

**FOR THE RECORD**

**4,000 missionaries**  
For the first time, the number of missionaries under appointment of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has topped 4,000.  
*See page 2.*

**Kentuckians named**  
Graves County Baptist Association came out the big winner in this year's nominations for Kentuckians to serve as trustees of Southern Baptist Convention agencies and institutions. *See page 2.*

**Editorial**  
Help your local newspaper be more sensitive in its coverage of religious issues.  
*See page 5.*

**Court case**  
The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments last week in a case that pits abortion protesters against clinic operators who say the protesters should be limited in what they can say and how they say it. *See page 6.*

**Book warning**  
Two Southern Baptist interfaith witness experts have warned that the best-selling book "Embraced by the Light" promotes Mormon theology. *See page 8.*

**Right to die?**  
Scholars faced off at a recent forum at Stetson University on the issue of assisted suicide.  
*See page 11.*

## Literacy missions volunteers needed

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

If you can read the statistics in the next two paragraphs, you are qualified to do something about them:

■ Of the 50 least-educated counties in the United States, nearly half (23) are in Kentucky.

■ Kentucky ranks foremost among all states in percentage of population with less than a ninth grade education. More than 450,000 Kentucky adults, 16.7 percent of the population age 18 and above, fit this description.

Put bluntly, an enormous number of Kentucky adults cannot read the four sentences you just read. But they could, if more Kentucky Baptists would get involved in literacy missions, says Elaine Ozment.

Ozment is the new literacy missions consultant in the Kentucky Baptist Convention's direct missions department. She's a native of Corbin, but has experience as a volunteer missionary teaching literacy and doing deaf ministry in Puerto Rico. Upon completing doctoral studies at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, she hopes to return to Puerto Rico with her husband to start a school for the deaf.

Her immediate goal is two-fold: to identify and put to work all trained literacy workers among Kentucky Baptists and to train as many more volunteers as possible.

She also wants Kentucky Baptists to begin looking around their communities to discover the needs for literacy training. Few people will have to



**EASY AS A-B-C** Baptist volunteers who teach adult reading and writing courses in Kentucky will be trained to use Laubach texts such as this one, which allows students to begin reading from the first lesson. Using charts, students make immediate connections between pictures, letters and words.

look far from home to find such a need, she said.

People who are illiterate often don't give away their secret freely, Ozment explained. "You can hear someone talk English conversationally and never know they're illiterate.

"People who can't read and write are still intelligent and bright. They're not dumb; they're just under-educated."

And while some people are bright enough to achieve amazing success without being literate, illiteracy always presents a barrier at some point, she said.

Teaching people to read and write improves their job skills, raises their standard of living and radically changes their lifestyle, Ozment said. It's the difference between giving someone a fish and teaching them to fish for their own food.

But there's another reason Christians should be interested in teaching people to read and write, she added—the Bible. "As Christians, we have a book that's really special. We're trying to teach people to read to benefit them in this life and the next."

Literacy missions also is an effective way to reach the unchurched. *See Literacy missions ..., page 3*

## American teens also divided on abortion

PRINCETON, N.J.—American teens are nearly evenly divided over the issue of abortion rights, but a majority believe teens should have to obtain parental consent before having

an abortion.

These are among reports published in the first edition of "Youth Views," to be produced 10 times a year by the George Gallup International Institute.

The newsletter is based on findings from the Gallup Youth Survey.

The percentage of American teens who say they favor abortion rights has remained steady at 47 percent since 1991, the newsletter reports. However, the percentage of American teens who believe all abortion should be outlawed has dropped from 44 percent in 1991 to 37 percent in 1993. The remaining 9 percent in 1991 and 16 percent in 1993 are either undecided or take a position somewhere between the two extremes.

Among demographic breakdowns on the abortion question, the newsletter says:

■ There is no significant difference in attitudes between male and female teens.

■ Teens ages 13-15 are more divided over abortion rights than teens ages 16-17.

■ Young Catholics are more likely to favor abortion rights than young Protestants.

■ Support for abortion is weakest in the South, while strongest in the East.

"Taken together, these statistics seem to indicate that the abortion debate is just as thorny for younger Americans as for older Americans, and just as divisive," writes newsletter editor Wendy Plump. "The youngest group of teens is the most evenly divided of all, guaranteeing that the abortion debate will rage on for the foreseeable future."

### American teens' views on abortion

	ALLOW FOR ANY REASON	OUTLAW ALL ABORTION
<b>NATIONAL</b>	46%	37%
<b>MALE</b>	48%	38%
<b>FEMALE</b>	45%	37%
<b>AGES 13-15</b>	43%	43%
<b>AGES 16-17</b>	50%	29%
<b>EAST</b>	58%	24%
<b>MIDWEST</b>	48%	35%
<b>SOUTH</b>	37%	43%
<b>WEST</b>	46%	35%
<b>LARGE CITIES</b>	50%	33%
<b>SUBURBS</b>	52%	34%
<b>SMALL TOWNS</b>	40%	40%
<b>RURAL</b>	46%	40%
<b>PROTESTANT</b>	37%	41%
<b>CATHOLIC</b>	46%	31%
<b>ATTENDED CHURCH LAST WEEK</b>	36%	34%
<b>DID NOT ATTEND</b>	56%	31%

SOURCE: Youthviews newsletter, based on findings of the Gallup Youth Survey, which interviewed a representative national sample of 512 teens between July and October of 1993.

## Kentucky pilot's faith kept him up

By Melanie Childers  
Staff Writer

FORT CAMPBELL—Faith in God makes the difference when military service calls for extreme sacrifice, U.S. Army aviator Perry Alliman believes.

Alliman and his co-pilot agreed that without their faith in God, they never would have survived a crash landing, severe bodily burns and injuries, or ground fire from angry Somali snipers last September.

The "Eyes over Mogadishu" mission was intended to keep peace, Alliman said. But for him and his crew, Sept. 25, 1993, turned into the worst kind of conflict—the kind that takes human life.

Alliman, 32, is a chief warrant officer in the 9-101st aviation regiment at Fort Campbell.

He wasn't assigned a co-pilot until after he arrived in Somalia last August, he said, although he had been praying to fly with another Christian.

Alliman and his wife, Debbie, have been active Christians since 1986. They and their three children currently attend Henderson Memorial Baptist Church in Hopkinsville.

Through a Bible study in Somalia, Alliman got acquainted with Dale Shrader, another pilot from Fort Campbell who already had served five months in Somalia.

On the ground, Alliman and Shrader took turns leading Bible studies when the chaplain was unavailable.

In the air, the two men took turns controlling an 18,000-pound Black Hawk helicopter.

The partnership and Christian friendship they developed helped the two pilots endure the harrowing crisis that struck a month later.

The night began like many others, Alliman remembered: "We had been flying for about one-and-a-half hours. ... It was 2 a.m. and we needed gas."

But when they touched down to refuel, three mortar shells exploded directly in front of them, he said.

They immediately took off to avoid being hit. However, they didn't escape the second attack—a grenade which seared through the aircraft from front to back.

"We landed within 30 seconds of the hit," Alliman said. "We hit hard."

The tail section of the helicopter broke off when the aircraft hit a building. Alliman's face smashed into the console.

■ *See Though shot ..., page 13*

# BAPTISTS

## BAPTIST BITS

■ **After failing** to force an emergency meeting of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees to make amends for firing president Russell Dilday, trustee Robert Anderson has called for a day of prayer for the seminary May 11. "I want to sound the alarm to the fact that we need to get on our knees before God and hear from him on this matter," Anderson said in a news release April 26.

■ **Gene Nabi** has been named national special education consultant with the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. He recently retired as special education consultant at the board. The new appointment is intended to squelch fears that a recent reorganization lessened the board's emphasis on special education ministries, board officials said.

## FMB missionary force tops 4,000 for first time

FORT WORTH, Texas—For the first time in history, Southern Baptists now have more than 4,000 missionaries serving on foreign fields.

Trustees of the denomination's Foreign Mission Board celebrated that milestone and responded to a nationally publicized document on Catholic-evangelical relations during their April 25-27 meeting in Fort Worth, Texas.

In other action, trustees elected new officers, reorganized their structure to match recent staff reorganization and voted to schedule a closed-door briefing as part of every board meeting.

Texan David Thompson and his wife, Janey, pushed the active foreign missionary force to 4,000 when they were appointed with 31 others in a service at Tarrant County Convention Center.

Thompson, a 42-year-old accountant from San Angelo, will work in the mission business manager's office in Malawi.

Last week's appointment of 33

new missionaries pushes the FMB's total to 4,011 missionaries serving in 129 countries. The total includes 3,493 career and associate missionaries and 518 two-year workers in the International Service Corps.

In his charge to the new missionaries, FMB President Jerry Rankin questioned why only 4,000 of more than 15 million Southern Baptists have responded to God's call to serve.

"By what right is any Christian exempted?" he questioned. "Are you called but not chosen by your own disposition and ears failing to hear?"

During their meeting, FMB trustees took issue with a document on Catholic-evangelical relations, "Evangelicals and Catholics Together: The Christian Mission in the Third Millennium." The statement, released March 29, calls for reduced conflicts between evangelicals and Catholics and more cooperation on social issues such as abortion, education, pornography, religious liberty and race relations.

It also calls for the two groups to

stop proselytizing or "sheep stealing" from each other's folds. The 40 signers of the document included Richard Land, director of the SBC Christian Life Commission and Larry Lewis, president of the SBC Home Mission Board.

FMB trustees declared the document "is subject to interpretations harmful to the work of foreign missions."

They approved a statement affirming the appropriateness of missionary witness among populations and individuals characterized by nominal or former allegiance to any Christian denomination.

Trustees said they reject any suggestion that such witness should be characterized as "sheep stealing," proselytizing or a wasteful use of resources.

Leon Hyatt of Pineville, La., retired director of church extension for Louisiana Baptists, was elected trustee chairman, winning 57-22 over Hoyt Savage, a pastor from Las Vegas, Nev.

Carl Johnson, FMB business manager, reported that for the first time in four years receipts for both the Cooperative Program and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering had increased over the previous six months.

Jim Slack, FMB church-growth consultant, reported record growth in total churches, new churches constituted in one year, membership, baptisms, Sunday school/Bible teaching enrollment, preaching points and missionaries assigned to the least-evangelized areas, called "World A."

A recent increase in missionary appointments should put the board closer to meeting its Bold Mission Thrust goal of 5,000 missionaries overseas by the year 2000, he said.

Trustees also approved a plan of reorganization for trustee committees and responsibilities. The plan includes three business sessions at each meeting instead of two and a forum between trustees and administrators to be held in executive session.

Compiled from Baptist Press and Associated Baptist Press reports

## Graves County highly visible on SBC nominees list

By Marv Knox  
Editor

NASHVILLE—Kentucky's Graves County Baptist Association and Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College will step up in national prominence if a report by the Southern Baptist Convention nominating committee is approved.

Four of six Kentuckians nominated to fill SBC trustee or committee vacancies are members of churches affiliated with Graves County Association in the western part of the state. Three of those four are connected with Mid-Continent College in Mayfield:

■ Lillian Butler, wife of Mid-Continent President LaVerne Butler and a member of Northside Baptist Church in Mayfield, was nominated to a three-year term on the order of business committee. If elected, she will succeed her daughter, Sandra Butler Hodge, of Princeton.

■ Bobby Swift, dean of continuing education at Mid-Continent and a member of Liberty Baptist Church in Hickory, was recommended for a five-year term on the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary board of trustees. If elected, he will succeed the Butlers' daughter-in-law, Gayle Butler, of Louisville.

■ Charles Cloyd, an associate professor at Mid-Continent and a member of Hickory Baptist Church in Hickory, was nominated to complete a term which will expire in 1995 on the American Baptist Seminary Commission.

■ Robert Wilson, pastor of First Baptist Church in Mayfield, was proposed for a four-year term on the Stewardship Commission, succeeding Emery Farris of Pineville.

Two other Kentuckians also received nominations:

■ B.H. Haile, a dentist and member of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, was recommended for a four-year term on the Home Mission Board, succeeding Linda Principe of Brandenburg.

■ James Hyman, an obstetrician/gynecologist and member of Bashford Manor Baptist Church in Louisville, was proposed for a five-year term on the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary board of trustees, replacing John Michael of Louisville.

Kentucky Baptists will be eligible to fill two other SBC vacancies—one on the Executive Committee and another on the Foreign Mission Board.

Original candidates for those positions declined to accept nomination, said Yvonne Yates, one of two Kentuckians on the nominating committee.

Yates, registrar and director of missions at Mid-Continent and a member of First Baptist Church of Mayfield, will serve on a special subcommittee to recommend people to fill those and other vacancies on the nominating committee's report.

The full slate of nominations will be presented to messengers to the SBC annual meeting in Orlando, Fla., June 14-16.

Yates and the other Kentuckian on the nominating committee, Pastor Bob Brooks of First Baptist Church of Louisa, sought the best candidates possible, she said.

Although four of the first six nominees are from the same association, they are the top candidates available, Yates added.

"We looked for things from all over the state, and these were the people we felt were best qualified," she said.

"We didn't look exclusively from this area. These people we've selected are going to do what the Lord

wants them to do, and I feel real comfortable with our nominations."

