONTROVERSY

Religious liberty focus of Kentucky Fellowship event

By Marv Knox
Editor

ERLANGER—Baptists must work to preserve religious liberty in America, participants at the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship annual meeting were told.

"Proclaim Liberty" was the theme for the meeting, which attracted about 175 moderate Kentucky Baptists to Erlanger Baptist Church in Erlanger April 16.

"There was a time when Baptists were very concerned about religious liberty and separation between Baptists and (national) flags," said Allen Walworth, pastor of First Baptist Church in Huntsville, Ala.

That was when Baptists were a minority "on the outside of the plexiglass of power looking in." But the perspective has changed for many Baptists, now that they are a majority group, he added, quoting historian Martin Marty's description of Baptists as "the Catholic Church of the South."

As a minority group, Baptists were concerned for religious tolerance, he said, noting Baptists were pivotal in urging James Madison to include the religion clauses in the First Amendment.

Now, however, many Baptists want to flex their majority-status muscles by forcing others to conform to their views, he charged. And he warned, "It is important to remember that what was right when you were small is right when you are large."

As a majority religion, Baptists must play a special role in preserving religious liberty, Walworth stressed.

"We have the privilege to defend it; we have the power to destroy it."

Molly Marshall, associate professor of Christian theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, amplified that theme. She quoted the Apostle Paul, who urged fellow Christians to "stand firm in freedom" while reminding them they were slaves.

"Christians are to experience a voluntary subjection to Christ and others, offered freely," she said, noting that was the model for servant leadership and personal relationship found in Christ. "It is God who comes to us in the form of a slave who grounds our identity as slaves."

Following Christ in voluntary enslavement is not without cost, Marshall conceded. "This form of enslavement may require more investment in our brothers and sisters than we might have calculated. ... You and I cannot do that without the grace of God."

Protecting religious liberty is the ongoing concern of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, said James Dunn, executive director of the Washington-based organization.

People who have been "baptistified" value religious liberty, Dunn said, explaining they are people who affirm soul freedom; interpret the Bible for themselves; believe people "come to God freely, with no pope or bishop"; practice congregational polity; and acknowledge honest differences, realizing "everybody has the right to be wrong."

"We demand that same freedom for others, no matter how goofy their beliefs may be," he said.

Dunn praised the group of Kentucky Baptists who launched a plan to raise a \$200,000 endowment for the Baptist Joint Committee after the Kentucky Baptist Convention reversed its decision to create a similar fund.

Later in the day, the Kentucky Fellowship voted unanimously to endorse the endowment.

Participants also heard a report from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, a 3-year-old organization of moderate Southern Baptists disaffected by the rightward shift of their national convention.

"When people ask me how the Fellowship is doing, I say as with Jesus, 'Come and see,'" reported David Wilkinson, the organization's communications coordinator. He reported the Fellowship now sponsors 31 missionaries who primarily work with groups of people unreached by the Christian gospel.

He described ministries to Gypsies in eastern Europe, a multinational community in Atlanta and victims of Hurricane Andrew in Miami.

Acknowledging the Fellowship began as a reaction to denominational strife, he insisted it is growing, "not as a reaction to the SBC, but due to the winsomeness of the Fellowship."

The Kentucky Fellowship's outgoing president, Steve Hadden, also noted the movement was founded as a reaction to SBC discord.

"We are children of a domestic dispute," said Hadden, pastor of Faith Baptist Church in Georgetown. "We did not create this family problem. We were born because of this problem."

Stressing that the controversy out of which the Fellowship was born was a national dispute, he warned that it has implications for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

"While the battle for the SBC is over, it is spreading to the KBC as promised," he said. "We should give the inquisitors credit for keeping their promise: 'First the SBC, then the states.'"

While noting political events within the denomination sometimes call for reaction, Hadden urged the Kentucky Fellowship to do more.

He urged the Fellowship to stand firm in support for the KBC and its agencies and institutions and to "cry out and say something" when they are attacked.

In its business session, the Kentucky Fellowship:

■ Elected Greg Brooks, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Frankfort, as president.

■ Re-elected three other officers—Jo Garnett of Danville, vice president; Geneva Muntz of Paris, secretary; and Frank Hatfield of Shepherdsville, treasurer.

■ Elected 16 new members of the state board, with terms to expire in 1997: Bob Baker, Lexington; Ruth Ann Boyles and Greg Brooks, Frankfort; Margaret Brooks, Harrodsburg; Jamie Broome, Paducah; Reba Cobb, Louisville; Bill Crosby, Erlanger; Chauncey Daley, Louisville; Jerry Dooley, Louisville; Jo Garnett, Danville; Mary Louise Jenkins, Brandenburg; Ernest Martin, Danville; Phyllis McCoy, Louisville; Dwight Moody, Owensboro; Jim Weaver, Madisonville; and Bruce Hardy, Louisville.

BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ The deadline for contributing to a collection of reflections on the life of Barkley Moore has been extended. Moore was president of Oneida Baptist Institute in Oneida until his death in January. Submissions will be accepted until May 1, and should be sent to Joel Rackley at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 7138 Perryville Rd., Springfield, Ky. 40069.

■ Correction: The Kentucky Kernels item in last week's Recorder contained an error. It said Kentucky's population is projected to increase from 1.38 million in 1990 to 1.66 million in 2020. Those numbers reflect the number of Kentucky households, not the population.

Mission trip includes an unexpected leg

Continued from page 1

done prosthesis to an artificial limb manufacturer and see what happens.

"Anyone who has any advice about what to do and would donate services or give us a good deal, we'd welcome their help ... One way or another, I'm going to see that he gets a leg. Then I will take it or send it back to him."

Tackett, 36, and Volk, 46, a pharmacist at the Paintsville Wal-Mart, said they were struck by the poverty of Romania.

"Our poorest person here has more than the average person there. The average salary there is \$50 a month," Volk explained, noting that stores in the former communist country are, for the most part, "empty" of groceries and goods.

"Romania has the worst conditions I have ever seen in my life," Tackett added.

Tackett and Volk joined a former Romanian physician, whom Tackett had met in the United States, to complete the mission team.

They traveled throughout Romania visiting clinics and hospitals where the doctor treated patients and Volk dispensed drugs and medical supplies. Through a translator, Tackett preached on the streets and in churches to overflow crowds.

"Businessmen in Prestonsburg and Martin gave financially to buy Bibles



A LEG UP Mark Tackett, pastor of Pleasant Home Baptist Church near Prestonsburg, and layman Reed Volk hold up an artificial leg they are attempting to get repaired for Romanian man they met on a recent mission trip. (Photo by Ed Taylor)

and supplies" to distribute in Romania, Tackett said. "Owning a Bible is a luxury there. We gave out a lot.

"The churches were packed," the pastor explained of his preaching experience. "Some were so crowded that people stood outside to listen. Some sat on the pulpit with me. All doors, all windows were filled with people. Altogether, we had 170 people to make commitments to Christ that were documented."

The trip to Romania—Tackett's first overseas mission trip—was inspired by a church conference, he

said. "At the conference, the speakers were challenging the church to make an impact. Some of the leaders at church took it to heart."

The team paid all their trip expenses and members of Pleasant Home, a congregation of about 250, collected the medical supplies and funds for Bibles and religious tracts. A nurse who is a member of the church donated 5,000 hypodermic needles.

"This was a great adventure," Tackett said. "It's an opportunity to show everyone that you don't have to be a mega-church to reach out."

'Youthquake' hits west Kentucky

By Pauline Stegall
State Correspondent

BARLOW—Just weeks after revival broke out at "Teen Quest '94" in Carlisle and Hickman counties, "Youthquake" hit Ballard, Marshall and McCracken counties.

More than 300 youth met in March at First Baptist Church of Barlow for the third annual "Youthquake" assembly.

Six professions of faith in Jesus Christ were recorded, and all youth present were challenged to give their lives to God through Jesus.

Ricky Cunningham, pastor of Hardin Baptist Church, told the teens that through alcohol and popular promotion of "safe sex," they may become in bondage to their peers. Comparing them to the Israelites in Egyptian bondage, he challenged them to seek deliverance through Jesus.

Cunningham compared the lives of youth to hand saw operating by themselves and doomed to failure. By connecting with God, they will be changed to power saws, and great power will be available to them, he said.

David Akers, youth minister at First Baptist Church of Barlow, said the purpose of the event was two-fold: to provide a new approach to youth evangelism and to create a stronger bond between the youth of McCracken and Ballard counties, the two counties of West Union Baptist Association.

This is the second successful youth evangelism event among Baptist churches of West Kentucky in recent months. "Teen Quest '94" drew hundreds of teens to February rallies in West Kentucky Baptist Association, located just south of West Union Association.

OPINION

WESTERN RECORDER

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

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Sad day

It is a sad day when the kind and loving moderates begin to refer to conservative Christians as those with "demonic spirits who could teach the Sadducees and Pharisees" (WR, March 29).

It is a sad day when the kind and loving moderates begin to compare conservative Christians to those who led the "Spanish Inquisition, the Salem witch trials, Nazis and communists" (WR, March 29).

It is even a sadder day when the Western Recorder will print such unkind and unloving letters.

Roy S. Faulkner
London

Ashamed of name

The disgrace of our denomination is astounding. Fundamentalism has made me ashamed to be called Baptist.

We are now witnessing the destruction of the Southern Baptist Convention from within by the weight of the leaderships' own self-righteous political tactics. They would make the Pharisees proud.

When political issues become the No. 1 priority of the convention, it no longer exists as a sovereign entity and tool of the Lord's work. Presently, it is no more than a platform for far-right dogma and intimidation. I realize I am not expressing the "religiously correct" viewpoint the convention supports, but it needs to be said. It is now open season on those who dare disagree, and the result is the wholesale slaughter of traditional Baptist beliefs and values.

On most social and theological issues, there appears to be only one ac-

ceptable position to conservatives. When were they anointed as the divine last word on all matters concerning man? If we have to rely on pastors and church leaders to make these decisions for us, we might as well elect a pope!

I praise all those humble servants within our churches who persevere in their callings while these dark days in our denomination continue. God's love is unlimited and much greater than petty politics. Keep the faith, not in man-made institutions, but in the loving spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Tim Hall
Henderson

BAPTIST FORUM

True integrity

A maxim has served the leadership of the conservative resurgence in the Southern Baptist Convention very well: "Every liberal (moderate) has his price."

Time and time again, moderate leaders under fire have taken the money—retiring or resigning their positions rather than taking a stand for what they claim to believe in so strongly.

By rejecting the offer of the trustees of Southwestern Seminary to buy him off, Russell Dilday proved that there is an exception to this rule. Irony, isn't it, that with all of the moderates' talk of integrity, it is the most conservative leader of the moderates who has shown what true integrity is all about.

Congratulations to Russell Dilday!
Michael Barley
Louisville

Get back on track

Some years ago, we millions of

Southern Baptists allowed one woman to take prayer out of school. Now look at our schools, our homes and our families.

We're shocked at the violence in schools, babies' lives being taken daily by abortion and the spreading of AIDS.

Where are we as Christians? Too busy fighting our power struggles, worrying about the Southern Baptist Convention.

I think we Christians should get our house in order, worry about getting back on track for Jesus.

Dorothy Schroader
Lewisport

Thanks for help

We appreciate help from the Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers in clearing our trees.

The Henry Clay Estate is managed by a non-profit foundation that has had incredible expenses in the last three years due to major renovation and serious storm damage. The March 9 ice storm brought down major portions of most of our 100-plus-year-old trees. Even with 70 volunteers from the neighborhood the previous weekend, we only made it through half of our task. So, when Mike Klein and company responded to my call and said there would be help, I was greatly relieved.

You have such good and kind volunteers to leave the comfort of their own homes to help people just because they need help. We're well on our way to recovery now, thanks to all the great help we received.

On behalf of the Henry Clay Memorial Foundation, thank you for your organization and good work.

Terry Green, executive director
Henry Clay Foundation
Lexington

Helpful ideas for good reading

My friend and colleague, Mark Short, executive director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, has prepared another year's book list of preferred reading.

The list includes 60 volumes and his brief comments. Space limitations provide me opportunity to list only a few. If the reader would like the full list, simply write my office for a copy.

■ "On Being a Servant of God," by Warren Wiersbe, Nelson. The author has written over 100 books, and this is among his best. These brief conversations help us understand the basic principles in serving others in God's name. This is a delightful study in servanthood.

■ "The Pastor's Complete Guide to Personal Financial Planning," by Bert Akin, Nelson. Undoubtedly the finest book I've read on helping the minister with finances. "Concise, clear and correct" is the description that goes with this book.

■ "When a Hug Won't Fix the Hurt," by Karen Dockery, Victor Books. Karen and Bill Dockery have two school-age children—one with leukemia and the other with a severe hearing loss. Out of this experience, she gives us a book that will strength-

en each of us in dealing with life's problems; a fine gift for a family suffering from illness.