In addition to nominations to fill the eight new vacancies, seven Kentuckians have been nominated to serve second terms on the boards of their SBC organizations. They are:

■ Emma P. Day, a layperson from Elizabethtown, Home Mission Board.

■ Roger Williams of Annville, pastor of Bond Baptist Church, Sunday School Board.

■ Michael Harris, a layperson from Elizabethtown, Southern Seminary.

■ Stanley Willett II, a layperson from Louisville, Southern Seminary.

■ Hayward Casey, pastor of Browder Baptist Church in Browder, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

■ Claude Witt of Louisville, executive director of the Temperance League of Kentucky, Christian Life Commission.

■ Doris Yeiser of Louisville, archivist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Historical Commission.

## 3 Kentuckians tapped by Young

HOUSTON—Three Kentuckians have been appointed to two key committees related to this year's annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The appointments to the SBC committee on committees and resolutions committee were made by current SBC President Ed Young of Houston.

The committee on committees has 70 members, two from each of the 35 state or regional conventions qualified for representation. Young named Mike Hamlet, pastor of First Baptist Church of North Spartanburg, S.C., as chairman.

Kentuckians who will serve with Hamlet are Robert Allen, minister of education at Second Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, and

Donald Lee Thompson, a layperson from First Baptist Church of Louisa.

The committee on committees nominates members of the committee on nominations, which, in turn, nominates trustees to serve on the 23 national entities of the SBC.

Young also has announced his appointments to this year's resolutions committee, which will be chaired by Tommy Lea, professor of New Testament at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

One Kentuckian will serve with Lea: David Dockery, vice president for academic administration and dean of the theology school at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.



# KENTUCKY

## Literacy missions volunteers needed across state

Continued from page 1

tive outreach tool for the church, said Gayle Leininger, a home missionary who specializes in literacy missions. Surveys show that reading Scripture is the No. 1 reason illiterate Americans want to learn to read, she said.

This is a natural fit for Southern Baptist literacy workers, who use Scripture as texts in literacy lessons. One of the texts used in Kentucky is based on the Gospel of Mark.

Ozment will be teaching two types of literacy workshops across the state in the coming months.

One workshop will train volunteers to teach conversational English. This is especially effective for ministry in areas with migrant farm workers or foreign business representatives, she said.

The other workshop will train volunteers to teach adult reading and writing skills. With this training, volunteers can work one-on-one with anyone who can't read and write.

Both workshops are 16 hours in

length, and may be offered over a weekend or over a period of several days. Upcoming workshops already are scheduled for Hazard and Louisville.

Ironically, Southern Baptists' work in literacy missions got its start in Kentucky, but Baptists in other states have made greater strides with this ministry in recent years.

Lillian and John Isaacs served as missionaries in Eastern Kentucky for 20 years. There they discovered a need for literacy training, a need mostly left unspoken.

Mrs. Isaacs' desire to open the Bible to the people of Eastern Kentucky became the catalyst for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board to begin a far-reaching program of literacy missions in the 1950s and 1960s. Clear Creek Baptist Bible College played a vital role in this development.

The current director of the HMB's literacy work also is a native Kentuckian, Kendale Moore of Louisville.

Currently, about 12 percent of Southern Baptist churches nationwide are involved in some form of literacy missions, he said. But more volunteers are needed everywhere.

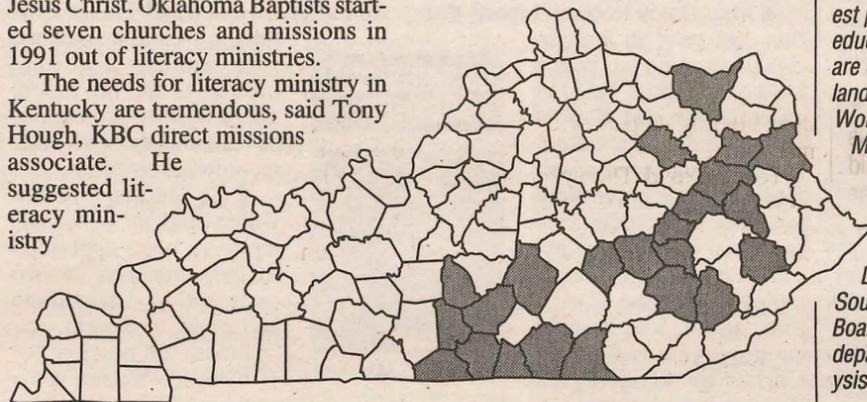
Literacy ministry has become a vital component of Baptist work in several states, he reported.

For example, in just two of the 25 literacy ministries operating in Ohio in 1991, 26 people professed faith in Jesus Christ. Oklahoma Baptists started seven churches and missions in 1991 out of literacy ministries.

The needs for literacy ministry in Kentucky are tremendous, said Tony Hough, KBC direct missions associate. He suggested literacy ministry

would be an excellent option for Kentucky churches seeking to participate in this year's "Hope for Hurting Humanity" emphasis on ministry projects.

For information on how you or your church can minister through literacy missions, contact Ozment or Hough at the Baptist Building in Louisville by calling (502) 245-4101.



### DISHONORABLE DISTINCTION

Of the 50 least-educated counties in the United States, 23 are found in Kentucky. In order of highest percentage of under-educated to lowest, they are Owsley, Clay, Cumberland, Jackson, Magoffin, Wolfe, Metcalfe, Casey, Morgan, McCreary, Green, Wayne, Monroe, Lewis, Lee, Clinton, Rockcastle, Elliott, Leslie, Bath, Adair, Lawrence and Knott.

Source: Home Mission Board program research department, based on analysis of 1990 U.S. Census.

## Danville 'True Love Waits' rally draws 600

By Melanie Childers  
Staff Writer

DANVILLE—About 30 Danville-area churches—from the Pentecostals to the Presbyterians—joined forces with Kentucky Baptists for a "True Love Waits" rally of extraordinary proportions April 18.

More than 600 teen-agers heard contemporary Christian music, saw dramatic presentations and listened to their peers give testimonies about sexual purity during a celebration rally at the Danville High School auditorium, reported rally organizer Kime Murphy.

And nearly 400 of those attending made a commitment to sexual abstinence until marriage, she said.

Murphy, director of youth ministries at Gethsemane Baptist Church in Danville, is credited with the idea and much of the energy behind the local event. "True Love Waits" is an international program sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

"We were only expecting about

200-300 to come," said Rodney Lynch, minister of youth at First Baptist Church in Danville. "But then we had over 600 to show up."

The large crowd was due in part to widespread promotion of the event, leaders said. They advertised by radio, newspaper and cable television ads, by posters and fliers in schools and businesses, by direct mailing to churches and by word of mouth, Murphy said.

And the rally was inter-racial as well as inter-denominational, Lynch said, noting at least one African-American Baptist church helped plan and provided leadership for the rally.

Murphy said she first considered the idea for this event after looking over the "True Love Waits" materials and realizing how much teens outside the church, as well as inside, needed to hear the message.

So she began inviting other area youth leaders to help her come up with ideas about how to reach the

broadest audience possible.

Murphy and others called and sent letters to every church in the Danville area, inviting them to participate in the rally, she said.

The idea was for each church to schedule family and church-sponsored "True Love Waits" events before the rally. "We encouraged each church, 'Adapt the material or use your own to challenge young people to a biblical view of sex,'" Lynch explained.

Commitment cards printed for use during the rally were smaller and thicker than those in the promotional packet, Murphy said. About the size of business cards, these were designed to be kept in wallets or purses as a continual reminder of the teen-agers' decisions.

To fund the event, each of the 10-15 most-involved churches were asked to contribute \$100, Lynch explained. "We couldn't have done it without all the churches working together. We need to do more of this."

**REMINDER:** The deadline for the Western Recorder's "True Love Waits" youth essay contest is May 16.

## No rate increase for Recorder; advertising policy affirmed

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

Western Recorder subscribers should not experience a rate increase during the 1994-95 fiscal year, according to a budget adopted by the paper's board of directors April 26.

Rates of \$10.60 for an individual subscription and \$8.50 for a church plan subscription will remain intact for the coming year.

The \$909,619 budget for the fiscal year beginning Sept. 1, 1994, anticipates income from four major sources: subscriptions (48 percent), Kentucky Baptist Convention (32 percent), advertising (11 percent) and the church news page service (7 percent). The remaining 2 percent will come from typesetting services, interest in-

come and other sources.

During the meeting, the 12-member board declined to act on the request of a Louisville-area pastor to reconsider the paper's advertising policy.

Rodney Burnette, pastor of Ninth & O Baptist Church in Louisville, had requested the board adopt a policy prohibiting political advertisements "paid for by the moderates, the conservatives or anyone else." Such ads should not be allowed because they foster division, he said in the letter, which was published in the Recorder April 26.

Burnette specifically cited a paid advertisement in the April 5 issue from the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship.

After a brief discussion of the is-

sue, board members made no motion to reconsider the current policy.

Editor Marv Knox and board Chairman Don Mantooth explained that the current policy had been affirmed by the board in 1990. That policy views the Recorder as an open forum for all Kentucky Baptists and would disallow advertising only on a moral basis—for products such as tobacco, alcohol and other items contrary to the Christian faith.

To disallow any advertising not directly related to the KBC also would mean the Recorder could not take advertising from organizations such as the Temperance League of Kentucky or Kentucky Right to Life, Mantooth noted.

Among other business, the board heard a report on circulation trends,



**PORTRAIT UNVEILED** Sarah Eddleman poses with the recently completed portrait of her husband, Leo Eddleman, who served as president of Georgetown College from 1954 to 1958. Mrs. Eddleman was the guest of honor at the April 15 unveiling of the portrait at the college. Her husband was unable to attend due to poor health.

which Knox said have been generally positive since September 1992. The Recorder's weekly circulation stood at 48,028 as of last month.

In the last fiscal year—the latest year for which comparable statistics are available—the Recorder appeared to be the only weekly state Baptist newspaper gaining in circulation, Knox reported.

In addition, through publishing the Kentucky Baptist Convention's "Events" insert, circulation rises to about 61,000 once a month, he said. With the addition of partnership publishing agreements with three smaller state conventions, the Recorder's products reach more than 70,000 homes monthly—probably the most extensive impact in the Recorder's history, Knox said.

# OPINION

## WESTERN RECORDER

P.O. Box 43969  
Louisville, Ky. 40253  
(ISSN 0043-4132)

**MARV KNOX**  
Editor

**MARK WINGFIELD**  
News Director

**MAURI SMITH**  
Marketing & Business  
Manager

**C. R. DALEY**  
Editor Emeritus

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

Western Recorder is published weekly by Western Recorder Inc., an agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253, except for one week in July and December. For general information, call (502) 244-6470. Fax: (502) 244-6474. Second class postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

**To subscribe:** Send \$10.60 for a one-year, individual subscription. Group subscriptions on the church budget plan are \$8.50 per year. An additional church newsletter service is available for churches of all sizes. All subscriptions are payable in advance, except church accounts, which require a tax exemption number.

**To register change of address:** Send the mailing label from page 1, along with your new address, to the subscription department at the Western Recorder address.

**To give news tips:** Call (502) 244-6472, fax to (502) 244-6474 or write the editor or news director.

**To submit a letter:** Letters on any subject will be considered for publication, provided they do not make a personal attack on anyone. Letters are limited to 250 words and may be edited for length.

**To place an advertisement:** Rates are available upon request by calling (502) 244-6470. Institutional columns on an inside page are paid space. Claims made by advertisers are not necessarily those of the Western Recorder's staff and directors.

**Directors:** Don Mantooh, Morehead, chairman; Tom Curry, Louisville, vice chairman; Kay Trisler, Harrodsburg, secretary; Jim Abernathy, Covington; Glenn Durham, Harlan; Rusty Ellison, Benton; Frank Hatfield, Shepherdsville; Isaac McDonald, Elizabethtown; June B. Rice, Paintsville; John Searcy, Franklin; William Thurman, Lexington; James Weaver, Madisonville.

## Good news report: Spring 1994

Cooperative Program gifts in March from Kentucky Baptist churches reached \$1,626,001, bringing the seven-month total to \$10,225,102, 1.9 percent ahead of the previous year and 3.1 percent ahead of budget. In addition, receipts designated for Kentucky Baptist Convention-only causes were \$34,007, pushing the total to \$225,153 and 17.2 percent ahead of the prior year.

Miki Davis Robison reports that this past year an innovative partnership has begun between Baptist Fellowship Center and Baptist Hospital East, both in Louisville. Long-range possibilities include prevention/health education/clinic at the center in the inner city. The first joint project happened during the Christmas season. The hospital employees channeled their Christmas benevolence through her department.

They selected low-income families that we have worked with through our crisis ministries, day care or family counseling this year. Forty families received gifts of clothes and/or toys for each family member!

D.M. Aldridge reports that a new work at Red River Baptist Association—Grace Baptist Chapel at Malone, sponsored by Faith Baptist Church—just started on March 6. They had 30 in Sunday school, 47 in worship and three professions of faith in Christ (all adults). By the way, the Old Regular Baptists' response to their presence: "We're not doing anything here anyway. Welcome!"

Steve Golden at Jefferson Street Center in Louisville wrote in his monthly report that a homeless person, having just made a profession of faith, said: "I feel clean on the inside, but I still feel dirty on the outside. Can I take a shower here to feel clean on the outside too?"

First Baptist Church of Bowling Green's Sign Choir was nominated for and accepted the opportunity to represent the state of Kentucky for Very Special Arts Kentucky at the 20th anniversary International Festival at Brussels, Belgium in May.

433 associational Woman's Missionary Union leaders attended associational council training events dur-

ing August 1993.

416 Kentucky Baptists from more than 200 churches attended five tax conferences this year, sponsored by the KBC annuity department. This included 37 professional tax consultants who prepare tax returns for more than 100 ministers.

1,025 women attended the first special event for women sponsored by the KBC office for evangelism. Ann Graham Lotz and Esther Burroughs were the speakers. Five seminars also were offered in the afternoon. There were 10 professions of faith and about 85 other recorded decisions.

76 Baptist Student Union student missionaries have been appointed for the summer of '94, two assigned to Utah-Idaho and eight to Russia, our "partners" on mission.

Jewell Nelson led a vacation Bible school institute and trained 24 leaders for state VBS "Trail of Treasures" training. These leaders trained associational leaders at First Baptist Church of Madisonville, March 4-5; and at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, April 15-16.

Over 600 people attended the KBC-sponsored vacation Bible school clinic March 19 at Highview Baptist Church in Louisville. The state approved four hours of credit for church day-care leadership who participated.

The KBC Sunday school department received the James W. Chatham Associational Sunday School Standard Award for the third consecutive year for leading the Southern Baptist Convention in associational Sunday school standard recognition. This marked the first time any state convention had received the award for three consecutive years.

The small church growth tour was held in January and March, targeting parts of the western portion of the state and the entire I-75 corridor. A total of nine events were conducted by Neil Jackson, Southern Baptist Sunday School Board senior growth consultant, and Jeff Hicks, an associate director of the KBC Sunday school department. A total of 198 churches from 36 associations attend-

### ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

blame society as a whole, for this is a child-oriented world.

Kay Presson  
Cunningham

### Freedom standard

After reading a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship newsletter, I have one concern. CBF Coordinator Cecil Sherman sounds more dedicated to the freedom of Christ than the

Christ of freedom. If we raise freedom as the sole standard of what being Baptist means, are we not in danger of drawing inappropriate theological conclusions? If theological fundamentalism's goal is, as Sherman says, "to narrow the teachings of the denomination,"

ed the rallies.

300 Kentucky Baptists have been enlisted as volunteers to Russia during 1994. Approximately 400 volunteers are being requested to participate in 40 projects.

Commitments have been made by 28 churches, associations or individuals who will support a Russian home missionary at \$2,400 per year. The goal for 1994 is sponsors for 30 missionaries.

The KBC church music department sponsored a first for Kentucky Baptists this spring. More than 60 fourth, fifth and sixth graders from 24 Kentucky Baptist churches participated in the Kentucky Baptist All-State Children's Choir. This auditioned choir rehearsed at Cedarmore and took a weekend tour. This event models music as a ministry for our young musicians.

Over 320 ringers from 31 Kentucky Baptist churches participated in the state handbell festival at Hurstbourne Hotel and Conference Center in Louisville the first weekend in March. This annual event provides musical training for our church volunteer musicians.

The state youth choir festival attracted 370 middle school and high school young people from 35 Kentucky Baptist churches the last weekend in February. In a day when our young people need to feel a sense of accomplishment and place for them to use their gifts in ministry to the Lord, the state youth choir festival has become a real source of encouragement to our youth choir members and directors.

On March 4 and 5, the drama, puppet and clowning festival was held at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, with 790 in attendance. There were 45 workshops on creative ministries.

Kentucky Baptist disaster relief and Simpson Baptist Association disaster relief teams aided victims of the Simpson County ice storm and power outages, Feb. 11-19. First Baptist Church of Franklin served as a shelter, kitchen and dining hall. Activities were later moved to Fairview Baptist Church. The project engaged 5,900 volunteer hours; cleared 446 streets and roads; provided electrical generators to nursing homes and 344 freezers, saving food valued at \$325,000.

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

doesn't blind allegiance to freedom allow people to believe what they want instead of what they ought?

For now the CBF will be fine. There are enough CBF Baptists rooted in biblical theology. But what will the CBF look like in 10-15 years? Could the CBF follow other mainstream denominations—so liberal, they have no moral voice; so liberal, personal evangelism is non-existent; so liberal, comparison to historic Baptist positions is impossible; so liberal, the Bible only contains the word of God but is not the word of God. May this never be; yet the signs are there because allegiance to freedom has been raised as the standard, and not commitment to Christ and loyalty to God's written word.

Kevin Shrum  
Bedford



## Your memoirs

By John Lepper

The word "memoir" most often is associated with famous people, but it need not be so. A memoir can be written by you. Why not consider writing your memoirs as a gift to your children and to future generations? You may be thinking, "But I'm not a writer." Even if this is the case, leaving your memoirs still may be within your grasp.

A friend gave her father a gift—a portable tape recorder. Her father is now giving his daughter the gift of his memories. He has taken the recorder on walks around his farm, simply talking as he recalls events from the past.

This is not altogether different from the way we got the Bible. Sure, the words of the Bible were inspired and writers did not have tape recorders. Nevertheless, much of what we find in the Bible was first transmitted orally.

With modern tools such as tape recorders, your memories can be preserved. Consider the fact that you are a link with the past and with the future. You have access to people, places and events available to others only by way of your memory.

Begin by organizing your life into chapters. What were the marker events of your life and the life of your family? These major turning points may be related to personal tragedy, family crisis or successes. Jot some notes to help you stay on track as you tell the events.

What shall you include? Time will not allow telling everything about your past, so you will want to give this some thought.

Begin by telling about places, people and events. Make your memoirs personal by relating your feelings about these. Allow your autobiography to come alive with stories. Remember both the good times and the difficult times. Record old sayings or stories handed down to you by your parents and grandparents.

As you speak into the microphone of the memory machine, don't sound "stilted." In other words, be yourself.

One of the most cherished gifts you can give your family is the gift of your memories. Well, what are you waiting for?

John Lepper is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's family ministry department.

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

## Urge your local newspaper to cover religion better

The telephone conversation had a familiar ring: Another Kentucky Baptist calling to complain about the hostility toward Christians exhibited by one of the state's prominent daily newspapers.

In this case, an editorial cartoon in Lexington's Herald-Leader last week prompted the call. The cartoon caption says, "Mandatory 24-hour babysitting period for all legislators contemplating anti-abortion laws." The picture shows two angry-looking, wild-eyed men in a room with eight small children. One of the men is kicking a child who appears to be attacking him. The other man has a child hanging off each arm and leg, with two of them biting him. Two children are playing with matches, while a third child crawls toward them.

"I'm about used to the Herald's anti-Christian bias, but this cartoon goes over the edge," the caller proclaimed. "I can't tell you how offensive this is. It's demeaning to all people who value life and oppose abortion. It seems to be saying, 'Better to abort a child than take the time to change its diaper.'" The cartoon implies that children saved from abortions will turn out to be brats and then thugs, and lawmakers who want to curb or stop abortion are just plain nuts.

At this point, an editorial could veer off to discuss abortion, especially the merits of anti-abortion legislation and the Christian's responsibility to the children who would not be wanted by their parents. But Christians hold varying positions on abortion, and that wasn't the caller's main complaint—his newspaper's hostility toward a sincerely held religious belief.

His is a common complaint in Kentucky, especially among readers of the Herald-Leader and the Courier-Journal in Louisville. The Herald-Leader comes off mild in comparison. Complaints about its coverage are heard much less frequently than complaints about the Courier-Journal.

Lexington's paper places a greater emphasis on religion coverage than does its Louisville counterpart. The Herald-Leader employs a full-time veteran religion writer and gives him at least a modest budget to travel and gather important stories. The Courier-Journal—reputed to be the top money-maker in the Gannett newspaper chain—has downgraded its religion assignment to a part-time job with scant funds to support the task and seemingly even less interest in giving religion news prominent display. This newspaper can send sports reporters across the country or farther to cover horse races most Kentuckians would consider marginal, and yet religion writers consistently have been turned down in their requests to cover major religion stories within the state.

An important aside: Don't blame the newspapers' anti-religion bias on the religion writers themselves. Both Paul Prather of Lexington and Mark McCormick of Louisville are people of faith, solid journalists and empathetic observers of the religious lives of their communities.

More than the coverage of religion, most complaints about the papers' hostility toward religion come from readers of editorial pages. Again, the Courier-Journal comes off worse. It takes a far-left position on most social issues. That is its right, and even some Kentucky Baptists would agree with the newspaper on those issues. But the most offensive aspect of the C-J's editorials and political cartoons is the way it treats people who dis-

agree with its positions. Christians and other people of faith whose views are more conservative often are characterized as crazy zealots. The editorial writers plead for tolerance to include their perspectives but treat others with sheer bigotry.

Thankfully, Baptists and other people of faith have much better relationships with other newspapers across the state. Many of them eagerly report events occurring in the churches of Kentucky and are more than glad to carry features about the impact of religion on people's lives. One speculation about the difference between the big-city dailies and the other papers is that most of the smaller papers are owned and operated by long-time permanent residents of their communities. Rather than huge bureaucratic institutions seen as dollar factories by their outside owners, they are faithful, vital participants in the day-in, day-out lives of their communities. They watch those communities up-close and understand the role religion plays among their citizens.

If you want to effect change in your newspaper, here are a couple of suggestions.

First, take advantage of the letters to the editor. Follow the guidelines for these opinion sections and address issues that are important to people of faith in your community.

Second, ask to speak with the editorial board of your paper. Preferably, gather a group representing the diversity of faiths in your community and ask for an opportunity for your group to address common concerns with the people who write the editorials and make the important decisions about news coverage.

In both cases, remember several ideas:

■ Be courteous. Journalists are like most people. They're trying to do their jobs the best they can as they understand them. And they respond better to kindness than to wrath.

■ Do your homework. Know the statistics about the faith life of your community. Provide an accurate report of the number of people who attend religious services each week in the paper's circulation area. Be prepared to talk about what the life of faith means to those people, showing how their faith and beliefs impact the community.

■ Don't ask for the moon. You can't expect a secular newspaper to become an advocate for your religious cause. That's not its role or purpose. Rather, ask for balanced coverage. That means fairness when controversial stories arise. It also means breadth of reporting on significant events and issues in the community. It means openness to opposing ideas on the editorial pages. And it means expenditure of resources on religion news.

■ Follow up. Keep in contact with the leaders of your paper. Don't pester them; they're busy people. But maintain cordial contact, perhaps through ongoing scheduled meetings with the editorial board or editors.

Newspapers play key roles in our communities. Your efforts can help them reflect the vitality and importance of religion in your neck of Kentucky.

Marv Knox

### Faith at work

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission needs to hear from Christians who don't believe religion should be thrown out of the workplace.

The comment period on proposed religious harassment guidelines has been extended to May 15.

The proposed guidelines claim harassment includes writing, art, and verbal and physical conduct that could create "an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment."

The proposed guidelines could stimulate harassment charges against workers or employers for witnessing, displaying religious art or literature, or using phrases such as "praise the Lord."

First Amendment activists have urged the commission to remove religion from the guidelines or to provide examples showing that witnessing, displaying religious art and literature, and using religious phrases are acceptable.

They have called upon people of faith to write letters asking that the guidelines protect religion. Send letters to Tony Gallegos, Acting Chairman; EEOC; 1801 L St., NW; Washington, D.C. 20507.

Marv Knox

## Delivery may be a pain, but it's the easiest part of motherhood

"Giving birth is like shoving a grand piano through a transom," comedian Carol Burnett once said.

Not to be outdone, my mother-in-law, Margie Jarchow, taught her daughters a more personal analogy. "Giving birth," exclaimed she of three natal episodes, "is like trying to stretch your lip over your entire head." Julia, Janis and Joanna must've been biiiiig babies.

But from what I've observed on the daddy deck, giving birth is the easiest phase of motherhood.

It's about the only time mothers receive appreciation for their, um, labors. And it's definitely the only time someone administers strong drugs to alleviate the pain. Motherhood would be better if it came

equipped with mom's own anesthesiologist, always on call.

Imagine you're a mother about to attempt the art of potty training little Junior. In walks Dr. Feelgood with an epidural for the patience nerve.

"Hold on, Mrs. Hopnscotch," he coaxes, "and you won't feel a thing."

Unfortunately, the anesthesiologist moves on to the next patient as soon as the new mom moves on to recovery. From there on out, she's on her own.

For the next period of her life, she's something of an indentured servant, with a constant round of bathing, cleaning, cooking, chauffeuring, teaching, fixing, counseling and arbitrating, followed incessantly by more and more of the same. Even if dad helps, she does the most.

A politician recently proposed mandatory salaries for moms. "Pay them what they're worth," he insisted. Two thoughts: First, that guy's desperate for votes. And second,

inflation would spiral and our economy would collapse if we paid mothers what

they're worth

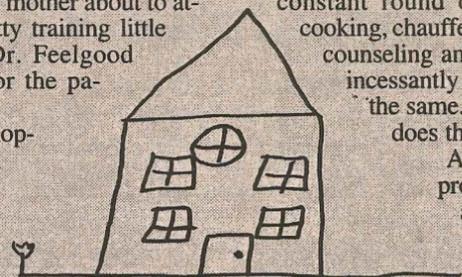
As a dad, I used to get annoyed when the TV showed a football hero on the sidelines shouting, "Hi, Mom!" "What about his daddy?" I'd holler. "Who taught him to catch and hit and crunch?"