■ "Enjoying Your Best Years," by J. Oswald Sanders, Discovery House Publishers. He finished this little book, subtitled "Staying Young While Growing Older," in his 90th year, shortly before his death. This is an outstanding study of aging and our Christian belief.

■ "Strategies for Change," by Lyle Schaller, Abingdon. Schaller has written over 80 books, but this might just be his best. Do you have difficulty in bringing about change in your congregation? This helpful book will give you a strategy to get your church moving.

■ "Marriage Savers," by Michael J. McManus, Zondervan. The subtitle reads, "Helping Your Friends and Family Stay Married." This book should be in every church and pastor's library.

■ "When Life Tumbles In," by C. Welton Gaddy, Westminster/John Knox Press. Gaddy, pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Monroe, La., uses firsthand knowledge and experiences in helping deal with the pain of a major crisis.

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall



FAMILY FORUM: MARRIAGE

'Homework'

By Diana R. Garland

Q My husband and I both have demanding careers, yet I carry most of the responsibility for the house and children. When I bring it up, we just argue, and nothing changes. What should I do?

A For most couples, wives average far more hours of "homework"—housework, caring for children and other family members, managing finances and correspondence—than husbands. Research indicates that in two-career families, husbands spend about 10 hours per week in homework, whereas wives average about 20 hours per week.

If this information tempts you to keep a secret time score on yourself and your partner, resist the temptation. Trying to divide chores up evenly does not really solve the problem. There simply is more to do in most families and homes than can be managed well by only two adults.

Unfortunately, we usually launch a discussion of homework when we are tired, often with some angry challenge. This rarely makes for creative problem-solving. Instead, make time to talk with your partner when you are not tired. If you are afraid you will argue, go for a cup of coffee at a restaurant. Few of us raise our voices and stomp out in front of other people!

Look carefully at everything each of you is doing. Be sure to look carefully at all the responsibilities of your partner. Then decide together if you can juggle these responsibilities better. Experiment with trading some of them for a week. Decide what you can simply "not do" in order to have time for the important things. Some people have learned a house can go for two weeks (or more) without being vacuumed, or they can entertain friends by having pizza delivered instead of spending a precious Saturday afternoon cooking.

Whatever you decide, your plan will not work forever. Stress will build again. Talk it through. Protect that which is most important, that to which God has called you as partners. All the rest is secondary.

Diana Garland is dean of the Carver School of Church Social Work and director of the Gheens Center for Christian Family Ministry at Southern Baptist Seminary.

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

Forget 'big' problems; focus on helping the kids

Sometimes people treat the problems facing America's children like the weather: Complain loudly and act as if nothing can be done.

And sometimes those "kid problems" seem as overwhelming, pervasive and uncontrollable as stormy weather. What can we really do about all 24,121 confirmed cases of child abuse in Kentucky last year? How can we help 60 percent of all children under age 18 who will live with a single parent for a significant part of their growing-up years? The package of stories on children in this week's Western Recorder illustrates the magnitude of the crisis.

But blizzards, tornadoes and rainy Saturdays aren't the same as poverty, illiteracy and neglect. Of course, you can't stop the temperature from falling, but you can make sure a child has warm clothes and heat in her apartment. You can't turn back a hurricane, but you can help a child learn to read. Like the weather, we can't do much about all the problems afflicting children in our society. In human terms, however, each of us can reach out to a single child or family and make a difference. And if all of us work on an individual scale, collectively we can improve the situations of significant numbers of children.

Toward the end of World War II, after he already had saved the lives of 1,100 Jews, Oscar Schindler recognized the significance of small-scale efforts. Noticing the valuable possessions he still owned, he realized he could have bartered them for still more human lives; one for this, three for that. The little efforts would have yielded infinite value—in human terms.

Margaret Brodtkin knows the value of individual effort translated into human terms. As executive director of Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth in San Francisco, she has edited a book, "Every Kid Counts," crammed full of ideas for making a difference in the lives of America's children. They're actions that can be accomplished by individuals and small groups. Among them:

- Buy a children's book for your local library.
- Donate a used toy, musical instrument, art supply or article of clothing to a day-care center or shelter for homeless families.
- Teach your child how to watch commercials and recognize their manipulation techniques.
- Read to a child, listen to a child read, subscribe to a book club for a child.
- Become a volunteer tutor.
- Send a kid to camp.
- Help build or remodel a playground.
- "Adopt" a child-care center and give your time and/or resources.
- Sponsor a child's participation in services offered by an organization in your community that helps low-income children and families.
- Help an over-stressed parent or parents by taking the kids for an evening.
- Volunteer at a child-abuse hotline.
- Offer to help a family with a disabled child.
- Provide a scholarship so a child can go to a concert or play.
- Donate your time and/or food to a local soup kitchen or food pantry.
- Encourage local businesses to hire youth.

■ Model appropriate behavior by showing respect for others, particularly minorities and disadvantaged people.

- Work to restrict alcohol advertising in your town.
- Help underwrite an uninsured child's health-care needs.
- Join a conflict-resolution group.
- Start a bicycle-helmet or car-seat loaner program.
- Buy and install smoke detectors for your home and the home of a friend with children.

■ Volunteer in a shelter for homeless children and families, and take your children with you.

■ Participate in a Habitat for Humanity (or Kentucky Changers) project to build affordable housing.

- Become a foster parent.
- Help children plant a garden.
- "Adopt" a single parent or adolescent mother.
- Attend forums for political candidates and ask about their positions on issues concerning children.

If these ideas still sound overwhelming, don't feel like you must take them on yourself. Consider teaming up with your Sunday school class or other church group. Together, you can round up the resources and moral support needed to take up and maintain the challenge.

And while you're thinking about church, don't forget the ways you can make a difference in young lives through your congregation. Sunday school, discipleship training, missions organizations, parents' night out sessions and other church programs provide bountiful opportunities for helping children find nurture and realize that God and other people love them.

Go ahead and volunteer (but don't forget to care for your own children). You can be the hands, arms and voice of God to a child.

Marv Knox

Write a letter for 'Christy'

If you've ever complained about lousy television, now's the time to put up or shut up.

Beginning with its Easter pilot, CBS has broadcast "Christy" each Thursday night. The show is based on Catherine Marshall's stirring novel. Its heroine is a young schoolteacher in the Tennessee mountains whose Christian faith and love for people propels her to devote her life to educating Appalachian children.

It's a great show. The plot and dialogue are thoughtful and moving. The acting and directing are stirring. The mountain scenery is breathtaking. And—surprising for commercial television—Christian faith is taken seriously.

But you can't take "Christy" for granted. Like "Against the Grain," a fine family drama that premiered last fall, the show could be gone in a season. That's why CBS needs to hear from supportive viewers. Write to: Jeff Sagansky, President, CBS Entertainment, CBS TV City, 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90036.

Marv Knox

Don't let the immensity of the problems facing America's children scare you into paralysis. Take the initiative to help one child or family. You can make a difference.

If you don't write a letter to keep a wholesome show like "Christy" on the air, don't gripe the next time TV makes you sick.

If we had our own 'wildlife habitat,' the neighbors might hunt us

Some ideas sound so right you know they've got to be true.

Dana Smith developed such an idea. She (he?) wrote a chapter for "Every Kid Counts," a terrific book brimming with ideas about how ordinary people can do simple things that will have extraordinary repercussions for America's children. The book's about faith and love, and it's aimed at restoring health and hope to the nation's youngest generation.

Smith's chapter is on teaching children to protect the environment. It describes all the things you'd expect to teach an environmentally correct kid: plant trees, grow a garden, recycle, be kind to animals, handle toxic substances appropriately, compost garbage. Stuff like that.

Smith also advised: "Turn your backyard into a wildlife habitat."

Smith must be a genius. Smith claims turning your backyard into a wildlife habitat is good for the earth and sets a good example for kids.

Smith must hate to mow grass and pull weeds as much as I do.

A couple or three nights ago, I sweated five gallons and nearly lost my religion cutting grass that won't grow where you want it to and does grow where you don't

want it. And just last night, I spent an hour roaming our yard with my trusty Weed Popper, digging up dandelions by the score. Those stinkers blew their seeds, drifted across the yard, germinated and grew into mature weeds faster than I could pull them up.

But this Smith guy (gal?) says I'd be a loyal citizen and hero of children if I'd turn my backyard into a wildlife habitat.

If that means "stop cutting your grass and weeds so the yard comes up 'natural'

and put out seeds for the birds and raccoons," then Smokey the Bear can have my frontyard too.

If we turned our yard into a wildlife habitat, I could sell my mower and buy a hammock and a new iced tea Thermos. My neighbors might not like it, but I'd be a hero to kids, Smith says.

When I described my brilliant idea to Mark Wingfield, my friend and colleague, he told me about his hometown, where they've got a swanky subdivision with a zoning code that says residents must leave their yards in the "natural condition."

That sounds like my kind of place. Do you reckon I can commute to Middletown from Albuquerque?

Marv Knox



Inadequate parenting skills contribute to abuse

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Inadequate parenting skills are the primary cause of child abuse, according to two investigators of abuse cases.

This includes failing to supervise children and holding unrealistic expectations for children, said Crystal Collins and Joel Griffith, child protec-

tion specialists with the Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources.

For example, a parent may unrealistically expect a young child to be able to control crying or urinating, Collins said.

The situation may be compounded if the parent was the victim of child abuse at the hands of his or her own parent, she added. Statistics generally show that children raised in violent homes learn violent behavior as a normal part of life.

And common stresses such as continuously having sole responsibility for the children, living in poverty or living in social isolation further compound the risk, Collins said.

Also, a high correlation exists between substance abuse and child abuse, Griffith said. Abuse of alcohol and other drugs was cited in more than 3,500 child abuse incidents in Kentucky last year, most frequently in cases of neglect and physical abuse.

However, substance abuse isn't often a factor in child sexual abuse, Griffith said, although some perpetrators may use it as a rationalization.

Sometimes, even otherwise well-prepared parents can slip into the role of child abusers, Griffith said.

As a field investigator of child abuse reports for six years, Griffith

said, he never encountered a psychopathic or sociopathic child abuser.

"They're extremely rare," he said. "The vast majority of people who hurt their children just become frustrated and lose control."

"We need to understand that parents hurt their children not because they don't love their children or because they're mean people. It happens because they're trying to do a real hard job and just don't possess the skills to do it well."

"We have all been frustrated and said or done something we shouldn't have done," Griffith continued. "Half the incidents of physical abuse we verify are when a parent loses control and unintentionally causes injury."

Because of this threat in the heat of anger, Griffith recommends parents avoid using physical discipline. "Children can be hurt or adults can lose control so easily. And research has not proven it to be effective in teaching kids new behavior."

Many people have spanked their kids and then been shocked at the marks left, he said. "Our data on the age of children very seriously injured shows us that you just can't strike a little body without doing harm. So we strongly discourage physical discipline."

If parents feel they must use physical discipline, Griffith advises not using an object to strike the child and not hitting any place other than the buttocks. Even then, "remember that area on a small child is very close to the kidneys and other vulnerable organs."

The need for parenting skills presents a "tremendous need" for churches, Griffith said. "Part of the church's role is to support families."

Griffith said churches could help families by offering day care centers, mothers' day out programs or hosting parenting conferences.

That sentiment is shared by Diana Garland, dean of the school of social work at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

As much as inadequate parenting skills, isolation is a factor among parents who become abusers, she said.

"The one key to children who are abused or neglected is parents who feel isolated in the task of parenting."

"This is a critical issue for the church to understand, because one of the things we do best is wrap community around people," Garland said.

"The truth is, two parents are not enough. Children and families need community."

Last year, Woman's Missionary Union published Garland's book, "Precious In His Sight," a guide to child advocacy for churches. The book gives numerous practical ideas for ways churches and individual Christians can help children and their families.

What constitutes child abuse?

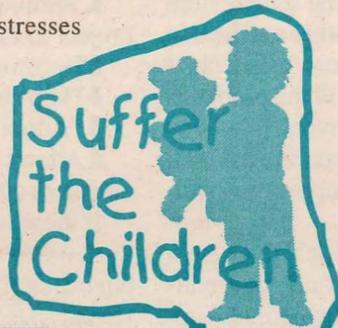
According to Kentucky law:

■ Physical abuse is any type of punishment to a child that results in injury to the child or substantial risk of serious harm.

"Any time you're spanking a child to where you're leaving marks or bruises, you're hitting too hard," said Joel Griffith of the Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources. "We also would consider it abuse if someone is hitting a child in an area of the body that could easily result in substantial injury, whether it is visible or not. For instance, shaking an infant is not going to leave any outside injuries but is a very dangerous behavior."