Who knows? But if he's like most of us, his mother was there when he got sick in the middle of the night, when he fell off his bike and skinned his knee, when he couldn't understand his homework and when a girl first broke his heart.

Moms are there, start to finish. And all the gold in California, rubies in India and diamonds in Africa couldn't repay them enough.

Happy Mother's Day, moms.

Marv Knox



down home

## Court weighs free speech at protests

**The primary question facing the court is: Does setting time, place and manner restrictions on anti-abortion protesters at a Florida clinic violate their right to free speech?**

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The free speech guarantees of the First Amendment took center stage as justices of the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in an abortion protest case April 28.

The primary question facing the court in *Madsen vs. Women's Health Center* is: Does setting time, place and manner restrictions on anti-abortion protesters at a Florida clinic violate their right to free speech?

Protesters at a Melbourne, Fla., abortion clinic were forbidden by a 1992 injunction from trespassing or blocking clinic property, as well as from physically abusing patients and clinicians.

Then in April 1993, the court took further action, amending the injunction to create 36-foot and 300-foot buffer zones where speech is limited. The new injunction also forbids excessive noise, such as the use of bull-

horns, during certain time.

Mathew Staver, an Orlando, Fla., attorney representing the protesters, told the court the injunction violates free-speech rights because it is viewpoint-based. He said the amended injunction also is vague and overbroad.

Instead of using "a surgical scalpel" to solve the problem, the lower court "used a butcher knife," Staver said.

Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said injunctions are designed to prohibit a particular conduct, and under Staver's theory all injunctions are viewpoint-based.

Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg asked Staver whether his clients had sought modifications of the first injunction and whether they conceded any violations of the original injunction.

Making no concessions, Staver said his clients had not asked for mod-

ifications of the first injunction.

Talbot D'Alemberte, a Tallahassee, Fla., attorney representing the health center, said the injunction does not target all anti-abortion advocates but only those who have waged an "extensive and sustained campaign" to close the clinic by blocking access to it and creating chaos. He said these protesters represent only a part of the abortion protest movement and that they are dedicated to shutting down the clinic regardless of the law.

U.S. Solicitor General Drew Days, speaking for the center, said the question before the high court is whether or not the injunction properly addressed the particular conduct at issue in the Florida court.

Conduct, not content of view, directs this injunction, Days said.

But Associate Justice Antonin Scalia said while the injunction may target conduct, it also affects speech.

## Second grader can't show religious video

**"Let's hear those who laud the Lemon test defend this one."**  
Michael Whitehead, general counsel of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U.S. Supreme Court has refused to accept a case in which a second-grade student was prohibited from showing to public school classmates a video of her singing a Christian song.

The Supreme Court's refusal lets stand lower court decisions which ruled the student's free speech, free exercise of religion and equal protection rights were not violated.

Second-grade student Kelly DeNooyer brought the videotape to a Livonia, Mich., school in 1990 as a part of a program designed by her teacher to increase the children's self-esteem. The program, called "VIP of the Week," allowed one child each week to bring possessions from home to show the class.

The tape showed DeNooyer singing a solo at a worship service of a Baptist church she attended.

After reviewing the tape, the teacher refused to allow it to be

shown. School officials supported her decision. In their brief, school officials cited the religious message and problems arising from the use of videotape as reasons for the decision. The opposing brief said the religious content was the only reason given initially to DeNooyer's mother, Ilene, for its rejection. Other reasons were added later, the DeNooyer brief said.

During the "VIP of the Week" program, the teacher permitted a Jewish student to bring a menorah to class and explain it.

The district court ruled the school is a closed public forum and officials have a right to regulate reasonably the content of speech. The court also said there was no evidence the school had "substantially burdened any central religious belief or practice." The opinion said there was no equal protection violation because the school had a "rational basis" for distinguishing between the videotape and the speech

about the menorah.

In 1993, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth District affirmed the district court decision in *DeNooyer vs. Livonia Public Schools*.

"Let's hear those who laud the Lemon test defend this one," said Michael Whitehead, general counsel of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. "They say Lemon keeps the government neutral on religion, but a second grader can tell the difference between neutrality and hostility."

The Lemon test, which was instituted in the 1971 *Lemon vs. Kurtzman* opinion, requires a government activity to pass a three-part standard in establishment of religion cases. In order to avoid being a violation of church-state separation, Lemon says an activity must have a secular purpose, not primarily advance or inhibit religion and not foster excessive entanglement with religion.

## Texas school's religious practices barred

**When plaintiff "Jane Doe" stopped participating in the team prayers, she was "subjected to ridicule and pressure from fellow students and game spectators."**

DALLAS (ABP)—A federal judge has issued a permanent injunction preventing Duncanville, Texas, school officials from promoting or participating in prayers with students at school-related events, a legal action termed "regrettable but correct" by the associate director of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission.

U.S. District Judge Robert Maloney on March 31 signed the injunction which also bars officials of the suburban Dallas school district from allowing Bibles to be distributed to students on school property during school hours or authorizing the performance of religious songs as theme songs of the school choir.

However, Maloney specified, "Students may voluntarily pray together, provided such prayer is not done with school participation or supervision."

He also stated that the school choir could perform religious songs "if presented objectively as part of a secular program of education."

Weston Ware, citizenship associ-

ate with the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission, said the injunction barring school personnel from leading prayers was constitutionally appropriate.

"The First Amendment protects religious minorities from oppression by the religious majority by prohibiting state-sponsored religious exercises," he said.

However, he expressed concern about how school districts and the public at large might misapply the rulings on religious songs and Bibles on school property.

Maloney found that for about 20 years the girls' basketball coach at Duncanville's Reed Middle School had been leading students in reciting the Lord's Prayer in class, praying with team members in the locker room and joining the girls in prayer at center court after games.

When plaintiff "Jane Doe" stopped participating in the team prayers, she was "subjected to ridicule and pressure from fellow students and game spectators," Maloney wrote.

As a Duncanville school choir member, the teen-age plaintiff also

was required to sing "The Lord Bless You and Keep You," which was adopted by school personnel and students as the choir's theme song and sung at every performance.

Among the other religious practices of the Duncanville school district cited by the court were prayers recited and pamphlets containing religious songs distributed at athletic awards ceremonies; prayers at football games; and Gideons placing Bibles in the elementary school lobby so that fifth graders could pick them up.

In issuing the permanent injunction, Maloney ruled that the policies of the Duncanville school district failed to pass constitutional muster under the three-pronged test established in *Lemon vs. Kurtzman*.

Applying the Lemon test, he wrote that evidence showed the school district's religious practices had no legitimate secular purpose, had the primary effect of "advancing, sponsoring, promoting, endorsing and encouraging religion" and were pervasive and fostered excessive entanglement of church and state.

## Graham gives gospel during Nixon funeral

By Art Toalston  
Baptist Press

YORBA LINDA, Calif. (BP)—In death, former President Richard Nixon gave evangelist Billy Graham his largest-ever live preaching audience.

In the United States, according to the Nielsen ratings, more than 40 million people—and perhaps as many as 49 million—tuned in ABC, NBC and CBS for Nixon's April 27 funeral at which Graham officiated.

Not counted nationally and internationally are additional millions who watched the funeral—and Graham's proclamation of the gospel—on PBS, CNN, other cable outlets or overseas TV networks or listened on radio.

Graham, a longtime friend of the Nixon family, asserted Nixon now is in heaven.

Nixon's wife, Pat, "went to heaven" after her death last year, Graham said, later affirming, "I believe that Richard Nixon right now is with Pat again, because I believe that in heaven we will know each other."

With President Clinton and the four living former presidents seated directly in front of him, Graham also said: "There is hope beyond the grave, because Jesus Christ has opened the door to heaven for us by his death and resurrection. Richard Nixon had that hope, and today that can be our hope as well."

In the presence of numerous congressmen and influential world leaders, Graham spoke as if addressing one of his stadium-packed evangelistic crusades.

"John Donne once said that there is democracy about death: 'It comes equally to us all and makes us all equal when it comes,'" said Graham, who also officiated at President Lyndon Johnson's 1973 funeral.

"I think every one of us ought to be thinking about our own time to die," Graham continued, "because we too are going to die and we are going to have to face Almighty God with the life that we lived here."

"There comes a time when we have to realize that life is short, and in the end the only thing that really counts is not how others see us, but how God sees us and what the record books of heaven have to say."

"For the believer who has been to the Cross, death is no frightful leap into the dark but is an entrance into a glorious new life," Graham said.

"For the person who has turned from sin and has received Christ as Lord and Savior, death is not the end. For the believer there is hope beyond the grave. There is a future life."

## EEOC extends comment period on religious harassment

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Blitzed by criticism from religious groups, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission is studying extensive public input before issuing final guidelines on religious and other forms of harassment in the workplace.

Last October, the EEOC issued proposed guidelines for complying with the 1964 Civil Rights Act's ban against workplace discrimination and harassment based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

The guidelines say conduct is unlawful when it has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment; unreasonably interferes with work performance; or otherwise adversely affects an individual's employment opportunities.

Conduct is considered harassment when a reasonable person would find it intimidating, hostile or abusive.

While the time for public comment on the guidelines ended in November, an agency spokeswoman said EEOC still is hearing from the public and is reviewing comments, including those that arrived after the deadline.

Reaction from Baptist and other religious organizations has been split. Some, including Michael Whitehead, the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission's general counsel, say the EEOC proposal could turn workplaces into "religion-free" zones. He wants religion omitted from the guidelines.

"We are deeply concerned that the guidelines would have a chilling effect on religious freedom and expression in the workplace," Whitehead has said. "If a person shares his faith with a co-worker on lunch break, the person and his employer might be charged with religious harassment."

"Religion should be left out of the guidelines altogether. The agency and courts have enforced the existing law since 1964 without such guidelines, and they should continue to do so."

But others, including Brent Walker, Baptist Joint Committee general counsel, say such fears are overblown and that EEOC need only modify the guidelines to ensure they are not applied in ways that restrict legitimate religious activities.

In an April 5 letter to the EEOC, Walker said removing religion from the guidelines "could send a wrong signal that EEOC is less concerned about religious harassment than it is harassment in other forms."

However, to hedge against the possibility that employers might apply the guidelines in ways that limit or "chill religious speech and practice," Walker urged the EEOC to amend its proposals "to make abso-

lutely clear that they are intended to protect, not denigrate, religion and expressly disavow any intent on the part of EEOC to create a 'religion free zone' in the workplace."

Walker suggested to EEOC that the guidelines list examples of conduct that, without aggravating circumstances, would not constitute harassment. Among the examples:

- Sharing one's religious affiliation or conviction or using religious language in casual conversation.

- Inviting a colleague to attend church or Bible study.

- Discussing religious topics informally or in the context of voluntarily attended Bible studies.

- Displaying religious objects.

Public comments on the proposed guidelines should be sent to Tony Gallegos, acting chairman, EEOC, 1801 L St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20507.

**The guidelines say conduct is unlawful when it creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment, unreasonably interferes with work performance or otherwise adversely affects an individual's employment opportunities.**

## Commission takes aim at disruption of religious services

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is taking aim at widespread disruption of religious services and vandalism of religious property.

The commission, a bipartisan federal agency charged with assessing how federal laws and policies protect equal rights on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin, voted unanimously April 1 to urge Attorney General Janet Reno to step up enforcement of laws barring acts of religious bigotry.

In a letter to the attorney general, the commission expressed its "deep concern for the continuing and distressing evidence of the disruption by private individuals of religious activities and the vandalism of religious property."

The commission noted that groups across the religious spectrum have been targets. "Such actions of religious bigots should not be tolerated in a nation dedicated to religious freedom," the commission wrote Reno.

The panel, headed by Mary

Frances Berry, urged Reno to enhance enforcement of federal laws related to religious intolerance and to "publicly address the issue at a suitable time."

Disruption of religious services and vandalism targeting religious buildings also was addressed by the U.S. Senate last November when that body approved legislation designed to curb violence at abortion clinics.

The Senate approved a bill that would prohibit the use of force or physical obstruction to intentionally

injure, intimidate or interfere with a woman seeking an abortion. Before approving the measure, however, senators agreed on a voice vote to accept an amendment sponsored by Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, that would bar interference with the right of religious freedom at a place of worship and the destruction of religious property.

A similar measure approved by the House of Representatives did not contain the Hatch amendment. Differences between the House and Senate bills are yet to be resolved.

### NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Altar girls official.** Catholic girls now will be able to stand as equals with boys before the altar, following an announcement by the Vatican April 13 that women will be allowed to assist at mass. Pope John Paul II approved a decision by the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments to allow girls to light candles, prepare the altar and assist the priest with sacramental water and wine. Altar girls have been part of parish life in the United States for more than a decade.

■ **Abortion fight appeal.** The National Abortion Federation has asked major religious bodies to call for a moratorium on harassment of patients and staff at health clinics performing abortions. In a one-page statement, the federation invited "all responsible church and community leaders, independent of their varying views on abortion, to call for an immediate shift of the national dialogue about abortion back to legitimate ethical arenas, where it appropriately belongs."