■ Neglect is simply not providing the child with the necessary food, clothing, supervision or medical care necessary for well-being. This is a little more difficult to assess, due to varying standards of cleanliness and dress, Griffith said. "We avoid becoming a cultural police. The case has to be a health hazard."

■ Sexual abuse is any contact or interaction with a child that involves sexual gratification of the alleged perpetrator. This includes fondling, exposure, showing pornographic films to children, using children in pornographic photography, making sexual propositions to a child.



Church urged to wake up to trauma of child sex abuse

Home is where the hurt is

Kentucky's children often face the greatest threat of abuse in their own homes.

Of the 24,121 confirmed cases of child abuse in the state last year, 84 percent of the child victims were abused by parents. Another 6 percent were abused by relatives, and another 4 percent were abused by a parent's boyfriend or girlfriend.

That means 94 percent of all abused children were harmed in family settings.

"That tells us we need to focus our prevention efforts on the fact that children are more at risk at home or with someone they know," said Joel Griffith, child protection specialist with the Kentucky Department for Social Services.

"We never want to minimize the 'stranger danger,' but the vast majority of children are injured by family members or other people they know," he continued. "So we need to teach children how to protect themselves based on that, not based on what our worst fears are, that is, abduction."

The Kentucky Council on Child Abuse offers these suggestions to children and youth who are being abused:

■ Try to stay away from the person who is abusing you, if possible, until you can find a responsible adult to talk to about the problem.

■ Make a list of the things that have happened to you and how they make you feel.

■ Find an adult who will listen to your problem. This may be a teacher, a neighbor, a youth worker, a minister, a school counselor.

■ Keep telling until someone believes you and will help you find solutions.

■ Call this toll-free number for ideas and to talk to someone: (800) 432-9251.

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Statistics about sexual abuse of children in Kentucky reveal a good-news-bad news report.

First the good news: Child sexual abuse accounts for the smallest portion of all reported abuse cases, appearing to touch less than 1 percent of Kentucky children.

Now the bad news: Sexual abuse appears to be the most under-reported category of child abuse in Kentucky.

"Sexual abuse is a child's secret plight," said Peggy Wallace, commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Social Services. "It is almost always committed secretly. And when the victim is a child, the adult is usually someone in a position of trust or power over the child, who manipulates the child's fears and actions—and sometimes those of a parent or relative—to maintain secrecy."

The secrecy of child sex abuse is fostered by several other factors, added Joel Griffith, state child protection specialist:

■ The inability of young children to discern between what is normal or abnormal behavior.

■ Children's ability to be manipulated by fear.

■ Perceptions of greater shame or guilt when the abuse involves assaults on boys by males.

And the church—especially Baptist churches—have added to the problem by not facing the situation

directly, added Novella Harrison, services coordinator with Parents United, a child sex abuse program based in Louisville.

Harrison, a longtime Baptist and member of New Salem Baptist Church in Louisville, said she has been disappointed with the response from Baptist churches.

"The hardest part for me in the last 10 years has been reaching the churches," she explained. "I thought that would be my first place to work, and it has not been. In fact, the Baptist churches have not proved to be very receptive."

It's not that Baptists lack sympathy for sexual abuse victims, but that Baptists generally are unwilling to admit there might be a problem in their midst, she said.

Yet child sex abuse is a problem that cuts across all religious, social, economic and racial lines, Harrison reported.

"There's not anything we've observed to indicate there's any one group more susceptible to this than any other," she said. "And it's just as prevalent in church as anywhere else."

Harrison believes one in four girls and one in six boys will have been molested by an adult offender by age 18. Most offenders are family members.

This is a crime that feeds on secrecy, she added.

"An offender will molest between 85 and 100 children in his lifetime. It

just continues until disclosure. It's something that can only exist in secrecy and has to be brought out into the open. Once it's told, it's over."

Churches and Christian people could make a difference by first admitting there is a problem, she said. Also, it would help for pastors to become aware and better equipped to deal with the issue, she said.

Then, the church has a unique capability to address the problem through teaching parenting skills, she said. "I believe the biggest secret to stopping this abuse would be improved parenting skills and for parents to be aware of what's happening to their children."

"One of the difficult parts of our work is working with non-offending parents," Harrison said. It's easier to work with an offender than a non-offending parent because the non-offending parent is in such denial."

Further, churches should be aware of their legal liability if childcare workers turn out to be abusers.

Unfortunately, stereotypes about child sex abuse can have a damaging effect on church programs, Harrison noted.

"It's kind of sad because most people think men are the abusers and women aren't. And so women can float around the system and men are more suspect," she explained. "And yet we need more men involved with the children. But a lot of men have gotten afraid to work around children."

INSIDE 'Here's Hope for Youth' Coming June 24-25

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Partnership Missions: Good News musical group to tour Kentucky. **Woman's Missionary Union:** Kentucky WMU Heritage Fund. **Cedarmore Assembly:** Grab bag of information. **Jonathan Creek Assembly:** Good facilities, beautiful scenery.

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Sunday School: Growth Spiral conference; Church Weekday Education Seminar.

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Church Growth & Administration: A dean ministry based on gifts. **Direct Missions:** Associational Missions Week.

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Discipleship Training: Attend discipleship training week at Ridgecrest, N.C. **Church Media Library:** Grow tall in Christ. **Media:** New additions to the video lending library.

"Here's Hope for Youth" will be the theme of YouthFest '94, June 24-25 in Frankfort.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention youth evangelism conference is expected to attract the KBC's largest crowd of the year to the Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center.

The conference theme has been developed to help prepare youth for participation in the Southern and Kentucky Baptist conventions' simultaneous evangelism emphasis in 1995, said Bill Jagers, the KBC's evangelism director.

"Here's Hope" will be the main emphasis for the Southern Baptist Convention next year," Jagers explained. The campaign will have two areas of focus, he added. "Here's Hope. Share Jesus Now" will be aimed at Baptists, encouraging them to share their faith with non-Christians. "Here's Hope. Jesus Cares for You" will be pointed toward non-Christians, urging them to accept Jesus as their Savior.

"I want to get our youth ready and interested in some measure of

training for sharing their faith," he said, adding YouthFest '94 will provide inspiration for that goal.

The theme for the opening session of the conference Friday night at 7 will be "Christ—Our Hope," Jagers noted. The program will have an evangelistic theme, geared toward urging teens to make commitments to Christ. Counselors are asked to meet behind the stage for training at 6:40 p.m.

"Growing in Christ—Our Hope" will be the theme for the Saturday morning session at 9. "We will emphasize Christian responsibility—in dating and other relationships," he explained.

That session will feature True Love Waits, the program developed by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board to encourage teens to remain sexually pure until they are married. During that session, the Western Recorder will announce the winners of its True Love Waits essay contest.

The final session, Saturday afternoon at 1:30, will focus on "Sharing

Christ—Our Hope." Participants will be exhorted to share their Christian faith.

"We're expecting another big crowd, almost a maximum capacity," Jagers reported. YouthFest '93 drew a record of about 6,500 teens and sponsors. The center will seat about 7,000 participants for the event.

"I regret the conference will be held the same time as the National Actéens Convention," sponsored for teen-aged girls by the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union in Birmingham, Ala., Jagers said. "We had to set our date two years ago. At that time, we had no idea it would overlap."

YouthFest '94 brochures and registration forms should reach Kentucky Baptist churches within a few days.

Participants who pre-register for the conference will save themselves time and money, Jagers noted. The pre-registration cost is \$4, and participants who register in advance "can walk right in" when they come

to the conference.

Registration at the conference will cost \$5, and lines might be long, he warned.

Many motel rooms in Frankfort already have been booked for the weekend, he said. However, housing is available at Georgetown College in Georgetown and Kentucky State University in Frankfort. See the ad in this issue of Events.

Jagers expressed appreciation for the hundreds of people who make the YouthFest weekend possible for Kentucky Baptist teens.

"I'm grateful for the leaders of churches—pastors, staff and volunteers—who give up two days plus planning time to bring the youth," he said. "We've had so few discipline problems—practically nil—because we've had such good chaperones from the churches. Plus, we have a lot of fine young people."

For more information about YouthFest '94, contact Jagers at Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433, phone (502) 245-4101.

Practical preaching, contemporary music, magic and ventriloquism will highlight YouthFest '94, the Kentucky Baptist youth evangelism conference.

Rodney Gage, an evangelist from Fort Worth, Texas, will be the keynote preacher, announced Bill Jagers, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's evangelism director.

4Him, contemporary Christian recording artists whose music has topped the popularity chart, will provide musical inspiration.

David Garrard, a staff member at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville, will present magical illusions with a Christian twist.

Mark McClintock, a staff member at Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church in Louisville, will put amusing and inspiring words in the mouths of his "friends" through ventriloquism.

Gage, primarily known for his evangelistic outreach to youth, has preached nationwide. Last year, when he headlined the Texas Baptist Youth Evangelism Conference, 850 young people made decisions for Christ.

"Rodney has been recognized by several other state evangelism directors," Jagers noted. "He's done a splendid job encouraging youth and identifying with them."

Gage is the author of a teen-oriented book, "Let's Talk About AIDS and Sex."

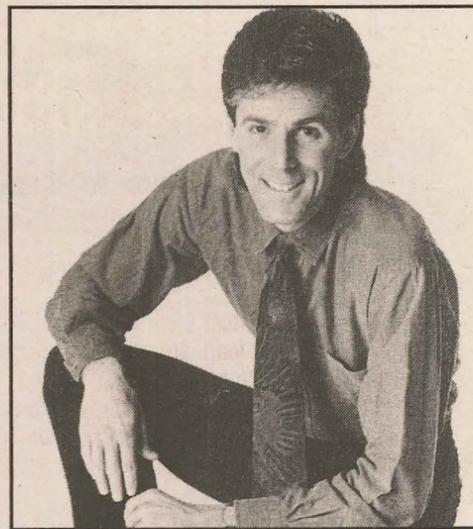
4HIM rose quickly in the music industry ranks in 1990, when their first album, "4Him," became one of the largest-selling debut albums in contemporary Christian music history.



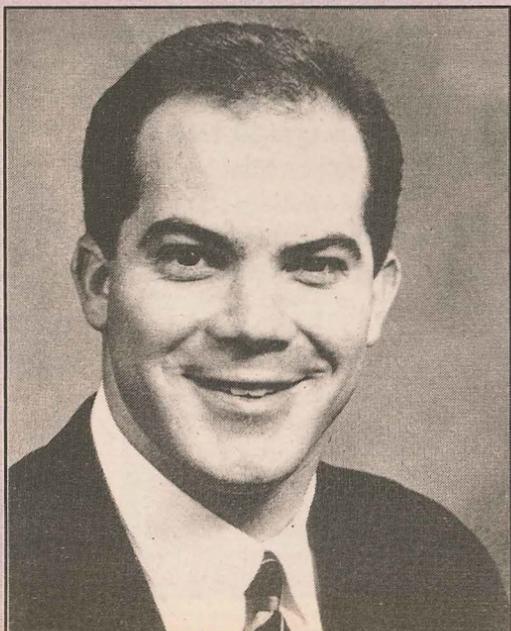
Mark McClintock & friends



4HIM



David Garrard



Rodney Gage

BROTHERHOOD

Fishing, track events and a summer missions project

Check your Brotherhood calendar for the following dates:

Eastern Division Fishing Tournament
May 6-7
Laurel Lake Baptist Camp
Corbin

Lad/Crusader Track Meet
May 13-14
Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly
Hardin

Pioneers/HSBYM Track Meet
May 20-21
Cedamore Baptist Assembly

Kentucky Changers
July 9-16
Hopkinsville

Correction needed on Camp RABRO brochure: The Bagdad, KY zip code should read--40003-0037.

Cast those lines

Professional fisherman and evangelist Terry Chupp is the featured guest speaker for the first annual eastern division Brotherhood Fishing Tournament scheduled on May 6-7 at Laurel Lake Baptist Camp. The tournament begins with a special revival and music service at 8:00 EDT Friday evening.

The cost of the event is \$30 per boat, which includes a May 7 breakfast prepared by the Southeast Region Disaster Relief team. Questions regarding lodging may be directed to:

Mr. Pat Callahan
Camp Director
Laurel Lake Baptist Camp
578 Singing Hill Road
Corbin, KY 40701
(606) 528-3522

For additional information concerning the fishing tournament contact Mike Sexton (606/623-8146) or Ray Cooper (606/439-4339).



Lad/Crusader Track Meet

Doug King, a professional Christian illusionist, is the featured program personality at the May 13-14 Lad/Crusader Track Meet at Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly. The event begins with a Friday evening conclave at 8:00 CDT.

State Championships for RA Racers and the Missions Shootout will follow Doug King's Friday evening performance. The track meet on Saturday is for Lads/Crusaders from all churches. The only event for associational winners is the tug-of-war competition. Other activities also include the 50 yard dash, a softball toss, frisbee golf and long jump contests.

Kentucky Changers

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's Brotherhood Department is sponsoring, in cooperation with the General Association of Baptists, a Kentucky Changers co-educational missions project this summer. This organization is comprised of high school student volunteers who do home repair for families of low income neighborhoods. Hopkinsville, Kentucky is the site for this year's assigned Changers mission project July 9-16.

Following daily home repairs, Kentucky Changers' weekday evenings will include activities such as group-building, recreation and celebration. The cost for lodging, meals and materials is \$120 per person. Reservations are due now. A deposit of \$30 per person is to accompany the registration.

Contact the following for information concerning these events:

Brotherhood Department
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433
(502) 245-4101, extension 319

ARCHIVES

Learn the "how to's"

Interested in preserving your church's history or celebrating an upcoming anniversary of your congregation? A "How to Workshop" for church celebrations and history is scheduled for June 4 at Burlington Baptist Church, Burlington, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

For further information contact:

Doris Yeiser
Archives
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433 Louisville, KY 40253-0433
(502) 245-4101, extension 209

A "How to" Workshop for planning church celebrations and anniversaries

Learn the "how to's" of:

- Celebrating church anniversaries
- Writing histories
- Research
- Planning
- Locating information
- Maintaining records
- Publishing history
- Communicating
- Displaying and exhibiting

Featured program personalities include:

- Charles Dewese
Assistant Executive Director
Historical Commission, SBC
Nashville
- Bill Summers
Director of Archives and
Library
Historical Commission, SBC
Nashville
- Andrew B. Rawls
Director, Media Services
Southern Baptist Seminary
Louisville

CLERKS IN CHURCHES & ASSOCIATIONS

Have you been computerized?

Scary thought, huh?

Well, no need to be frightened. A very user-friendly computer software program is now available for church clerks and associational clerks. The GOOD NEWS is you can help your congregation know more about its capabilities to minister at the same time you are producing the church "letter."

We will explain the NEW church letter, now called Annual Church Profile, at the Associational Officers Briefings: Jonathan Creek on April 30; First Baptist Church, Winchester on May 14.

Be sure your associational clerk and secretary gets to attend one of these sessions!



"UCL...ACP...UCL...ACP.
I think I've got it!"

EVANGELISM

Over 6,000 youth anticipated at YouthFest '94

YouthFest '94
June 24-25
Frankfort
Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center

The Civic Center is located between Mero and Clinton Streets near Wilkinson Street, close to the confluence of Benson Creek and the Kentucky River.

Evangelist Rodney Gage, popular contemporary Christian recording artists 4 Him, illusionist David Garrard and ventriloquist Mark McClintock are among the featured program personalities scheduled to appear at this year's Kentucky Baptist YouthFest at Frankfort's Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center June 24-25.

The YouthFest is expected to draw over 6,000 people.

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

Accommodation information is provided on this page.

If further information is needed, please check the appropriate information box on EVENTS page 8a or contact the Office for Evangelism, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 330.

Other accommodations also available

Try these alternative accommodation options:

• **A dormitory on the campus of Kentucky State University, Frankfort**

Cost: \$10 per person
 Bring your own bed linens and towels.
For reservations:
 Call - 1/800/633-9415
 between the hours of
 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. EDT
 Write -
 Vaughn Little
 Kentucky State University
 400 East Main Street
 Frankfort, KY 40601
 Reservations deadline: June 17

• **Georgetown College campus**
 15 miles from Frankfort

Cost: \$10 per person
 Bring your own bed linens and towels.
For reservations:
 Jan Lobitz
 Georgetown College
 (502) 863-8639 between the weekday
 hours of 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

YouthFest '94 Accommodations Information

Frankfort

NOTE: At press time, ALL Frankfort accommodations listed below were full to capacity with YouthFest '94 reservations. See "Other accommodations also available" information provided in far left column.

Holiday Inn/Capital Plaza
 405 Wilkinson Blvd.
 (502) 227-5100
 Flat rate: 1-4 persons - \$59

Knights Inn
 855 Louisville Road (Hwy. 60)
 (502) 227-2282
 1 person per night - \$29.60
 2 person per night - \$33.60

Super 8
 1225 US 127 South
 (502) 875-3200
 1 - \$40.19; 2 - \$48.91; 3 - \$53.27;
 4 - \$57.63

Scottish Inn
 711 E. Main Street
 (502) 223-2041
 1 - \$31.95; 2 - \$35.95; 3-4 - \$41.95

Best Western/Parkside
 80 Chenault Road
 (502) 695-6111
 1 - \$42; 2 - \$52; 3 - \$57; 4 - \$62

Bluegrass Inn
 635 Versailles Road
 (502) 695-1800
 1 - \$36; 2 - \$42; 3 - 4 - \$46

Georgetown

Ramada Limited
 401 Delaplain Road
 (502) 863-1166
 1 - \$42; 2 - \$45

Day's Inn
 I-75 at Delaplain Road (Exit 129)
 (502) 863-5000
 1/800/325-2525
 1 - \$36; 2 - \$40.50; 3 - \$45.50

Shoney's Inn
 200 Shoney Drive
 (502) 868-9800
 1 - \$38; 2-4 - \$42

Shelbyville

Best Western Lodge
 Hwy. 55 at I-64, Exit 32B
 (502) 633-4400
 1 - \$44; 2 - \$50; 3 - \$56; 4 - \$62

Day's Inn
 851 Taylorsville Road
 (502) 633-4005
 1 - \$39; 2 - \$45

Probus Motel
 US Highway 60W
 Shelbyville
 (502) 633-2080
 1 or 2 - \$24.75; 3 - \$32; 4 - \$38.15

Shelby Motel
 US Hwy. 60W
 (502) 633-3350
 1 - \$32; 2 - \$38

Lexington

Best Western Regency
 I-75 & US Hwy 60, Exit 110
 (606) 293-2202
 1 - \$46; 2 - \$53; 3 - \$60; 4 - \$67

Catalina Motel
 208 New Circle Road, NW
 Lexington
 (606) 299-6281
 1 - 428; 2 - \$31; 3-4 - \$40

Courtyard-Marriott
 775 Newtown Court
 (606) 253-4646
 Flat rate: 1-4 at \$69 per person

Day's Inn
 826 New Circle Road
 (606) 252-2262
 1 - \$48; 2 - \$56

Day's Inn
 5575 Athens-Boonesborough Road
 (606) 263-3100
 1 - \$38; 2 - \$43

Dominion Inn
 1938 Stanton Way
 (606) 259-1311
 Flat rate: \$79 per person

Econo Lodge
 5527 Athens-Boonesboro
 (606) 263-5101
 2 - \$40; 3 - \$44; 4 - \$49

Hampton Inn
 2251 Elkhorn Road
 (606) 299-2613
 Flat rate: 1-4 - \$54

Holiday Inn North
 1950 Newtown Pike
 (606) 233-0512
 1/800/465-4329
 1 - \$49; 2-4 - \$59

Kentucky Inn
 525 Waller Avenue
 (606) 254-1177
 1/800/221-6652
 1 - \$40; 2 - \$45; 3 - 4 - \$50

Knights Inn North
 I-75 & I-64, Exit 115
 1/800/843-5644
 (606) 231-0232
 1 - \$32; 2 - \$38.65; 3 - 4 - \$42.70

LaQuinta Motor Inn
 1919 Stanton Way
 1/800/531-5900
 (606) 231-7551
 1 - \$43; 2 - \$51; 3 - 4 - \$59

Quality Inn Northwest
 I-75 & I-64, Exit 115
 1/800/228-5151
 (606) 233-0561
 1 - \$35; 2 - \$45; 3 - 4 - \$48

Shoney's Inn
 2753 Richmond Road
 at New Circle Road
 (606) 269-4999
 Flat rate: \$42 (1-4)

Comfort Inn
 2381 Buena Vista Drive
 (606) 299-0302
 1/800/822-5252
 1 - \$49; 2 - \$56

Travelodge
 1987 North Broadway
 1/800/333-9843
 (606) 299-1202
 1 - \$40; 2 - \$45; 3 - 4 - \$49

Wilson Inn
 I-75 & US 60, Exit 110
 1/800/945-7667
 (606) 293-6113
 1 - \$34.95; 2 - \$39.95; 3 - 4 - \$40.95

PARTNERSHIP MISSIONS

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

Good News music, Russian-style

The Good News Musical Group from Russia will tour Kentucky October 31-November 22. Besides local church performances, the group also plans to sing at this year's Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting.

The musical group features two vocalists (one male, one female) and five instrumentalists. Performances will include gospel songs and Russian Folk tunes, sung in Russian and English. The instrumentalists will be playing indigenous instruments while accompanying the vocalists or performing instrumental selections. Some group members will also share their testimonies.

If your church is interested in hosting the Good News Musical Group, please contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Church Music Department (502/245-4101, extension 325) or fill out the form on EVENTS page 8a. Host churches need to provide an evening meal, a love offering at the service, lodging (in homes or a motel), breakfast the next morning and transportation to the next location. Groups hosting luncheons will be

responsible for a meal, honorarium and transportation to Good News' next engagement.

A tour itinerary (following a geographical sequence) and date confirmations are planned once all requests are received.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear this excellent group of Christian musicians from Russia!



CEDARMORE ASSEMBLY

Grab bag of information

Summer registration

Registration for summer activities at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly are in full swing. Most returned reservations have either been confirmed or are being processed. Every consideration has been given in attempting to give first date and camp choices to interested groups.

Some summer week dates remain.

Special invitation

Have plans for YouthFest '94 following a week's stay at Cedarmore June 20-24?

YouthFest '94 is June 24-25 at Frankfort's Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center. Frankfort is only 14 miles from Cedarmore Assembly. The Assembly staff extends a special invitation to youth groups staying on campus the week of June 20-24 to continue their stay through the YouthFest weekend. Guests can enjoy some R & R and supper on Friday afternoon prior to YouthFest '94 as well as lodging that night and breakfast Saturday morning. The same special camp rates will still apply.

Retreat possibilities

It's not too late to plan a spring retreat or too early to schedule a fall retreat.

Maintenance needs

The remainder of April has been set aside for those volunteers willing to help Cedarmore prepare for the busy summer season. Winter weather has not been kind and the repair needs are many. If interested in providing time and assistance, the Assembly staff will greatly appreciate your efforts!

For further information contact:

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

JONATHAN CREEK ASSEMBLY

Good facilities, beautiful scenery and West Kentucky hospitality

Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly, located along the shores of scenic Kentucky Lake in West Kentucky, provides an excellent setting for small or large churches or groups. It is a place designed for your maximum retreat or conference needs.

Let's take a closer look at Jonathan Creek's facilities:

Shoemake Building

The impressive Shoemake Building serves as the focal point of the entire assembly complex. Its contemporary design and chapel invite the indoors out and the outdoors in.

Lassiter Conference Center

This building consists of seminar rooms, multi-purpose large meeting areas, with beautiful views of the surrounding campus. Its multi-faceted design makes it perfect for creative usage of space.

Dormitory

The dormitory will house 116 persons. It is convenient to all assembly buildings. Each unit contains large rooms with bunk-style beds.

Dining Hall

Hot, homemade meals are served with pride in our dining hall. Flexible meal plans are available for your church or group.

Gray Motel

One of the newest buildings on campus is the Gray Motel. The facility accommodates 132 persons. Breathtaking views of Kentucky Lake and surrounding areas are available from the balcony and porches of each room. Each room contains two beds, modern furnishings, a full bath and air conditioning.

Other Jonathan Creek features:

a swimming pool and lake access

A number of fall 1994 event dates remain open. These dates are scheduled on a first come, first served basis.

The Jonathan Creek Assembly staff is ready to make your visit an enjoyable one!

For more information, contact:

Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly
Attn: Deward Hurst, manager
3043 Beal Road
Hardin, KY 42048
(502) 354-8355

Build a secure future for...