■ **Missouri turns back casinos.** By a margin of less than one-tenth of 1 percent, Missouri voters turned back a previously approved measure to allow riverboat casinos in the state. The April 5 ballot was necessary after the state Supreme Court ruled that a vote taken 17 months earlier to legalize riverboat casinos was unconstitutional.

■ **Tilton loses.** Televangelist Robert Tilton's \$61 million dollar lawsuit against the ABC television network, television personality Diane Sawyer and others was dismissed by U.S. District Judge Robert Maloney March 16. Tilton filed suit after ABC's "Prime Time Live" broadcast an expose of his ministry, showing his agents depositing checks from followers while discarding their prayer requests.

■ **Abortion not required.** A woman who was fired from her job as a leasing agent because she refused to have an abortion was awarded \$84,974 by a jury in Tampa, Fla. Margaret Bonnell said her boss urged her to get an abortion, and went so far as to put a basket of pennies on her desk as an abortion fund. Her attorney, Tony Gonzales, said in closing arguments that the company didn't want a pregnant woman leasing property because "they wanted the most efficient look to lease."

■ **It's better to give.** Unchurched people often complain that churches are always asking for money. So the leaders of Frederick Christian Fellowship Church in Frederick, Md., announced that the first 125 adults to show up at a particular service would be given \$10 bills. The promotion had the desired effect: the service drew about 125 people more than usual. Only 32 of the early birds kept the money; the rest put it in the offering plate.

■ **Church can feed hungry.** A federal court suspended a district zoning board decision April 14, permitting a Washington, D.C., church to feed homeless people in its neighborhood. Western Presbyterian Church sued to retain the right to run a feeding program after the District of Columbia zoning board voted to ban the ministry when the congregation moved to a new location near the White House. Residents of the upscale neighborhood complained that the feeding ministry would attract undesirable people to their area.

■ **Sightseer lost sight.** At least one of the thousands of religious pilgrims who traveled to a Northern Kentucky farm to seek a vision wound up losing vision instead, an ophthalmologist recently reported to an eye-care group. The woman, who was not identified, suffered some loss of vision from a burned retina after staring into the sun in the hope of seeing the Virgin Mary. The pilgrimage to the farm began in January, after a former nurse announced that Mary had told her to pray at the farm on the eighth day of each month.

■ **National Day of Prayer set.** President Clinton has issued a proclamation recognizing May 5 as National Day of Prayer. Congress established the National Day of Prayer in 1952. In 1988, it was set on the first Thursday of May.

■ **Keep those cards coming.** An appeal has been issued from Richard Ross of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board for all churches participating in the "True Love Waits" sexual abstinence campaign to send in pledge cards for two massive displays planned for this summer. "If this campaign is to achieve its goal of impacting the moral conscience of this nation, we must have concrete evidence that hundreds of thousands of young people are gladly choosing abstinence until marriage," Ross said. Scores of reporters are scheduled to be on hand for the massive display of pledge cards June 14 in Orlando, Fla., and July 29 in Washington, D.C. Ross projects more than 100,000 teens and college students have signed pledge cards so far, but not all of those have been sent in for the displays.

■ **Woman awarded \$700,000.** A Denver woman was awarded more than \$700,000 in a civil suit brought against a former United Methodist minister who pressured her into a sexual relationship that began when she was 12 years old. A six-member jury awarded the money to Christa Bohrer, 23, in her suit against Daniel DeHart, who was a youth minister at First United Methodist Church of Greeley, Colo., at the time of their relationship. Bohrer said if the church "cared more about people than protecting the institution, this wouldn't have had to come to the court."

## Baptists warn 'Embraced by Light' teaches Mormonism

By David Winfrey  
SBC Home Mission Board

ATLANTA (BP)—A best-selling book by a woman claiming to have a message from Jesus is full of covert Mormon teachings and language, according to two Southern Baptist interfaith witness specialists.

"Embraced by the Light" by Betty J. Eadie has been on the New York Times best-seller list 49 weeks for hardcover non-fiction books, and recently it reached the No. 1 spot.

Eadie claims to have died for five hours following an operation in November 1973. During that time, Jesus took her to heaven and gave her a

message for the world, she says.

Although she dedicates the book to "The Light, my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ," the ideas "revealed" to her use Mormon phrases and theology, warned Tal Davis, interim director of interfaith witness with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"This thing is hard-core Mormon," Davis said. "It is purely Mormon content that is written in a style that would appeal to people who are looking for something non-threatening and non-dogmatic."

Eadie, however, never identifies herself as a Mormon in the book, said Robert McKay, associate director of

Utah Missions Inc., a Baptist-supported ministry to Mormons.

"It's very carefully sanitized to make sure there is no overt reference to the Mormon church," said McKay, a former Mormon.

"It is written to sound like it is generic Christian, and yet it is not Christian at all," he said.

At least two Christian publications, Christianity Today and Christian Research Journal, have identified Eadie as a Mormon.

Among the book's teachings that Davis said reflect Mormon theology:

■ Humans have a premortal life and assisted God in creating the world.

■ Humans can become gods.

■ God the Father and Jesus are two separate beings, denying the Trinity.

Some Baptist Book Stores sold "Embraced by the Light," but an official at the board's Nashville headquarters said store managers have been instructed to pull it from their shelves.

A spokeswoman for the book's publisher, Gold Leaf Press of Placerville, Calif., declined to discuss Eadie's religious affiliation.

Spokeswoman Michelle Friar said Eadie's religious beliefs are a "personal matter," but admitted the publisher has received numerous inquiries about whether Eadie is a Mormon.

**"This thing is hard-core Mormon. It is purely Mormon content that is written in a style that would appeal to people who are looking for something non-threatening and non-dogmatic."**

Tal Davis, HMB interfaith witness department

**In its new translation of the Gospels, the Jesus Seminar credits Jesus with only the first two words of the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father."**

## Southwestern scholars take aim at Jesus Seminar books

By Scott Collins  
Southwestern Seminary

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—The battle for the Bible is on and, this time, Baptists are not fighting themselves.

Instead, the target is a group of scholars known as the Jesus Seminar, which is attempting to rewrite the New Testament and correct what they say are centuries-old lies promoted by the church about the words of Jesus. The result of the Jesus Seminar is the book "The Five Gospels."

Jesus Seminar scholars believe Jesus never said 82 percent of what is attributed to him in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. They also say Jesus never preached about salvation through his death, never worked any miracles and never rose from the dead.

To form these opinions, members of the Jesus Seminar rely on the Gospel of Thomas, a book conservative scholars say is heretical, and a collection of sayings known as "Q," or Quelle, which means "source" in German.

The results of the Jesus Seminar,

along with other books released in the past year, have drawn the attention of the secular media. Time magazine featured the seminar's work in January, and U.S. News & World Report also reported about the group's conclusions.

In December, a Texas businessman donated \$1.5 million to fund continued research by proponents of the Jesus Seminar movement, prompting one Baptist scholar to call for people who disagree with the group's findings to stand up for their beliefs.

"It's important that people fund similar research projects for the other side of the coin," said Bruce Corley, dean of the school of theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Corley and other scholars are mounting an effort to challenge the conclusions of the Jesus Seminar.

Alan Brehm, assistant professor of New Testament at Southwestern and a former Fulbright scholar, said it is important that Bible-believing Baptists hold to the doctrine of inspiration and scriptural authority to answer questions posed by the Jesus Seminar

and other groups.

"An understanding of the origin of the Gospels, combined with the belief in their inspiration, helps answer unsettling questions and confirms the confidence we place in the Gospels as authentic accounts of Jesus' ministry and teaching," Brehm said.

Brehm and other conservative scholars question the research methods of the Jesus Seminar.

To determine which passages of Scripture should be considered authentic, the 74 scholars in the Jesus Seminar meet twice a year and vote on portions of Jesus' words, casting color-coded beads into a box to indicate which words of Christ are more authentic.

Under the system used by the Jesus Seminar, a red bead means Jesus undoubtedly said this or something like it; pink means Jesus probably said something like this; gray means Jesus did not say this, but the ideas contained in it are close to his own; black means Jesus did not say this, but the saying represents the perspective or content of a later or different tradition.

In its new translation of the Gos-

pels, the Jesus Seminar credits Jesus with only the first two words of the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father."

Earle Ellis, research professor of theology at Southwestern Seminary, said the conclusions of the seminar "have little or no historical credibility."

"It is a simplistic notion to suppose that a collection of nondescript New Testament scholars, who are by no means representative of contemporary scholarship, can determine by majority vote with colored beads the historical probability of a given saying or teaching of Jesus in the Gospels," he said.

Ellis, one of the founders of the Institute for Biblical Research, a think-tank of conservative scholars, said the Jesus Seminar's methods are based on "flawed 19th century historical models" and outdated assumptions by scholars from the 1920s.

Ellis said those scholars assumed that the Gospels were transmitted like folk traditions of a pre-literate society.

But that assumption has been proved false by the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls and by more recent literary studies, Ellis said.

## Bible best source 'rationally'

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)—So many different truth claims abound today it is difficult to discern what is genuine, said Russ Bush, vice president for academic affairs and the dean of faculty at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, as he delivered the seminary's semi-annual faculty lecture.

However, Bush said: "The biblical story is the story that best hangs together rationally and empirically."

"The biblical explanation is also the most powerful explanation of the historical facts, and beyond question, the biblical explanation carries the greatest moral force."

Few people understand the primacy of biblical truth because they hear so many alternatives to it, Bush said.

He lamented that "Americans today spell God 'CNN:' the source of all truth and knowledge!"

But Bush said even CNN has not reported the new openness to the gospel in the Islamic bloc or the overwhelming worldwide growth rate among evangelical Christians. He noted 70 percent of evangelicals to-

day live in the non-Western world.

Bush pointed to Pilate's struggles with alternatives when he questioned Jesus Christ. He heard two different versions of who Christ was and was forced to make a decision about who was telling the truth.

When people are faced with that same decision today, Bush said, they do not have to make a leap of faith. The nature of biblical truth is both reasonable and essential, he said. Bush argued life comes only from life, and therefore, a "conscious and intelligent life-source is a necessary existing condition for what now exists."

"In other words, God is the essential reality," Bush said. "The life of a human being ... is of such a character that it inherently testifies to the necessary existence of God. This makes the historical evidence for the resurrection of Jesus more compelling."

"With rational support, sufficient empirical data, explanatory power and moral relevance, all pointing to biblical theism and Christian faith, are we not justified in saying to the lost world, 'This is the truth'?"

## Erickson warns of 'easy believe-ism' in churches

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)—Secularism has crept into the modern church, encouraging the same kind of "easy believe-ism" discussed in the Epistle to the Hebrews, theologian Millard Erickson said recently at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"We are facing a danger that, in trying to reach people, we will try to make it easier for them to come to Christ," said Erickson, research professor of theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and the author of numerous theological texts.

"The gospel meets the deepest human need," Erickson said, "but in our desire to reach across the bridge to the other side where the unbelievers are, we must make certain that they come across to Christ."

Erickson warned of reducing the gospel to, "Just become a Christian and you will have everything you want and nothing will be asked of you."

The Christian faith is not simply "health, wealth and happiness," and the writer of Hebrews wanted his readers to know that, Erickson said.

"This is serious business; this is a battle; this is a race," he said, acknowledging even the original readers of Hebrews might not have realized the

travail their public confessions of Christ would bring them.

Erickson said Hebrews is a reminder that believers are in for the duration and life will not always be easy. "We are engaged in a war with forces of evil, and we must be prepared to respond to them," he said.

Reading from the 12th chapter of Hebrews, Erickson said Christians must lay aside those things which encumber. The epistle writer noted the ability of sin to entangle, said Erickson, remarking sin sticks like Velcro or "like peanut butter on the roof of your mouth."

Erickson noted just as astronauts boarding a space capsule do not carry on unnecessary items such as tennis rackets and boom boxes, believers also must be wary of things that get in the way of running the race of faith.

"There's nothing inherently evil about boom boxes or tennis rackets," he said, "but they get in the way in that situation. We must lay aside those things that don't contribute to what God has called us to."

The runner must look to the finish line, not to the spectators—they are distractions, Erickson said. Believers must look to Jesus, "who has run this course ahead of us," he said.

# New Designs for Spring



The Western Recorder has six new designs ready to put some spring into your church newsletter. And they'll still look fresh through summer, fall and winter.

These ready-made designs can be customized for your church—if you publish your newsletter on the back page of the Western Recorder. The designs are hot, but using them is so easy your church secretary won't break a sweat. We'll provide customized layout sheets, ready-to-use column headings and as much practical advice as you need. Producing an attractive church newsletter has never been easier!

And publishing with the Western Recorder is economical, too. We'll send your newsletter, along with all the news, features and practical helps found in the Recorder, to every household in your congregation for less than the cost of a postcard.

So call today to see which of our new spring designs fits you best. And if your church already publishes its newsletter with the Recorder, you're welcome to try our new designs on for size as well.

**Western Recorder**  
Practical Resources for Christian Living

(502) 244-6470

## Pakistani Christian killed outside court

LAHORE, Pakistan (BP)—A Pakistani Christian on trial for his life for allegedly blaspheming Islam was shot and killed April 5 by Muslim radicals outside the court.