Women on Mission in Kentucky through the

kentucky WMU heritage fund

money is given:
* to honor the living
* as a memorial for the deceased
* as an extra offering
* through a will

Help us to

STRENGTHEN, DEVELOP, and SUSTAIN

the work of WMU in Kentucky
Woman's Missionary Union
Auxiliary to Kentucky Baptist Convention

SUNDAY SCHOOL

A tool for growth

Growth Spiral Conference

May 19

First Baptist Church
1400 South Main Street
Hopkinsville

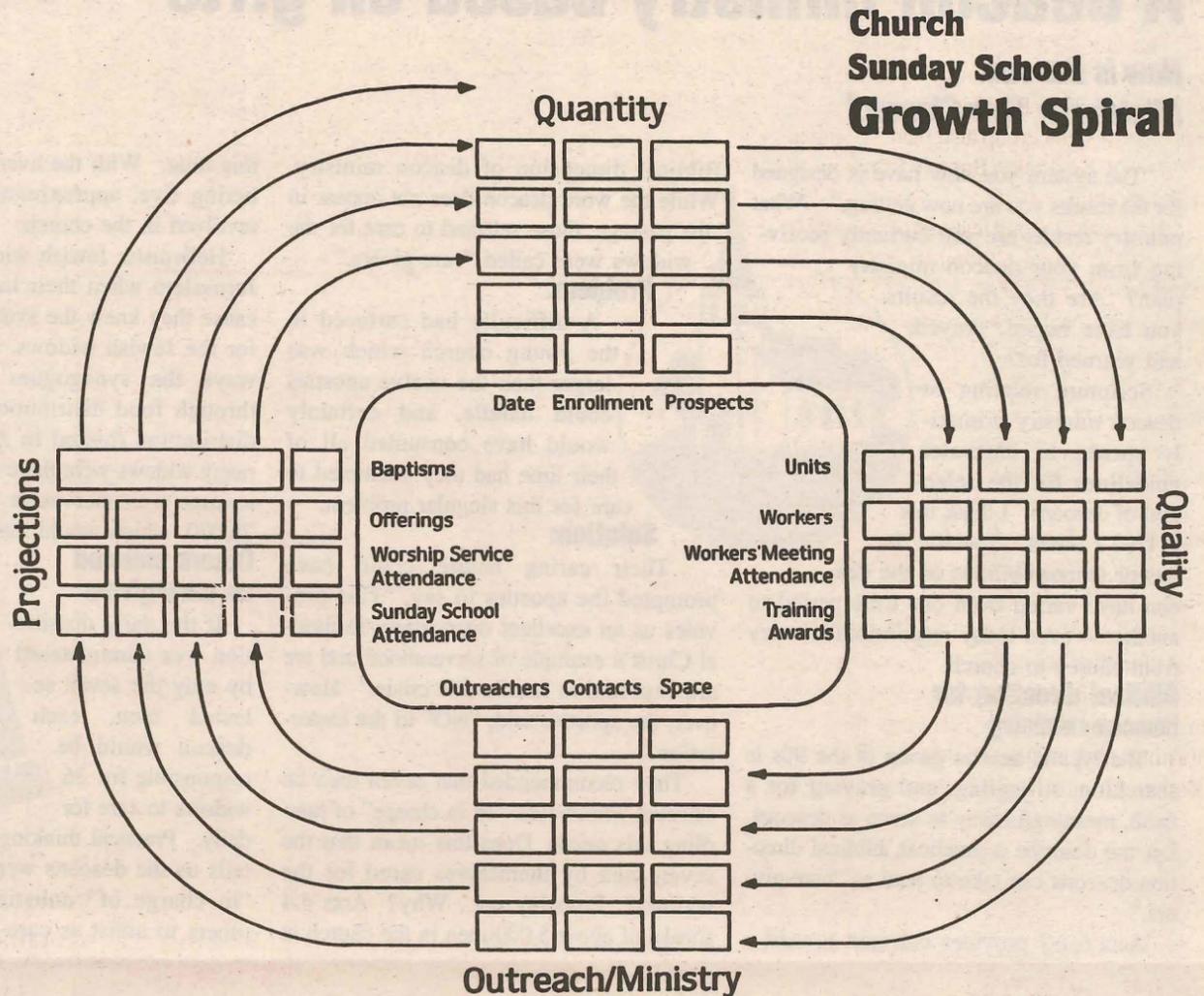
Conference schedule:

8:30-9:00 a.m. Registration
9:00-11:30 Introduction to the Growth Spiral
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. LUNCH (on your own)
1:00-3:00 Using the Growth Spiral in Your Church
3:00 Conclusion

The Sunday School Growth Spiral (shown to the right) is a proven tool for growth. Designed to increase baptisms, offerings, mission support, Sunday School attendance, new members, outreach and ministry. It also helps in planning for new classes, workers and training events.

The Growth Spiral is a systematic approach to balanced growth in your church. Come, learn and experience how the Growth Spiral can be used to help your church grow!

Ken Marler, a growth consultant in the general leadership department at the Baptist Sunday School Board's Bible Teaching-Reaching Division, is the featured conference guest speaker.



An Apple for the Teacher

Church Weekday Education Seminars

June 4

Norton Hall
Southern Seminary
Louisville

June 11

First Baptist Church
Hopkinsville

June 25

Rose Hill Baptist Church
Ashland

The Church Weekday Education Seminars offer six hours of state approved credit for teachers.

The 1994 Church Weekday Education Seminars' theme, "An Apple for the Teacher," brings attention to the many unrecognized positive words, actions and influences teachers bring into the lives of children.

The seminars begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m. at each site. The fee is \$10 per person, which includes lunch, and pre-registration is required.

To receive information or to register contact:

Jewell Nelson
Sunday School Department
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433
(502) 245-4101



"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver." Proverbs 25:11 (RSV).

Your presence at a Kentucky church weekday education state approved seminar will give you SIX hours credit and some well deserved affirmation.

An Apple for the Teacher

1994 Church Weekday Education Seminars

Core conferences

- Bushels of Teaching Ideas
Includes conferences for:
Weekday Directors
Teaching Infants and Ones
Teaching Twos
Teaching Threes
Teaching Fours
Teaching Kindergarten
Before and After School

Some of the afternoon conferences include:

- Colors of Apples
Creative Art Ideas
- Apple Pan Dowdy
Musical Fun with Preschoolers
- Apples and Oranges
Teaching the differently disabled; culturally different; different body types; blondes, brunettes and redheads
- Protecting the Apple Crop
Learn emergency preparedness in case of a tornado, earthquake, fire or another disaster. Safety, health care and hygiene will also be featured.
- A Bushel and a Peck
Ideas for big muscle activities
- Seeds are Sown
Nature ideas
Ideas for protecting the environment

CHURCH GROWTH & ADMINISTRATION

A deacon ministry based on gifts

How is Deacon Ministry in Your Church?

"The system you now have is designed for the results you are now getting." What ministry results are you currently receiving from your deacon ministry plan? Are they the results you have hoped, prayed, and yearned for?

Scripture relating to deacon ministry primarily speaks to character guidelines for the selection of deacons. I think this is God's intent. Specific duties or responsibilities of the deacon have varied from one time period to another -- even today responsibilities vary from church to church.

Biblical direction for deacon ministry

The typical deacon group of the 90s is searching, struggling, and praying for a fresh, meaningful way to serve as deacons. Let me describe a practical, biblical direction deacons can take to lead as "care-givers."

Acts 6:1-7 provides one hint toward a

Biblical dimension of deacon ministry. While the word deacon does not appear in the passage, those selected to care for the widows were called "care-givers."

Problem:

A difficulty had surfaced in the young church which was larger than the twelve apostles could handle, and certainly would have consumed all of their time had they attempted to care for this singular problem.

Solution:

Their caring nature could have prompted the apostles to say, "This provides us an excellent opportunity to model Christ's example of servanthood and we are expected to handle this crisis." However, the apostles said, "NO" to the expectation.

They recommended that seven men be selected who would "be in charge" of handling this need. Does this mean that the seven men by themselves cared for the widows? Probably not. Why? Acts 4:4 speaks of about 5,000 men in the church at

this time. With the average family numbering five, approximately 25,000 were involved in the church.

Hellenistic Jewish widows migrated to Jerusalem when their husbands died because they knew the synagogues provided for the Jewish widows. There were two ways the synagogues provided care: through food distribution and/or money distribution (hinted in Acts 4:35). How many widows were there to care for? Let's assume a conservative figure of 1% of 25,000, which would total 250.

Others enlisted as care-givers

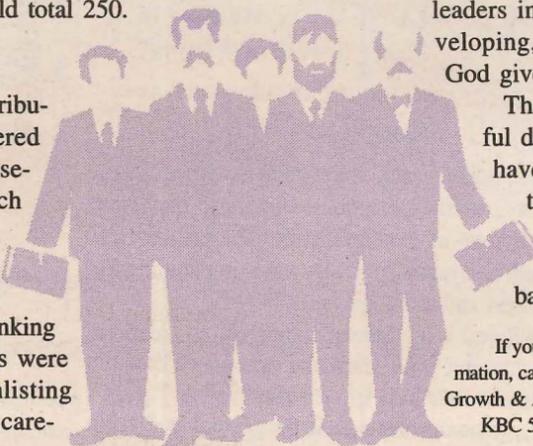
If the daily distribution was administered by only the seven selected men, each deacon would be responsible for 36 widows to care for daily. Practical thinking tells us the deacons were "in charge of" enlisting others to assist as care-

givers. Evidently the need of the widows was met since Acts 6:7 reports that the church continued to grow. Would priests have been attracted to a group of believers that did not at least do what the synagogues did -- care for its widows?

The apostles practiced Paul's instructions to the church at Ephesus (Eph 4:12) -- Gifts were given "to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up . . ." All God's children are given gifts. Deacons are to be leaders in discovering, developing, and using their God given gifts.

The most meaningful deacon ministries I have experienced are those where the deacons are providing ministry based on their gifts.

If you would like more information, call Vernon Cole (Church Growth & Administration division, KBC 502/245-4101, ext. 237).



DIRECT MISSIONS



Churches in Association: Partners in New Work

Interlocking churches, lovingly and carefully woven together, create a wondrous unity in mission.

It is a mission committed to starting churches, built on the belief that all types of churches reach all types of people.

Together, churches in association create a beautiful tapestry, offering a brilliant reflection of the Light of the world.

Associational Missions Week May 16-22

Contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Direct Missions Department (502) 245-4101, extension 310, for more details.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Beautiful scenery, time of enrichment

Discipleship Training Week
July 16-22
Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly
Ridgecrest, North Carolina

"I went to Ridgecrest to learn the what, why, when, where and how's of Discipleship Training. I was not disappointed!"

Barbara Boyer
Discipleship Training Director
Walnut Street Baptist Church
Louisville



The western North Carolina mountains surrounding Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly provide a beautiful backdrop for those attending Discipleship Week July 16-22.

Many new resources will be introduced during Discipleship Week, including the 1995 Baptist Doctrine Study, *Partners with God: Bible Truths about Christian Giving, Fresh Encounter, The Mind of Christ and TeamKID* as well as several exciting new entries in the LIFE Support series.

For a brochure or additional information concerning Discipleship Week, contact the Discipleship Training Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 335.

Discipleship Week gives opportunities for growth and family enrichment in the following ways:

- Preschoolers profit from the best in preschool education while their parents attend conferences and worship.
- Leaders and parents of preschoolers discover practical resources and leadership techniques.
- Elementary school-aged children can enroll in Day Camp.
- Leaders and parents of children improve skills and increase knowledge through workshops and by observing expert leaders.
- Grades 7-12 youth (with their parents at Ridgecrest) will join with hundreds of others in the '94 DiscipleLife Conference, *Anchor Deep*.
- Pastors and ministers of education will receive inspiration and valuable help to build disciples in their churches.
- Discipleship Training directors, adult leaders, new member training directors and other leaders will learn how to more effectively carry out their responsibilities.
- Conference for Associational Leaders - Included in this are directors of missions, directors of church development and Discipleship Training directors. The conference will assist in helping to develop an effective program in the association.

CHURCH MEDIA LIBRARY

Grow tall in Christ

A church media library not only opens the world to the seeker, its carefully selected collection also guides the seeker into truth.

New Christians and longtime Christians never stop growing; they just need different kinds of nourishment. That's why even small churches need a church media library.

Growing in Christ is a seven-day-a-week task and the church media library is like a cafeteria of spiritual food.

Help your congregation grow tall in Christ; start a church media library—we'll help you. Call or write today. Just ask for Ruby.



Media Department
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433
(502) 245-4101, extension 266

MEDIA

Let the spirit rain

Spring has finally arrived! With the colorful bursts of buds, blossoms and new growth, often comes a resurgence of spiritual growth. What a perfect time to let the spirit "rain" in through new avenues of study!

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's Media Department is ready to serve your video needs with many good teaching tapes in a wide array of subjects.

We are pleased to announce the addition to our lending library of *FRESH ENCOUNTER - A Plumb Line for God's People* by Henry Blackaby. Many of you have enjoyed his *EXPERIENCING GOD - Knowing and Doing the Will of God* series and will want to follow up with the *Fresh Encounter* tapes.



Also available for loan are:
Loving Lasting Relationships with Gary Smalley and John Trent
The Baptist Faith and Message by Herschel Hobbs
Soul Praying - a Don Miller series
Kentucky Baptists Today and *MissionsUSA Video Magazine*

To schedule any of the tapes from our library or to receive a catalog listing of what is available, contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Media Department at (502) 245-4101, extension 266.

OTHER EVENTS

Sunday School
FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM
 (for use with children ages 6-12) is available through the KBC Sunday School Department. This curriculum is Bible-centered with creative teaching for summer activities at home, church and elsewhere.

Family Ministry
 There's still time to register for Senior Adult Retreats-Cedarmore, May 16-18; Jonathan Creek, May 23-25. Call (502) 245-4101, ext. 250 for more details.

Discipleship Training
 1994 State Children's Bible Drill Schedule:
April 29 -
 Louisville, Highview; Somerset, First Baptist
April 30 -
 Lexington, Immanuel; Bowling Green, Forest Park;
May 6
 Paducah, Lone Oak
May 7 -
 Madisonville, First Baptist; Ashland, Unity

WMU
 Need information about this year's GA and Acteens camps? Write: Kentucky WMU, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433.

Upcoming Events

APRIL

Emphasis:
Life Commitment and Church Vocations;
Church Media Library

Associational Officers Briefing-West

•April 30
 Hardin
 Jonathan Creek Assembly

Brotherhood

•April 15-16
 Fishing Tournament
 Hardin
 Jonathan Creek Assembly

Church Music

All Ages Regional Music Festivals

•April 22
 Hopkinsville
 First Church
 Prestonsburg
 First Church

Adult/Youth Regional Music Festivals

•April 22
 Corbin
 First Church

Lexington
 Gardenside Church
 Bowling Green
 Living Hope Church
 Louisville
 Walnut Street Church

•April 22
 Adult/Youth/Handbell Regional Music Festival
 Owensboro
 Third Church

Children's Regional Music Festivals

•April 23
 Lexington
 Gardenside Church
 Corbin
 First Church
 Bowling Green
 Living Hope
 Ohio County
 Mt. Carmel Church

Regional Keyboard Festivals

•April 23
 Louisville
 Southern Seminary
 Paducah
 Lone Oak Church

•April 24
 Children's Regional Music Festival
 Louisville
 Walnut Street Church

Regional Keyboard Festivals

•April 30
 Ashland
 First Church
 Owensboro
 First Church

Cooperative Program

•April 17
 Cooperative Program Day

Evangelism

Here's Hope:
 Churches launch prospect discovery and cultivation process

WMU

•April 21
 Kentucky WMU Executive Board meeting
 Winchester
 Holiday Inn

•April 22
 Baptist Nursing Fellowship and Acteens Dinner
 Winchester
 First Baptist

•April 22-23
 WMU Annual Meeting
 Winchester
 Central Church

•April 23
 GA Missions Event
 Winchester
 Central Church

•April 23
 Baptist Young Women Luncheon
 Winchester
 First Christian Church

MAY

Emphasis:
Chaplaincy Ministries Annual Church Planning Council

The activities listed are just a partial listing through mid-May.

Associational Officers Briefing - East

•May 14
 Winchester
 First Church

Brotherhood

•May 13-14
 Lad/Crusaders Conclave/Track Meet
 Jonathan Creek
 •May 20-21
 Pioneers/HSBYM/BM Conclave/Track Meet
 Cedarmore

Church Music

•May 14
 Regional Keyboard Festivals:
 Bowling Green,
 Living Hope
 Lexington, Immanuel
 London, First

Student

•May 19-21
 Campus Ministers meeting
 Middletown

Sunday School

•May 19
 Growth Spiral Conference

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

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

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

To Receive More Information

- Cedarmore Baptist Assembly
- Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly
- Brotherhood**
- Fishing Tournament
- AOB meetings
- State Track Meets & Conclaves
- Church Music**
- Good News Musical Group, Russia

- Evangelism, Office for**
- YouthFest '94
- Family Ministry**
- Reservation form/info
- Senior Adult Retreats
- Partnership Missions**
- Kentucky/Russia
- State partnerships
- Sunday School**
- CWE Seminars

To Register

- Brotherhood**
- See EVENTS, p. 2a
- Fishing Tournament
- AOB meetings
- State Track Meets/Conclaves
- Evangelism, Office for**
- YouthFest '94 (\$4 pre-reg., p/person)

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Office _____ Home _____

Church _____ Association _____

Leadership Position _____

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

RUSSIAN HOME MISSIONARY SUPPORT AGREEMENT

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

1. Name of your church _____
2. Address _____
3. Telephone Number () _____
4. Pastor's Name _____
5. Your Name and Address _____
 _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____
6. Our church, Sunday School, WMU, Brotherhood or other organization (circle one) agrees to support a Russian home missionary or pastor for two years at \$200 per month.
 Date: _____
 Signed: _____
 Address: _____
 Telephone Number: () _____

CHILDREN

A new form of abuse: Society's neglect of children

Continued from page 1

beyond complaining about the problems to finding ways to solve them, experts say.

And solutions will only come as society takes collective responsibility for its children, they add.

To illustrate this point, children's advocates repeatedly cite the old African proverb, "It takes an entire village to raise a child."

"Even if our own children are not among the worst off, they will suffer," contends Brodtkin in her new child-advocacy book titled "Every Kid Counts."

"Our country will be spending so much money controlling its disenfranchised people that it will not have the resources to provide a decent quality of life for the rest," she says. "This is already happening—prison budgets are climbing, while education budgets are plummeting."

It's time for those with advantages to stop thinking of disadvantaged children as other people's children, Brodtkin writes. "We used to think we could rely on every child's family to take care of its own problems. But the traditional family that we associate with the 1950s—a two-parent, two-child household with a breadwinner father and a stay-at-home mother—is nearly extinct. As one TV station put it: 'Ozzie and Harriet are dead.'"

Contrary to popular belief, people concerned about the welfare of America's children can make a difference, she says.

Brodtkin and her small, independent agency led the successful campaign in 1991 to guarantee funding of children's programs in San Francisco through passage of a ballot initiative. This made San Francisco—where children constitute the smallest percentage of population of any major U.S. city—the first city to set aside a percentage of annual tax revenues for a children's fund.

The problem plaguing all segments of American government is

simple, she asserts: Children's programs don't get funded because children don't vote.

But when concerned advocates for children put feet to their concerns, policies and budgets can be changed, Brodtkin says.

And this is a natural role for the church, contends Garland in "Precious In His Sight," a guide to child advocacy by churches, published by Woman's Missionary Union's New Hope Press.

The Christian church has a long tradition of advocacy for children, she notes. For example, in Roman society, infants rejected by their fathers were left on garbage heaps to die. But members of the early church became well-known for rescuing abandoned babies and caring for them.

"As Christians, we are responsible for children," she explains. "They are all God's children, and therefore all our children. They are Jesus in our midst. Christ was very clear about saying when you minister to the least of these, you do it to me."

But even if moral and theological arguments fail to move adults to action, the economic argument should, Garland says.

"The numbers of children in our society are shrinking; we're far below zero population growth. And these are the ones who are going to be paying our Social Security," she says.

"Every child that is not growing and becoming a vital part of society is a bad economic investment."

It costs far less to provide for children now than to pay for the consequences of neglect, Brodtkin adds:

■ For the price of one prison cell, 20 kids can go to college.

■ For the price of one more police

officer on the street, 20 kids can go to Head Start.

■ For the price of putting a family on welfare, 20 kids can have tutoring and job training.

Christian citizenship demands that Baptists be concerned about the kinds of legislation passed by local, state and national governments, adds Owens of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

"As Christians, if we're really concerned about creating a community that is family friendly, we need to be involved."

And government alone isn't to blame, he says. "It's important for companies and corporations and industry to have personnel policies that support families. For example, when companies transfer people every two or three years or have expectations of employees to work 60 hours a week, that doesn't foster healthy families."

Churches have a strong ability to offset such negatives, adds Whitehead, a research associate with the Institute for American Values in New York.

"Religiously observant kids seem to have more resources to deal with what I perceive to be a harsh environment to grow up in," Whitehead reports. "They have a sense that there is a community of adults in their church who are committed to them. And that creates a strong sense of support."

For the church simply to preach for a return to the "traditional family" is not the answer to the child-rearing crisis, says Robert Parham, director of the Baptist Center for Ethics.

"The church has a responsibility to challenge the popular notion that the traditional family is the biblical family," he says. "The traditional family

has far more in common with 19th century industrialized North America and Europe than it does the Bible."

Instead, the church must talk about family values which are not rooted in marketplace needs, Parham contends. The modern American family, he says, is mainly seen as an economic unit, and that is harmful.

"What value does it send children when the father leaves early in the morning, comes home late in the afternoon and doesn't interact with the children? That work is more important, that material acquisition is more important than interpersonal relationships."

By the same standard, welfare reform is desperately needed, he adds. "We have some states which drive the father out of the home in order for the wife and the children to get (aid). That's a pretty anti-family value."

The Carnegie Corp. report released last week, "Starting Points," was written by a 30-member task force appointed three years ago. The report uses urgent language to sound a call to action.

"The crisis among our children and their families is a quiet crisis," it says. "After all, babies seldom make the news. Their parents—often young people struggling to balance their home and work responsibilities—tend to have little economic clout and little say in community affairs."

The task force calls for four specific actions: promoting responsible parenthood, guaranteeing quality child care choices, ensuring good health and protection, and mobilizing communities to support children and their families.

"The problems facing our youngest children and their families cannot be solved through piecemeal efforts; nor can they be solved entirely through governmental programs and business initiatives," the task force concludes. "All Americans must take responsibility for reversing the quiet crisis."

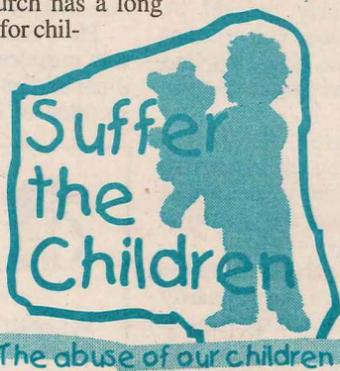
How to report physical or sexual abuse

If you know of a child who is being abused or have reason to suspect a child is being abused, Kentucky law requires you to report the situation.

To report any signs of abuse, call the statewide abuse hotline at (800) 752-6200.

Child protection workers will investigate any report received and provide a confidential assessment.

For parents feeling overwhelmed, the Kentucky Council on Child Abuse has a parent helpline: (800) 432-9251. The statewide organization can put parents in touch with local groups that offer parents' night out or crisis child care, parenting workshops and support groups.



How to help

A variety of experts on parenting and child abuse prevention offer these suggestions to keep children safe:

■ **Be a support.** Offer support to relatives, friends and neighbors coping with children. Give them a break before they become overstressed and likely to lose their temper.

■ **Teach parents.** Inadequate parenting skills are cited as a major cause of child abuse. Help inexperienced parents know that children are naturally curious and quick, that anything can be a hazard to a young child, that children develop at different paces and have no self-control at young ages.

■ **Build trust.** Especially to guard against sexual abuse, assure children you are around that you trust and believe them, so

they will tell you when someone makes them uncomfortable.

■ **Report suspected abuse.** Kentucky law requires everyone to report suspected child abuse. The law also allows anyone to make a good faith report without fear of criminal or civil liability and protects the caller's identity.

■ **Become an advocate for children.** Take a stand at local government meetings, school board meetings and other forums where public decisions affecting children are made.

■ **Become a volunteer.** Numerous opportunities exist for volunteer help with at-risk children. Volunteers are needed to be court advocates, foster parents, big brothers and big sisters. For information, contact Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children at (800) 456-1386.

'31 Ways to Save Our Children'

Margaret Brodtkin, director of Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth in San Francisco, isn't content to complain about the plight of America's children. Concerned adults need to take action, she contends.

To help that happen, she has compiled a new book titled "Kids Count: 31 Ways to Save Our Children." The paperback is published by Harper Collins and sells for \$8.

Among her 31 suggestions:

- Turn off the television.
- Adopt a childcare center.
- Fight childhood poverty.
- Help a child avoid having a child.
- Do something about child abuse.
- Include children with disabilities.
- Feed a hungry child.
- Hire a youth.
- Make your company child-friendly.
- Unlearn prejudice.
- Stop cigarette ads that lure children.
- Just say no to the liquor industry.
- Make your neighborhood safe for kids.
- Lobby for kids at budget time.

■ Reach out to a child in foster care.

■ Befriend a homeless family.

Brodtkin offers practical suggestions for acting on every idea, including names and addresses of government officials and resource organizations.

She provides suggestions for people who have little time to give and people who have much time to give.

Suggestions if you have only five minutes: protest TV violence to the FCC; stop a magazine subscription where kids are targeted with smoking and drinking advertisements; call the White House opinion line.

Suggestions if you have one day a year: Invite a needy youth to follow you around at work to learn about job opportunities; make a presentation to a class in a public school; attend a budget hearing in your community.

Suggestions if you have an afternoon a week: Become a special advocate for a foster child; volunteer for a parental stress hotline; chaperon an outing for homeless children; chat with a disabled child.

Open persecution of evangelicals predicted in Russia

"As I am working more and more on it, this horrible picture is forming. We have a very short time."