Two other Christian defendants—including a 13-year-old boy—another Christian suffered gunshot wounds in the attack.

Manzoor Masih died instantly when gunmen on motorcycles opened fire on the four Christians after a hearing at the Lahore High Court. His co-defendants, Rehmat Masih and 13-year-old Salamat Masih, were injured along with a supporter, John Joseph.

Manzoor Masih's body was riddled with nine bullets, hospital officials said, and Joseph and Rehmat Masih sustained serious injuries. Young Salamat Masih was shot in the hand.

"We were on our way to see our

lawyer after the hearing when these people opened fire and Manzoor died," Salamat Masih told reporters in a Lahore hospital. "I was terrified."

News Network International said Rehmat Masih was able to identify all of the attackers for Pakistani police before going into surgery to have five bullets removed. The assailants reportedly wore no masks.

Witnesses said all the gunmen appeared to be members of a Muslim extremist group led by the clergymen who brought the court case against the three Christians.

The three Christians were arrested last May after being accused of scrawling anti-Muslim slogans on the walls of a village mosque and throwing notes insulting Islam's Prophet, Muhammad, into mosques. According to the trio's lawyer, young Masih, who is accused of writing the slogans,

is illiterate.

Under Pakistan's controversial Islamic law, all three face death if convicted of blaspheming Muhammad.

They were held without bail for five months until their case drew the attention of human rights activists. Salamat Masih was released on bail after a plea by Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

The case was moved to the provincial capital, Lahore, at the request of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, which said the three were in danger from angry Muslim extremists in their home village. Muslim groups demanding execution of the three have gathered outside the court at each hearing.

A memorial service for Manzoor Masih was planned for April 7, and was expected to be attended by Pakistani Christian leaders.

## Baptist relief workers leave Somalia again

MOGADISHU, Somalia (BP)—Southern Baptists working with relief agencies in Mogadishu, Somalia, have been forced out of the embattled city again.

The last workers evacuated in late April—the day before all flights were canceled—after being escorted to the Mogadishu airport by United Nations peacekeepers in tanks.

Several of the Southern Baptists hoped to return in early May. But the outlook, as one worker described it, is "not optimistic."

"We're anxious to resume work, but I don't see how we can have Americans riding around if (Somali warlord Mohammed Farah) Aided's troops are everywhere—and right now he pretty much has the city under his control," the worker added.

When Aided and other clan leaders signed a peace treaty in March, he publicly promised there would be no clan fighting among Somalis after U.N. troops pulled out.

But in late April two clans got into a fight over a loudspeaker. When one clan shot out the speaker after another clan refused to lower the volume, fighting spread throughout Mogadishu. Several U.N. troops from Nepal were killed and other troops were injured.

Relief programs funded by the Southern Baptists continue to aid Somalis in locations outside Mogadishu.

## WORLD VIEW

■ **Zhirinovsky opposes religious freedom.** Russian nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky has pledged to stop all western religious organizations from operating in Russia if he is made that nation's leader. "We will stop all western Christians, eastern religions (and) the Muslims," he said in a recent interview on International Russian Radio/TV in Finland. "We don't need religious cosmopolitanism. We will in every way limit religious activity that is foreign to us."

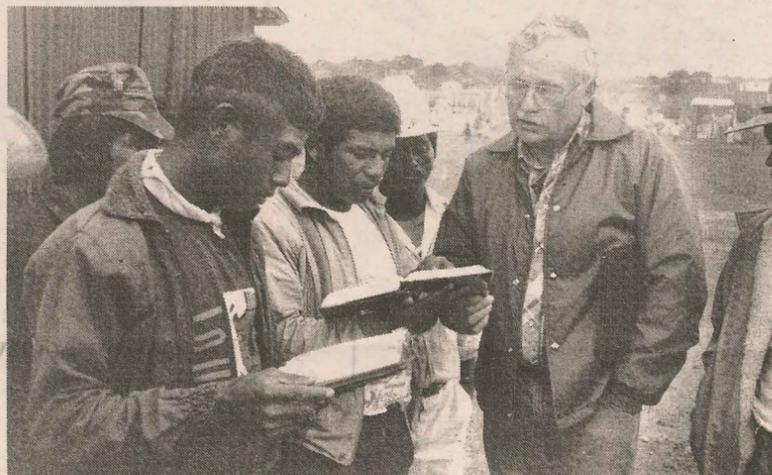
■ **MasterLife in Russia.** Four Southern Baptists from Texas and Alabama recently helped lead the first MasterLife discipleship workshops in the former Soviet Union. The international Baptist team assembled by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board trained about 80 pastors and denominational leaders from the Ukraine and Russia. The Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's MasterLife literature was translated into Russian under the supervision of a missionary based in Germany.

■ **Missionary numbers down.** For the first time in American missions history, the number of career missionaries is dropping, according to Missions Advanced Research and Communications Center. In 1988, various religious groups based in the United States were supporting more than 50,000 missionaries overseas. By 1992, the number had dropped to 41,000.

■ **Bibles in Iraq.** Last December, Iraqi authorities in Baghdad granted official permission for limited publishing of Christian literature in Iraq. Since then, more than 5,000 Arab Bibles and Christian children's books have been printed. This means Iraq is less dependent on imported Scriptures. Church officials estimate that since the Gulf War, 500,000 Bibles, New Testaments and Scripture portions have been distributed in Iraq.

■ **State church declared.** The Orthodox Church in Romania has declared itself the national church. Even though the declaration has no legal status, local authorities are treating the Orthodox Church as the national church, said Josef Tson, president of the Romanian Mission Society.

■ **Bible in more languages.** By the end of 1993, at least one book of the Bible had been translated into 2,062 languages, according to the United Bible Societies. The complete New Testament is available in 799 languages, and the complete Bible is available in 337 languages. It is estimated there are as many as 6,000 languages spoken throughout the world.



Q & A Indian refugees ask Southern Baptist representative Charles Collins (right) questions about the Bible at a relief center in Las Margaritas, in the Mexican state of Chiapas. These men are among the thousands of Chiapas residents who have fled their homes after an Indian guerilla uprising in January. Baptists are providing food for the refugees, along with Bible studies. At least three new churches are likely to form out of this ministry. (BP photo by Lee Baggett)

## Rwandan leader pleads for prayer & appeals

WASHINGTON (BP)—"Please ask people to pray, but also ask Baptists to protest to the Belgian government their help for the rebels in Rwanda."

This is the desperate cry of Eleazar Zihembere, general secretary of the Baptist Convention of Rwanda and regional secretary for Africa of the Baptist World Alliance.

Speaking to the Baptist World Alliance by phone from a neighboring country where he and his four children have taken refuge, Zihembere said he believes the Belgian government can appeal to the rebels to stop the killing.

"This is tribalism at its worst," he

said, citing a mind-set of "If you are not of our tribe you are the enemy."

"Those who are killing each other today were sisters and brothers yesterday," he said.

Zihembere said at the time the latest fighting erupted, he and a number of pastors were meeting in Butare. He believes protection by the Rwandan military is the only reason why they are still alive. Because of his friendship with the country's late president, Juvenal Habyarimana, Zihembere considered

himself a likely target for attack.

Before he fled to a neighboring country, Zihembere said he saw terrible massacres. "It was a blood bath. I saw people being slaughtered and thrown into the river when we finally crossed the border."

Zihembere said many Baptist pastors and some church members already have died, especially in southern Rwanda. "I have a list in my hand here of many leaders who have died," he said.



Eleazar Zihembere

## Rwanda missionaries eye Burundi carefully

NAIROBI, Kenya (BP)—The fabled relationship between the frying pan and fire may prove true for Southern Baptist missionaries to Rwanda.

Four of the missionaries who evacuated bloody Rwanda April 9 hope to fly to neighboring Burundi in early May "to survey areas we might work with Rwandan refugees."

But their missionary colleagues in Burundi are spending their time at a mission guest house in Bujumbura,

the capital, with other foreigners. They're staying off the streets and preparing to evacuate if necessary on the advice of the American Embassy.

Gangs broke into the compound where the Baptist Union of Burundi has its offices and looted them.

In late April, heavy fighting broke out in Burundi between the Tutsi-dominated army and the Hutu-majority population. The Burundi government announced April 26 it had sur-

vived a coup attempt, but foreigners still were being advised to stay put.

That means no Burundi missionaries are out in the rural border areas where Rwandan refugees fleeing the slaughter in their nation are most likely to cross.

Meanwhile, missionary Rob Moor, who already was working in relief projects with Burundi refugees in Tanzania, has reported Rwandan refugees are showing up there too.

## Forum offers pros & cons of assisted suicide debate

DeLAND, Fla. (ABP)—Assisted suicide is the last good thing a Christian can do for a terminally ill person, says ethicist Daniel Maguire. But physician Mark Siegler says assisted suicide represents the "privatization of killing" and threatens the moral integrity of the medical profession.

Both points of view—and others—were aired April 6 during a public dialogue on "The Ethics of Dying." The forum, which attracted about 100 health-care professionals, educators and others, was sponsored by Stetson University, a Baptist college in DeLand, Fla.

Siegler, director of the Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago's medical school, says patients who want to die should not be allowed to seek help from doctors or others. "I think it would be very dangerous for society," he said.

Siegler cited three reasons for opposing the legalization of assisted suicide:

■ It is a violation of standard legal practice and patient-doctor trust. "The patient must be able to trust the doctor and the hospital and know that the syringe carries ease for pain and not the final solution," he said.

Physicians should express their compassion by giving patients the highest quality of life possible and allowing for "a peaceful, appropriate death."

■ Assisted suicide will open the door for coerced euthanasia and discrimination.

"A political system that fosters killing of a patient with consent can also foster killing a patient without consent," he said. "In a society where discrimination is common, such as ours, legalization creates a tool for discrimination against groups such as those with AIDS, the handicapped, the old."

■ Legalization of assisted suicide is not necessary when doctors offer good pain treatment, when family members are involved in decisions, and when patients are permitted to refuse life-support measures that merely delay death.

Siegler stressed the importance of putting patients in control of medical decisions. Doctors must be more compassionate in administering terminal care, he said, pointing to hospice care as a good example. "Our lives and our dying must be in the hands of reasonable people," he said.

"But I draw the line at putting power in the hands of anybody to deliberately assist people to die or to kill them directly," Siegler concluded, citing a litany of possible abuses.

But Maguire, professor of ethics at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis., said fear of abuse should not end the debate.

"The fact that euthanasia can be abused doesn't take away from its ability to be useful," he said. Euthanasia is a good use of human freedom when "properly recognized as dangerous," he said.

Assisted suicide has a biblical origin, said Maguire, a Roman Catholic whose early writings on euthanasia

raised eyebrows at the Vatican.

"As Christians, we have learned that if something is wrong we should try to fix it," he said. "... When dying is the last remaining good, do we say we are no longer good stewards but passive? God gave us the privilege to decide what is good and to go forth and to meet it, especially when the best life offers is death."

Siegler and Maguire were joined on the dialogue panel by Derek Humphrey of Oregon, a pro-euthanasia activist and founder of the Hemlock Society.

Humphrey agreed the right to die should not fall victim to fear of abuse.

"We will never have a perfect society," he said. "Must we wait for a perfect America before death with dignity can come for all?"

The terminally ill "should have the right to decide to go in the cradle of their family, surrounded by friends," Humphrey said.

Some terminal patients are not capable of committing suicide without help, Humphrey said. "We should not require the doctor to break the law when the law is out of date and should be changed."

About two-thirds of Americans support assisted suicide, Humphrey said, yet the medical profession controls the lethal drugs that allow it. Eventually, he predicted, the medical profession will accept assisted suicide, as it has the concept of living wills.

Assisted suicide should be appropriately restricted, Humphrey said, and only apply to the terminally ill. A law proposed in Oregon, he said, would allow a doctor to prescribe a suicide drug at the patient's request if the patient is terminal and competent, two doctors concur, a waiting period is enforced and the family is informed.

Such standards are lacking in the much-publicized suicide practice of Jack Kevorkian, Humphrey said.

The public forum was sponsored by Stetson's Institute for Christian Ethics.

The Institute's director, Dixon Sutherland, said the issues of euthanasia and assisted suicide are "important and daunting challenges" that will dominate ethical discussions in the next century.

But the debate did not include a religious perspective when it first began in the 1950s, he said.

Medical professionals "saw themselves as being objective, and religion represented emotionalism and prejudice," Sutherland said. "They feared religion would get in the way."

Yet religion has been a pivotal factor in almost every landmark case to date, Sutherland noted. "It is a factor that can't be ignored because of the role it plays in decision making."

Maguire agreed religious voices are essential in the right-to-die debate.

"How we die has changed greatly," he said. Advances in medicine mean people live longer and death is experienced differently.

Public discussion is a step in the right direction, he said.

## Be a Part of Helping Patients and Families in Need Through Baptist Healthcare Foundation's Mother's Day Sunday School Charity Fund

An important Kentucky Baptist tradition is the Mother's Day Sunday School Charity Fund, received each Mother's Day in Baptist churches across Kentucky.

This offering helps provide assistance to patients and families experiencing financial crisis because of medical expenses.

You can make a difference in the lives of patients and families experiencing some of life's greatest challenges.

Support the Mother's Day Sunday School Charity Fund through your local Baptist church or complete the form below and mail it to Baptist Healthcare Foundation, 4007 Kresge Way, Louisville, KY 40207.

You may consider making a gift in honor of (or in memory) of your mother.



- Yes, I want to help needy patients and families served by Baptist hospitals. Enclosed is my gift to support this year's Mother's Day Sunday School Charity Fund:
- \$100     \$50     \$25     other \_\_\_\_\_

This gift is in honor (or in memory) of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (please include area code) \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank You.**

**Mother's Day Sunday School Charity Fund Offering  
May 8, 1994**

**BAPTIST HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION**

4007 Kresge Way, Louisville, KY 40207

**(502) 896-5003**

# PEOPLE

## BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ **Anderson named trustee chair.** James Anderson, a physician from Lexington, has been named chairman of the board of trustees for Georgetown College.

■ **Leadership award.** Georgetown College is one of 13 private colleges and universities in the United States to receive a "Planning for Leadership" grant from the Consortium for the Advancement of Private Higher Education. Each school receives a \$10,000 award to support efforts of its president to pursue new directions and strategies for significant institutional improvement. Georgetown plans to use the grant to plan for institution-wide curriculum and instructional reform in response to the Kentucky Education Reform Act.

■ **Council leadership elected.** The Church Relations Council of Campbellsville College has elected executive officers for 1994-95. Chairman is Jimmy Rowland, pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church in Louisville. Vice chair is Farrell Isenberg, pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Owensboro. Secretary is Grace Bristow, administrative secretary of Buena Vista Baptist Church in Owensboro. Other Kentuckians on the executive board include Dan Hunt, pastor of Elkhorn Baptist Church in Campbellsville; Don Zuberer, pastor of Valley Station Baptist Church in Louisville; Ray Hayes, bivocational pastor from Finchville; Ken Forman, director of missions for Franklin Baptist Association; and Bob Donovan, pastor of First Baptist Church of Olive Hill.

■ **Baseball field dedicated.** Georgetown College dedicated its new baseball field April 30 in honor of Robert Wilson, a 1962 alumnus. Wilson is vice chairman of Johnson & Johnson, based in New Brunswick, N.J. He is a former baseball player at Georgetown and a member of the Georgetown College Foundation Board.

■ **Newberry honored.** Ilse Newberry was honored April 15 for nearly 30 years of teaching at Georgetown College. Newberry, professor of German, is retiring this year. She began teaching at Georgetown in 1965.

■ **First master's class.** Campbellsville College will graduate its first master of arts class during commencement ceremonies May 7. Among the 172 students receiving diplomas will be 20 receiving the school's first master of arts in education degrees. Gary Cox, executive director of the Kentucky Council on Higher Education, will be the speaker for the 3 p.m. service at Powell Athletic Center.

■ **Church burns.** Fire gutted parts of the Locust Grove Baptist Church building in southeast Kentucky only hours after worshippers left the morning service April 24. The fire destroyed most of the sanctuary—as well as Sunday school rooms and the nursery—at the Heidrick church, Pastor Ellis Payne said. No one was at the church when the fire broke out. Although a probable cause has not yet been determined, faulty wiring in a Sunday school room was suspected.

## Resolution praises Mid-Continent

CLINTON—West Kentucky Baptist Association passed a resolution April 12 encouraging friendly cooperation between the Kentucky Baptist Convention and Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College.

The school, located in Mayfield, is owned and operated by eight Baptist associations in West Kentucky, along with Baptists in two other states.

Currently, the KBC Executive Board is studying a request to "officially recognize" Mid-Continent.

West Kentucky Association's resolution praises this study and states messengers' desire for "only the

friendliest cooperation with our fellow Baptists across the commonwealth of Kentucky."

The resolution says "it has been historically understood that work developed and controlled by associations of Southern Baptist churches is Southern Baptist work."

Further, it says the majority of pastors in West Kentucky Association have received some of their training at Mid-Continent, making it "evident that the cooperation of our churches in the work of the Kentucky Baptist Convention has been greatly strengthened."



**OFF TO CHINA** Four representatives of Cumberland College will travel to China this summer. This is the fourth year of the Baptist school's China study program. Shown at a recent preparation meeting are Janie Carter, Missie Irvin, Leslie Boozer, Kristina McKim, Jonathan Ramey, Ann Hoffelder and Donna Ridenour. Boozer, Ramey, McKim and Hoffelder will travel to China this summer. Carter, Irvin and Ridenour are previous participants who have been briefing this year's group. Boozer and McKim are students who will spend five weeks at Beijing University learning Chinese language and culture. Ramey, assistant professor of mathematics, will supervise the summer learning experience. Hoffelder, chemistry department chairwoman, will teach oral English to Chinese teachers of English at Yantai University.

## Mother's Day Sunday School Charity Fund

*Our contributing writer this month is William Cubine, seminary pastor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a member of the board of directors of Baptist Healthcare System.*

Have you ever asked any of the following questions?

1. "Why give each year to the Mother's Day Sunday School Charity Fund?"
2. "Why don't the welfare agencies of our government help these people?"
3. "Why don't the Baptist hospitals help with charity care?"

Answers to the above questions:

1. The Mother's Day Sunday School Charity Fund gives every church and its members the opportunity to carry out Matt. 25:31-45. Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you, as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." When our resources are put together we can do much.

2. Many times individuals who have fallen on hard times need medical assistance and they do not meet the immediate qualifications that these agencies require. The Mother's Day Sunday School Charity Fund is a source of financial help to those who fall through the cracks when other assistance

cannot be found.

3. The Baptist Healthcare System, composed of five hospitals, provided more than \$8.3 million in charity care last year. Even with this generous amount provided by the hospitals, there still remain many needs that cannot be fully met. This special charity fund adds further assistance each year in the spirit of Christian love.

### BAPTIST HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

I have served Kentucky Baptist churches for 37 years and this fund was a very important resource when unusual needs arose that an individual church could not meet and other sources of assistance were not available.

I am proud to be a Kentucky Baptist and a director of Baptist Healthcare System, both of which work together in providing excellent medical care in the name of Jesus Christ.

Honor your parents, spouse, children, church, pastor, Sunday school teacher or anyone else that you love by giving a gift of love to the Mother's Day Sunday School Charity Fund. God will bless you for it.

Any questions or comments concerning this article, Baptist Healthcare System or Baptist Healthcare Foundation should be directed to Charles W. Cox Jr., president of Baptist Healthcare Foundation, 4007 Kresge Way, Louisville, Ky. 40207 (502) 896-5003.

# Come Join The Fun!



## Saturday, May 14

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children is celebrating 125 years of caring for children and you're invited to the birthday party! Bring a van load! Bring a bus load! There'll be plenty of food, fellowship, and live entertainment for the entire church family!

## Big Sandy Area Event

held on the grounds of  
First Baptist Church  
Fourth Street & Scott Avenue  
Pikeville, Kentucky  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



For more information:  
Rev. Drew Martin, FBC, Paintsville  
(606) 789-3168  
Rev. Bob Norman, Grace Baptist, Pikeville  
(606) 437-7262

# PEOPLE

## Though shot down in Somalia, pilot's faith kept him up

Continued from page 1

"Dale ... broke his wrist trying to get out," Alliman explained. "He pulled me from the helicopter and sat me down where I could hide. He went back for the crew, but it was too late."

Just then, flames engulfed the helicopter, he said. "I survived death by about 20 seconds."

While the Black Hawk was going up in smoke, Alliman and Shrader hid in the nearby bushes. They sustained massive second and third degree burns and numerous broken bones.

The next half-hour felt like an eternity as they alternately tried to hide and defend themselves from the Somali fighters, Alliman said.

"Dale kept saying, 'Perry, John 3:16. Perry, John 3:16,'" Alliman recalled. "He was comforting me, I was comforting him. We were just comforting each other the best we could."

Even though he regularly has shared his faith with others, Alliman said, one thought he couldn't get rid of during those moments of crisis was wishing he had done more to help lead people to make decisions for Jesus Christ.

The pilots' rescuer came in the form of a mysterious man standing in the alley.

"He said 'American boys, come,'" Alliman explained. The man directed them toward one end of the road, to a lightly armored tank of the United

Arab Emirates—part of the United Nations forces.

Alliman and Shrader ran down the alley, attempting to avoid continued gunfire.

Once safe inside the tank, "We both lay on the floor of the tank yelling 'Praise God,'" he said.

"In my opinion, the man in the alley was an angel," Alliman continued. And even if he were a Somali, he risked his life by intervening on the Americans' behalf, he said.

However, getting out alive was only half the battle, Alliman explained. After he was transported to a U.S. Army burn center in San Antonio, Texas, physicians worked hard to stabilize him, clean out the wounds and perform necessary skin grafts.

"My left hand was grafted in six places," he said. "I was in terrific pain."

For more than six weeks, including 15 days restricted to laying on his back, Alliman fought for recovery.

At times, he said, he has wondered why this had to happen; "but I try to leave that alone."

Instead, the pilot has chosen a positive outlook: "A whole lot of good things have come out of this. ... The situation really brought us closer to the Lord," he said, noting he had to rely on God's presence when he otherwise would have felt alone.

Even while in the hospital, he and Shrader had opportunities to share their faith in Christ, Alliman said.

And since he returned home last November, he has spoken to several church and civic groups about his experience.

Meanwhile, Alliman is thankful that life is beginning to return to normal. Most of the burns are healing well; he's back home with his family; he's flying again; and he continues to live out his faith at work and through Henderson Memorial Baptist. He is a new deacon at the church and teaches Royal Ambassadors, a missions group for boys.

Shrader, too, has recovered and returned to regular duty, Alliman reported.

"I'm sure God's not done with me yet, because he's pulled me through all that," Alliman said. "I can look forward and backward to see how God is working in my life."

**Paying too much for Health Insurance?**

*This scriptural concept of burden sharing is the alternative to expensive insurance.*

- People helping people.
- Pay \$300 + 20% of first \$5,000.
- \$122 per mo. average family burden share.
- Assistance with maternity expenses.

**All Saints**  
MEDICAL REBATE PLAN

Call All Saints  
1-800-259-0095

**Steeple & Baptistries**

From the world's largest manufacturer of fiberglass church products

Call or write for our free catalog

1-800-527-1459  
P.O. Box 1340  
Henderson, TX 75653-1340

**FIBERGLASS SPECIALTIES INCORPORATED**

- Steeples
- Baptistries
- Lighted Wall Crosses
- Krinkglas® Windows
- Baptistry Heaters

### Wehmer covers religion on ABC

DALLAS (EP)—Reporters in search of a good story can be found in war zones, crime scenes and courtrooms. But on any given Sunday, ABC reporter Peggy Wehmer can be found where many reporters fear to tread—church.

Wehmer joined ABC's "World News Tonight" in January as a religion beat reporter, at the invitation of anchor Peter Jennings.

"I would say I'm a Christian whose faith means a lot to me," she said, explaining that doesn't constitute a handicap in objectivity.

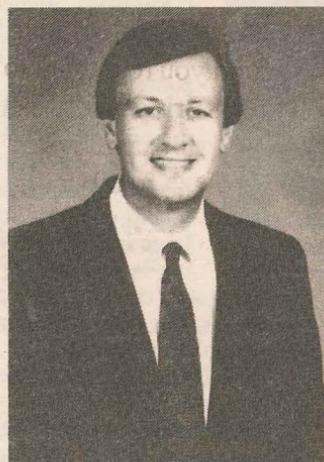
Although television's coverage of religion in the past has concentrated on excesses and abuses, such as the televangelist scandals, Wehmer says that's not the kind of story she was hired by ABC to do.

"They're not stories about how bad religion is or the aberrant aspects of religion.

"We're trying to capture the heart of spiritual life in this country."

## Come join us at Gateway Baptist Church

...a good place to build lives



**Dr. Glenn Mollette**  
Pastor

Only ten minutes from Kentucky and minutes away by the expressway.

Gateway Baptist Church  
7564 SR 66  
Newburgh, Indiana  
(812) 853-378



### Church Buses New & Used

Call Henry Headden at Metrotrans Corporation  
(800) 370-6180  
(615) 371-6180



*"We invite you to hear one of the most sought-after evangelists in America."*

Evangelist Clyde Chiles of the Turning Point Evangelistic Association in St. Louis, Mo., will be at Cloverleaf Baptist Church May 8-11.

Sunday services: 10:45 a.m. and 7 p.m.  
Monday - Wednesday: 7 p.m.

4401 Manslick Road, Louisville, Kentucky  
(502) 367-0218

# PEOPLE

## KENTUCKY KERNELS

Americans often hear reference to people living "below the poverty line."

This designation is set annually by the government, based on a variety of factors. For example, recently released figures for 1992 place the poverty threshold for a family of one at \$7,143 in annual income. For a family of two people, the threshold is \$9,137; for a family of three it is \$11,186; for a family of four, \$14,335; for a family of five, \$16,592; for a family of six, \$19,137.

Source: Kentucky State Data Center

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **ASHLAND**—Francis O'Donnell resigned as minister to youth and children at First Church to become minister to students and families at McCarthy Church in Saint Joseph, Mo.