Russian evangelical leader Boris Perchatkin, on his prediction that widespread persecution of evangelicals is forthcoming

By Marty Croll
SBC Foreign Mission Board

WASHINGTON (BP)—Svetlyana Nevrova was laid to rest Jan. 15.

A 19-year-old evangelical who loved to sing in her church choir, she had been stabbed 60 times four days earlier and left for dead in a ditch in Ukraine.

Larissa Detyura, a 20-year-old Baptist woman, was murdered Jan. 7 in Maykop, Russia. She was kidnapped and tortured, then brought home and tossed into her yard, where she stopped breathing. Afterward, anonymous death threats appeared in her parents' mailbox.

A Russian evangelical leader brought these stories and others to Capitol Hill in late March as evidence that the window of religious freedom in the former Soviet region already is slamming shut.

The evangelical, Boris Perchatkin, is trying to alert the West that the republics of the region are fast becoming strongholds of religious persecution—this time against Protestants.

The West first got wind of this through a bill introduced in the former Russian legislature that would have restricted non-Orthodox activity. The bill failed when Yeltsin dismissed Parliament last year.

"One and a half years ago, I myself didn't believe this was going on," Perchatkin said. "But as I am working more and more on it, this horrible picture is forming. We have a very

short time."

Perchatkin himself was scourged for years under the repressive labor camp regime of current Russian President Boris Yeltsin—then a provincial leader.

As order breaks down in Russia and the surrounding republics that once were part of the Soviet Union, strongmen attached to the Muslim and Russian Orthodox establishments are filling the gap, his reports show.

"People are surprised how things have changed so quickly," he said. "A lot of people believed Yeltsin, that democracy had come. They decided to stay in Russia and preach to their own."

But in Washington, Perchatkin carried a list bearing the names of thousands of Christians in the former Soviet region who fear for their lives and are ready to leave—now.

Baptists comprise about half of the names listed; the rest are primarily Pentecostal and Seventh-Day Adventist. At least 700 families would emigrate immediately if Western nations would receive them, Perchatkin said.

In Washington he met with U.S. congressmen, State Department officials and advisers to President Clin-

SEEKING: Financial/Education Secretary. Basic bookkeeping skills, computer literacy required. Send resumé to Lyndon Baptist Church, 8025 LaGrange Road, Louisville, KY 40222.

ton. He told them the former Soviet region—widely viewed as relatively free despite its growing pains—is actually a time bomb of persecution that, when it explodes, will vent unimaginable horror.

Perchatkin himself had shared in the worldwide euphoria that freedom had overrun Russia in recent years, he admitted. He needed to secure eyewitness accounts before he could take in the reality of intensifying persecution by local authorities against anything non-Orthodox or non-Muslim.

He warns that after the next Russian presidential elections in 1996—if not earlier—widespread, open persecution of Protestants will become

the rule in Russia. He predicts a systematic "cleansing" of Protestants, similar to that experienced by all faiths under Josef Stalin.

Many evangelicals who want to leave Russia fear a fate much-publicized recently in the country's media. In the former Soviet republic of Tajikistan, a Baptist household was nearly wiped out by extremist Muslims on New Year's Eve. The father, Vladimir Limorev, and eight others—including his four children—were brutally beaten, then killed or left to die in their burning home in Dushanbe, Tajikistan's capital. Limorev's wife, who fled for help, was the sole survivor.

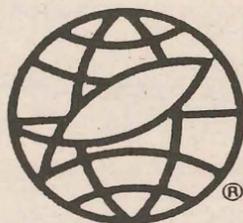


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This year six Acteens Activators teams will be sent from Kentucky. These teams are from the following churches: Faith Baptist, Wickliffe; First Baptist, Liberty; Hartford Baptist, Hartford; High Street Baptist, Somerset; and two from Highview Baptist, Louisville.

For an application contact the office of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502)245-4101.



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Her name isn't 'Shame' anymore

April has been designated Child Abuse Awareness Month and never has an emphasis on this terrible problem been needed more. The release of recent statistics by the Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources shows that even since last year, the number of cases of abuse and neglect in our state has risen. Last year, there were more than 57,000 reported cases of abuse in Kentucky alone. And research tells us that for every reported case, there are probably at least two other incidents that go unreported.

Dedicated staff members of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children must deal with the results of this abuse each and every day. Every one of our residential homes and foster homes are full of young people who have been battered by life at a time when their greatest worries should be about things like school grades and prom dates. Instead, they come to us seeking hope and healing after having been abused physically, sexually, and/or emotionally.

And it seems to be happening to younger and younger children. One of our foster care workers recently told of a 6-year-old now in care whose life has been marked by se-

vere neglect and sexual abuse. She was made to believe that what had happened was her fault and that she was a "bad girl." She felt the guilt so deeply that she even thought her name was "Shame."

Kentucky Baptists are making a difference though. You are helping these children to overcome their pasts and regain something of their childhoods. Through well-trained and caring staff, you are helping children learn that God loves them and that there are adults they can trust. The little girl I mentioned is an example. After several weeks in foster care, her foster parents overheard her singing in the bathtub. "I don't have to be 'Shame' no more cause I'm a good little girl,"

she sang.

Please pray in a special way this month for all of the children in Kentucky who have been and are being abused. Please pray as well for the staff and foster parents who are working with the children in Kentucky Baptists' care.

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

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

All Southern Baptist missionaries safely out of Rwanda

LIMURU, Kenya (BP)—Celebrations over the safe evacuation of Southern Baptist missionaries from Rwanda were tempered April 11 as the rescued missionaries urged prayers for the nation and its Christian community.

Concern had run high for missionaries Larry and Dianne Randolph from Oakman, Ala., and Dallas, respectively. They had not been with any of the American evacuation groups and no other missionaries had been able to directly contact the Randolphs, who live near the airport in Kigali, Rwanda's capital. The airport area has experienced heavy fighting between the Tutsi-dominated rebel army and Hutu-controlled government troops.

However, the couple arrived in Nairobi, Kenya, on a Belgian trans-

port plane late April 11.

The other Southern Baptist missionaries—nine adults with four children—already had arrived at the Brackenhurst Baptist International Conference Centre in Limuru, Kenya, a town near Nairobi.

The other Southern Baptist missionaries evacuated from Rwanda were Vernon and Sandi Sivage, David and Janet Hooten, Martha Colwell, Katrina Knox, Stan and Marlene Lee, and journeyman Marty Felts.

They fear for the fate of Rwandan Baptists and other Christians, which include both Hutus and Tutsis—the two warring factions in the country.

Even though the U.S. Embassy arranged safe passage for most Americans, leaving the country was a harrowing experience for some.

For the Hootens, who had to leave

their home in Cyangugu by themselves in a car with their two children, the ordeal was terrifying. Cyangugu is about a five-hour drive southwest of Kigali.

"We had been told by the U.S. Embassy to sit tight and wait for a rescue convoy or maybe even a helicopter," Hooten recounted. "But we later learned that it wasn't possible to get someone out to us. There was going to be no rescue operation."

The family decided to leave with a group of Free Methodist missionaries who live near Cyangugu. The Hootens packed their car before dawn April 9 and "made a dash" to where they were to link up with the other missionaries. But no one ever came to the arranged meeting point.

The Hootens soon encountered several roadblocks set up by men carrying machetes and knives, who demanded food and money.

"At one point we came upon a

mob in the middle of the road. I forced my way through them with the vehicle. I didn't want to stop," Hooten said. "I was able to get through them ... but they came charging after us and one guy got hold of the side of my door. I had my window down, and he hung onto it, trying to get me to stop. The rest of the crowd came after us with machetes and clubs. He hung onto the car and tried to stop me, but I was able to force it into gear and shove him off, and we got away."

The Hootens eventually linked up with others leaving in a convoy. The group then made their way to Bujumbura, Burundi.

Yet Hooten, who grew up in Kenya and Uganda as the son of Southern Baptist missionaries, said his call to minister to the people of Rwanda is stronger than ever.

Many of the missionaries may soon begin looking for ways to help with relief work.

"The rest of the crowd came after us with machetes and clubs. He hung onto the car and tried to stop me, but I was able to force it into gear and shove him off, and we got away."

Missionary David Hooten, describing his family's escape from Rwanda



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PEOPLE

KENTUCKY KERNELS

While stories about sexual abuse of children have grabbed headlines in recent years, Kentucky's children face an even greater threat from a more passive form of abuse—neglect. Nearly half (49 percent) of all confirmed cases of child abuse in Kentucky last year were caused by neglect, according to data from the Cabinet for Human Resources. Physical hitting, kicking and slapping accounted for 26 percent of the cases. Sexual abuse accounted for 9 percent of confirmed incidents of abuse.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **DANVILLE**—South District Association has ratified a tribute to Barkley Moore, longtime president of Oneida Baptist Institute who died earlier this year. The tribute says Moore's life "set a standard of excellence and integrity which demonstrated his love for his Lord and Savior and therefore his love of all mankind." It concludes, "Though he will be missed, his influence will be felt for generations to come."

■ **FAIRDALE**—First Church called **John Mark Toby** as pastor. He previously was associate pastor at Ninth & O Church.

■ **JAMESTOWN**—First Church called **Mark Lilly** as pastor.

■ **LONDON**—Wayne Deffinger re-

signed as assistant youth minister at First Church to become youth minister at First Church in Dent, Ohio.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—**Steven Copeland** resigned as pastor at Poplar Level Church to become chaplain at Hospice of Central Kentucky in Campsville.

Fern Creek Church ordained **Brian McAdams** to the gospel ministry April 17.

Valley Station Church called **Jack Jones** as interim minister of music.

Melbourne Heights Church called **Kimberly Ketting** as minister to children. A reception will be given in her honor Sunday, April 24, from 2-4 p.m. She has attended the church since birth.

Ohio River dedicates expansion

By Pauline Stegall
State Correspondent

SALEM—Southern Baptists in Livingston and Crittenden counties marked a milestone March 31 with dedication of an expanded and renovated associational office building for Ohio River Baptist Association.

The addition includes new offices, a conference room and an apartment for visiting missionaries and evangelists. Remodeling in the older section created new classroom space and upgraded kitchen facilities.

Tony Hough, associate in the Kentucky Baptist Convention's direct missions department, spoke at the dedication.

John East, director of missions, said the \$70,000 cost of the expansion will be raised from churches and individuals. He expects the debt to be paid within five years.

East credited members of Woman's Missionary Union and former directors of missions Bailey Sadler and Henry Parrott for their vision of providing an associational office building in 1973.

CLASSIFIED ADS

AVAILABLE: Kentuckian serving in Canada last 2-1/2 years seeks pastor's position. Relocating to be closer to family. SBC seminary graduate. Nine years experience. Outreach, family oriented. Information: call (502) 358-3554, ask for John.

WANTED: Part-time minister of music/youth. Green Acres Baptist Church. Send resumé to Don Barnett, Personnel Chairman, 6310 Gayle Dr., Louisville, KY 40219. (502) 452-3287.

VACATION: Sanibel Island, Fla., 2BR, 2B condo available for vacation rental. Pool, tennis courts, bikes, screened porch, lovely secluded beach. Call Pat Owen (502) 895-8752.

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58 new opportunities

We are now in the last quarter of this school year. Each new year brings us many new young people with many needs. It is nearly overwhelming to see so many students with so many problems.

Every new young person gives us an opportunity to encourage and witness. Some come to us so full of hatred that it sometimes seems impossible to share the wonderful love of Christ. Some are so discouraged from years of failure that it is very difficult to stir the embers of a desire to learn.

Others are so consumed with personal problems that they cannot focus on the important things of life.

But they come, and we thank the Lord for entrusting every one of them to us. But one must never underestimate the power of the devil. Just as the Lord has led them to us, the devil is just as determined to see them spiritually and emotionally destroyed.

We know that some come determined not to allow anyone to show them God's love. Every year we see many of these young people leave us after a very short time, never having met the Master, but having heard of him. They leave us, never having accepted our love even though they have been loved. They turn away without learning even though the opportunity to learn was offered.

Some have been critical of our turnover rate among students. They would suggest that because we have not been successful with all of these young people, somehow we have been a failure. When I hear people say this, or subtly imply it, I remind them of the rich young man who came running and knelt at Jesus' feet. When he came to Jesus, he was carrying too much of this world's "baggage." Jesus suggested that if he wanted to

have the most important thing in life—eternal life—he would have to give up some of this world's load. The Bible tells us he went away "grieved" because he had great possessions. In our situation, we are usually the ones doing the grieving because some have to be sent home or leave on their own. It is never easy to let one go! We never become accustomed to losing them.

Now that we are in the home stretch of this school year, it would be easy to rationalize that it would be best not to take in new students this late

in the year. After all, this has been a hard year. They all have been! "Just have them wait until summer school," some would say. But that is not our way, and it was not the way Jesus taught us. He said when one is thirsty, give a drink. When one is hungry, feed the person. Meet the person's needs while the need is there, not when it is convenient for us.

With this in mind, we received 58 new students for the last eight weeks of this school year. If we were to refuse to take them at this time, I think we would be in the same position as the young ruler—too much baggage. We will have to spend more time, have more patience and share some extra love with them. But with God's help, we will keep on sharing from his endless resources.

We never lose sight of the fact that it is because of your sharing we are able to share. Because you honor us and lift us up with your prayers we find the strength to carry on. We are an extension of your love.

Written by W.F. "Bud" Underwood, dean of boys/work program supervisor

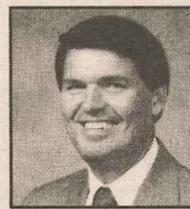
A.B. Colvin is administrator of Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. 40972

THIS IS ONEIDA



A.B. Colvin

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Another busy summer with volunteers

Summer at Clear Creek brings the opportunity for many volunteers to help us with campus projects. Ten groups already are scheduled.

A team from Greenup Association returns for the third year. Directed by John Edwards, these 20 men will remove the roof from a 1950s student cottage and begin total renovation.

Several years ago while on furlough, New Testament professor Dennis Brotherton stayed in Bolivar, Mo. That connection brings a group from Southern Hills Baptist Church.

Smith Association, Raleigh, Miss., and Northwest Association, Fernando, Miss., will be on campus in late June. This is the second trip for Northwest Association.

Former alumnus and faculty member Dr. Tommy Holtzclaw, director of missions from Sullivan Association, Kingsport, Tenn., returns for the third year. Twenty-five volunteers will continue renovation of the student cottages. During the summer, we expect to totally renovate two stone cottages on Holly Hill. This will include new rafters, decking and roofing, new wiring, insulation, sheet rock, windows and central heat and air.

Two Alabama churches will be on campus for the first time: First Baptist, Albertville, and Farmstead Baptist, Jasper.

In late July, Beulah Baptist, Lynchburg, Va., will share the campus with Campers on Mission from Owensboro. This is the second trip for both groups.

Volunteers will help us complete three duplexes in the new

Hemlock Heights student village. These are under roof, but will need the interiors completed. Volunteers will paint, hang cabinets and install inside trim. Some will pour sidewalks and do landscaping. Hemlock Heights Village will be dedicated Aug. 1-2.

We are grateful for friends, alumni and the Chatlos Foundation of Orlando, Fla., for the funding to purchase materials for these work teams. As you know, Clear Creek operates on a "pay-as-we-go" policy.

To lower our costs, volunteers will pay for meals or donate food. They bring their own linens. Some will camp in our mobile home park. They will be blessed by helping us meet major campus needs. We will make a host of new friends.

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

'Sit and soak' worship gives way to participation

By Bob Allen
Associated Baptist Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (ABP)—People will not come to churches in the 21st century because they seek meaning and purpose but because they seek "the rapture of being alive," a scholar told a recent gathering of religious communicators.

"We are moving from worship that is basically sit-and-soak to worship that is participatory," Leonard Sweet, chancellor of United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, told a joint session of the Religious Public Relations Council and the Baptist Public Relations Association.

One key shift in moving from a modern to a post-modern worldview is the move from "representation" to "participation," Sweet said. In that shift, he explained, the orientation moves from "does it make sense?" to "was it a good experience?"

"People aren't looking for meaning and purpose. They're finding purpose in everything," he said.

Post-modern people "don't have a hard time believing," Sweet said. "They just have a hard time believing the right things."

To be effective in the post-modern world, churches must reverse their assumption that correct teaching comes before an orthodox religious experience, he advised. So in a participational model, churches must create correct experiences that will translate into correct doctrine.

"Ministry today is the ability to evoke experiences of the transcendent," Sweet said. "It is not giving people something to believe in."

Along with the emphasis on participation, Sweet said an equally im-

portant shift toward a post-modern paradigm is the move from "a hi-fi mono to stereo and soon-to-be surround-sound culture."

The old representational model, Sweet said, "was heavily into big middles"—a mass culture with a middle class, middle income, "middle brow" culture and middle age.

Those middles are "demassifying," Sweet said. And post-modern life is being transformed into a series of "divergent unities"—the rich are richer while the poor are poorer; society is increasingly global yet local; people seek to "unplug" while at the same time they computerize; and television screens get both larger and smaller.

"It is a binocular and no longer a monocular world," he said.

Worship, Sweet said, is becoming both more liturgical and more free-form at the same time. "The Episcopalians and Pentecostals have won," he said. Though at opposite ends of the Protestant spectrum in many ways, "both are based on participatory forms of worship," he added.

"In the post-modern world, safety is not found in seeking to stand in the middle of the road," he said. "In the post-modern world, if you stand in the middle of the road, you will get hit by both sides, because the sides are growing."

The post-modern world has a "double ring," Sweet said, in which either-or messages are replaced in a both-and culture.

"The key is to strike a balance," Sweet said. He noted that the earliest definition of the ancient Greek word "logos" was that which brings the contradictory together.

"I'm not one of those who says,

'Go after the boomers.' I'm arguing, 'Go after the boosters and the busters and put them together.' I call it hot-fudge-sundae worship. You bring them together and the boomers will come."

The methodology employed in targeting boomers based on tailoring churches to their likes and dislikes has special problems for a "gospel that's based not on pierced ears but pierced hands," Sweet said. Go too far to accommodate preferences in the way the gospel is presented and "the con-

tent is in jeopardy."

Ministry in a binocular world requires church leaders who are prepared to function both as members of a team and as "a superstar," Sweet said. That concept, he admitted, goes against the grain of the old egalitarian model that emphasized middles.

Still, he challenged religious communicators, "Give up the solo stuff, but start thinking 'teams' and 'superstars.' You bring the whole thing together, and you ain't seen nothing yet."

American religion at 'in-between' time

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (ABP)—American religion stands at a peculiar "in-between time" in which major denominations are losing their influence but new forms of religious identity have not yet emerged to replace them, a Baptist historian told a recent gathering of religious communicators.

Bill Leonard, chairman of Samford University's religion department, spoke during a joint meeting of the Religious Public Relations Council and the Baptist Public Relations Association April 7-9 in Birmingham, Ala.

American Protestants facing the next millennium find themselves in a period of transition similar to the beginning of the 19th century, Leonard said. In that earlier time of increasing diversity and mobility, Protestants turned to denominationalism, which by the mid-19th century became "the shape of religion in America."

Amid developing pluralism, the rise of denominations helped establish new institutions and a new identity, helping pioneers "develop a sense of place in a new land" and "articulate specific ways of living among themselves and the broader constituency," he said.

Now, however, those denominational loyalties are beginning to erode, Leonard said.

Recent studies show that Americans increasingly are non-affiliated and as many as 40 percent of religious Americans will switch their affiliation at some time, he said.

"Fewer and fewer religious Americans think of their primary religious identity in terms of a denominational identity," Leonard said. "The decline of denominational identity is with us already."

With those changes, American religion is moving away from the corporate model of denominational organization "toward what Baptists called in their beginnings the society method." Churches are more interested in "shopping around" for ways to do missions, theological education and other causes, he said.

With the waning of denominational identity, religions must find new ways to distinguish between what is distinctive and what is negotiable, Leonard said.

"The denomination, whatever else it used to do, used to offer sources of identity. It doesn't do that anymore."

So as denominations become less able to create a religious identity, local churches must become more intentional about that task, Leonard said.

Southern Seminary had early start on church music drama

LOUISVILLE (BP)—Twenty five years after Southern Baptist Theological Seminary staged its first church music drama, the art form has moved from a novelty seen in only a few congregations to a trend making inroads across the country, according to the director of the school's Workshop in Church Music Drama.

"We used to say that the wave of the '80s was instrumental music in the church," said Mozelle Clark Sherman, professor of church music. "Clearly the wave of the '90s is combining all the arts in worship."

Music drama is a good way to attract the attention of a generation accustomed to the visual stimuli offered by television, Sherman said.

At Southern, Sherman prepares students for ministry in churches that use the ancient art form to reach today's visually oriented society. Churches utilizing church music drama vary in both size and denomination, she said, adding that Baptist and Assembly of God churches are "leading the way."

Productions range from huge pageants to simple plays that involve singing. Some churches frequently combine elements of music and drama within regular Sunday worship.

When the seminary began teaching church music drama during the 1968-69 school year, it was "ahead of the times," Sherman said.

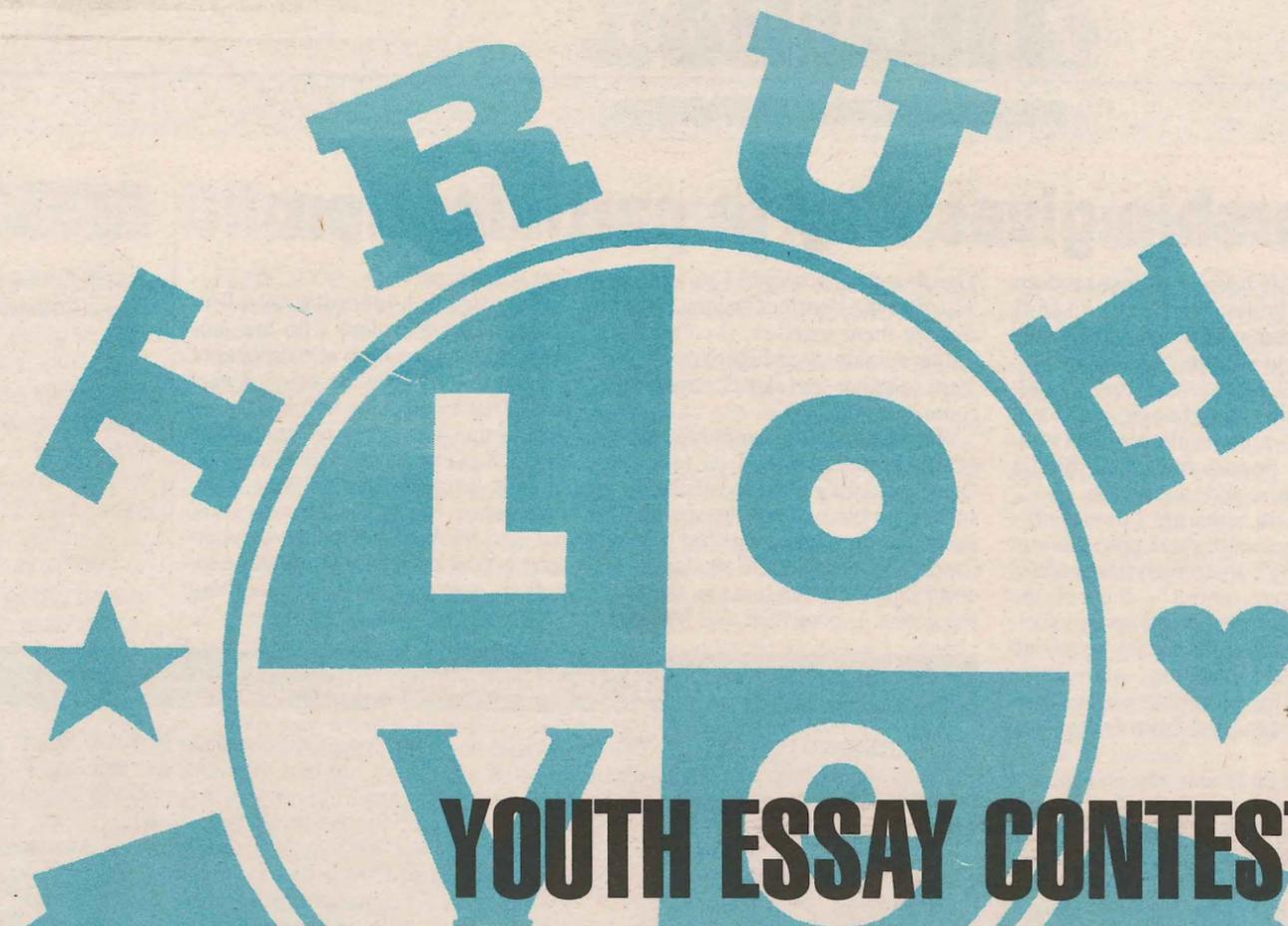
Over the years, Southern has mounted a wide variety of productions. Students have performed well-known operatic works and Broadway shows as well as dramatic church musicals. Performing in musical drama, Sherman said, is a good way for students to enhance their musicianship and broaden their ministerial competency.

"It gives them a chance to test their limits and to experiment with this type of expression," she said, emphasizing that it also lets students evaluate the types of productions they might want to adapt for church use.

"I have had a lot of students who have started community theater type groups in cooperation with their churches," said Sherman. Those kinds of ministries, she observed, are often effective ways to reach unchurched people.

For students intensely interested in the field, Southern offers church music drama as a second major for music students. Southern is the only school anywhere to offer such an emphasis, Sherman said.





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 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. Please include church name.