■ **BROWDER**—Hayward Casey, pastor of Browder Missionary Church, is retiring May 8 and is available for supply preaching, revivals, Bible studies and revival music. He may be reached at (502) 526-3218 or (502) 476-2623.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Corinth Church called Tim Maggard as pastor.

■ **ELKTON**—Elkton Church held revival services April 10-13 with evangelist Paul Crews of Wickliffe as speaker. Several decisions were made.

■ **FINCHVILLE**—Finchville Church called Kenneth Murphy as pastor. He previously was pastor at Glasgow Church. He will begin his new ministry June 1.

■ **GREENSBURG**—Brush Creek Church called Dannie Nelson as pastor April 10.

Liberty Church called Darrell Hensley as pastor.

■ **INDEPENDENCE**—Colburn Hooten will celebrate his 30th anniversary as pastor of Hickory Grove Church May 22. Under his leadership, the church has grown from 480 members to 1,775. Dinner will follow the special morning service.

■ **LEWISPORT**—Patricia Settle re-

signed as day care director at Lewisport Church to become week-day education director at Yates Church in Durham, N.C.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Highland Church called Edgardo Mansilla as Hispanic pastor. The church recently began a Hispanic ministry, which includes integrated worship and a Spanish-language Sunday school class, along with other week-day ministries.

West Broadway Church called John Bennett as minister of educa-

**SEEKING:** Summer youth worker, First Baptist Church, 406 South Division St., Carterville, IL 62918. Dates needed: June 1-Aug. 31, 1994. Room and board available, salary negotiable. Call (618) 985-3040.

**NEEDED:** Dietary assistant and certified medical technician needed for personal care home. Good wages, benefits and flexible scheduling. Contact Parr's Rest, Inc. (502) 451-5440.

**SEEKING:** Full-time organist position. Send resumé to Cloverleaf Baptist Church, 4401 Manslick Rd., or call (502) 367-0218.

**SEEKING:** North Fork Baptist Church is seeking a part-time minister of youth and music. Send resumé to: Susan Sparrow, NFBC Search Committee Chairman, 3264 Jones Ln., Frankfort, KY 40601.

tion. He previously served on staff at Third Avenue Church.

Lyndon Church called Howard Williams Jr. as minister of administration/education.

■ **MIDWAY**—Forks of Elkhorn Church ordained David Menser to the gospel ministry March 6. Also, the church will celebrate its 206th anniversary June 5, with special services.

■ **PADUCAH**—East Church called Michael Morrow, of Brownsville, Miss., as pastor.

■ **PINEVILLE**—R.O. Fitts, who served several churches in Kentucky and on the faculty at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, has returned to Clear Creek as guest professor.

■ **PLEASANT VIEW**—Pleasant View Church called David and Paula Bird as ministers to children March 27.

■ **SOMERSET**—Mount Pleasant Church ordained Johnny Bullock and Lester Bumgardner as deacons.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—Matthew Sturtevant, of Frankfort, has been awarded the Cumberland College Pastor Recommendation Scholarship. Students selected receive a full-tuition scholarship, renewable up to four years, provided the student maintains minimum qualifications.

Ryans Creek Church will celebrate its 110th anniversary June 26. Former pastors and members are invited.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**NEEDED:** Organist for Sunday morning and evening, and Wednesday evening. Kenwood Baptist, (502) 367-1197.

**FOR RENT:** 2BR-2BA Orlando condo. Available week of SBC, June 12-19. Disney one mile. \$1,050. (606) 654-2726.

**WANTED:** Day care director, salary negotiable and based on experience. Send resumé to Personnel Committee, Lynn Acres Baptist Church, 5007 Southside Dr., Louisville, KY 40214.

**SEEKING:** Cloverport Baptist Church is seeking a part-time minister of youth and music (25-30 hrs/wk). Apartment and utilities provided. Send resumé to Cloverport Baptist Church, Cloverport, KY 40111. Phone (502) 788-6650.

**WANTED:** Part-time minister of music. Resumé to: Parrish Avenue Baptist Church, 2330 W. Parrish Ave., Owensboro, KY 42301. (502) 683-2156.

**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.

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

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

## Our friends write a column

There are four entities which keep the work going at Oneida.

Our most important ingredient—the reason for our existence—is our students. The next significant factor is our staff and faculty. We also are reminded in many ways every day that the Lord is our most important and dependable guide, ally and resource.

Then we think about the myriad friends whom the Lord leads to support Oneida. By their prayers, their interest and their gracious and generous gifts, they keep us going.

On any day we receive ample words of support to fill this column. I have chosen a few to share with you. These friends are writing the column today.

From far western Kentucky: "Enclosed is a small gift from our church family which we would like to give in memory of Barkley Moore, in recognition of the significant contribution he made to Christian education and the cause of Christ. We know that wherever it is used at Oneida, it will be put to good use.

"Thank you for the good work you are doing there. Thank you for continuing to be faithful stewards of the lives which the Lord entrusts to your care. We are proud of all that Oneida is. Our prayers are with you during this challenging time of transition. We trust that this is going to be a time of real spiritual growth for the administration, faculty, staff and student body as the Lord leads you to deeper levels of dependency upon him. Certainly great blessings and victories loom large on the horizon."

From central Kentucky: "The death of Dr. Moore was truly distressing news. I regret that I never got to Oneida to meet him but nevertheless

felt I knew him. In his hands you always believed Oneida was where the young, even today, could find a firm foundation upon which to build their lives. I do hope one of these days I will visit Oneida.

Thank you for your letter. My prayers will be with you, faculty and staff as you go about daily trying to fill the shoes left empty." From an unidentified friend: "You helped a niece of mine when she needed a pair of blue jeans to stay warm. For that we are extremely grateful.

Please accept these clothes for others in need."

From another state: "My father, Dr. Eri J. Shumaker, was president of Oneida when Barkley Moore entered the first grade. My mother wrote a beautiful poem about Oneida in which she spoke of the children happily playing. Barkley would have been one of them.

"In the late 80s he planned a tribute to my parents at graduation time. It was one of the most memorable times of my life to drive down to Oneida and

be the guest of the school.

"I am enclosing memorial gifts to both Dr. Moore and my parents. The contribution is small but it comes from a grateful heart." (Portraits of Dr. and Mrs. Shumaker and the original poem, "Little School in the Mountains," are in the president's office today.)

From another country and a family whom Moore assisted many years ago: "I ran into Dr. Colvin at Baptist East Hospital. Just want to say 'hello.' Keep up the good work. I'm almost finished with medical school—two more weeks! Plan to visit shortly. God bless."

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

### THIS IS ONEIDA



A.B. Colvin

## Her will has been done

Since 1952, James Royalty has been pastor of Red Hill Church, Radcliff. Until her death in December 1991, his mother, Cordie E. Royalty, sat in the middle section, third row from the front on the end. Her estate was recently settled and her daughter, Ruth Bowen, wrote us: "Following her death, the first will was found after the estate was probated. Everything was the same as the first will except a bequest for Clear Creek. I personally would like for mama's desire to be fulfilled, so I am doing it myself.

"My mother lacked three days of living to be 103 years of age. She taught adult women in Sunday school until she was well past 98, then occasionally. She gave Bibles to many people, witnessed and was a dedicated Christian and soul-winner."

This is a tribute to a faithful Christian mother, but also to children who respect their mother's long-time interest and desire to continue encouraging the work that meant much to their parents. Richard Carnes of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation recently commented that institutions such as ours face critical days because the generation that has known us is dying, and many of the younger generation do not share the commitments nor are

willing to share the resources of their parents.

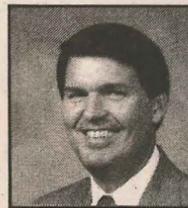
Clear Creek traditionally has been supported by persons age 55 and older. Many of these individuals make smaller gifts on a regular basis. With the passing of these dedicated supporters, however, we must find a way to replace these contributions. One way is through a will such as Cordie Royalty's.

While raising six children, Royalty completed her education at Georgetown, Berea and the University of Kentucky. She attended some classes at the WMU Training School in Louisville to help her husband in pastoral ministry. Despite the demands of caring for her large family and pursuing her education, "she always got to church," her daughter recalls. She taught vacation Bible school until age 90.

Ruth Bowen concluded her letter with this affirmation: "It is my opinion your school fulfills a unique service and is a blessed institution." Families like hers and her parents help us fulfill our unique service and enable us to be a blessing.

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

### CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

# PEOPLE

## 40-year missionary helped Baptists feed the hungry

By Marty Croll  
SBC Foreign Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—In 1982, as masses of Cambodians driven by Vietnamese occupation forces spilled into Thailand, thousands filtered into refugee camps where Southern Baptist teams worked.

In some camps, parents who had seen years of war destroy their fields were so desperately trying to feed themselves that their children were starving. Relief workers pulled the young ones away, housed them separately and gave them their own food.

Under one tent, a little boy stood out in the crowd of about 150 children. He was 6 but looked 3, his ribs shrink-wrapped in a thin layer of skin.

As coordinator of Southern Baptist hunger and relief efforts overseas, John Cheyne was touring the area. He saw the boy, moved in closer, pulled his camera to his eye. Then he stooped over and focused. As the boy stared up at him, Cheyne clicked the picture.

Cheyne saw the boy suck in a gasp of air, then fall over dead.

"That always stuck with me," Cheyne said recently, still visibly moved. "Just to see that boy die ... right there in front of me before I could help. I was there so I could tell other people the story, but he died before I could do anything."

Cheyne, 65, retired in March after 40 years with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. The Chicago native, who attended high school and college in Alabama, spent the first 24 of those years as a missionary preacher and administrator in Africa with his wife, Marie. The last 16 he led the board's world hunger and relief program—just out of the starting blocks

when he took it over in 1978.

The Thailand refugee camp tour was only one of many survey trips he made into needy areas—areas where he helped missionaries find ways to relieve suffering as part of their Christian witness. Multifaceted projects he helped plan have brought fresh water, food, healing, sanitation and salvation to people worldwide.

Recently he has played a key role in projects aiding Kazakhstan, Romania and other parts of the former Soviet bloc since it splintered in the late 1980s.

During his tenure, Southern Baptist giving to human needs grew from less than \$2 million in 1978 to peak at nearly \$12 million in 1985—the year the world responded to the Ethiopian famine. Giving in recent years has averaged between \$7 million and \$8 million.

Cheyne credits timing for the growth. He came to the human needs job, he maintained, just as television became especially adept at transmitting starving faces to Americans' supper tables—and as Southern Baptists were beginning to respond.

"They put pressure on us," he said of the thousands of local church members who sent money. "When your offering doubles three years in a row, it forces you to do as good a job as you can to effectively and efficiently use the funds."

Early on, Cheyne rejected the idea of using hunger relief only as a means to an end: gaining Christian converts. Instead, he championed "holistic ministry"—addressing the evolving needs of people, helping them raise their physical quality of life and meeting emotional and spiritual needs as they surface.

He advocated "transformation" as

a way to change lives rather than a more humanistic approach. Humanism holds out sin-racked man as the answer to his own problems, he said. But it fails to deal with a person's need to become spiritually whole and transform society.

Under Cheyne's direction, human needs projects became more than a way to get someone to sit still long enough to listen to the gospel story. Rather, they became another way to express simple truths of the gospel like "love your neighbor" and "do unto others ..."

Still, the projects he helped missionaries plan were effective in leading people to Jesus Christ and starting churches.

Now, nearly three decades after he and a team of missionaries started toying with the idea as a way to reach a remote Ethiopian Orthodox area in 1966, "holism" in human needs ministry has become commonplace overseas.

Most Southern Baptist missionaries know no other way. And the holistic approach helped lay the foundation for Cooperative Services International, the Southern Baptist aid agency now operating in places where missionaries usually cannot go, but where educators and other highly skilled experts are welcome.

On one trip, Cheyne was haunted by a question asked upon leaving one of Brazil's urban "misery villages." Thousands of rural villagers had migrated there and set up tar-paper shacks along a ditch draining waste from a nearby factory. He had met an illiterate, 25-year-old mother in the village with no husband and no marketable skills. The young woman had descended to the edge of total despair.

"I wondered, 'When she looks up



at the night sky or when she tries to pray, how—and who—does she imagine God to be?" Cheyne recalled.

Words alone, he realized, would not help this woman. Yet, as her physical needs were met by Brazilian Christians, she began to develop a picture of God's love and became open to the gospel.

"I am convinced that the best method of evangelism is to so manifest the Father that if they cannot comprehend it in words, they will comprehend it in our lives," Cheyne said.

**RELIEF MAN** John Cheyne retired in March after 40 years with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, including 16 years directing the FMB's world hunger and relief programs. (BP photo by Sandy King)

## He should have died, but lives to tell how God saved him

NASHVILLE (BP)—Alton Edmondson wasn't supposed to be there.

After four gunshots to his head, he wasn't supposed to be anywhere.

The drug "family" for which Edmondson worked had ordered him killed. The "hit man" had fired four shots from a small-caliber pistol at point-blank range. Still Edmondson was not dead.

"Lord, help me!" he called out.

As he recalls it now, he heard a voice as clear as any person say, "If I do, will you serve me the rest of your life?"

"Yes, Lord," he replied. And then, he said, the Lord raised him up—literally.

"I couldn't get up by myself. I was hurt too bad. But then there I was standing. The gunman fired five more shots into me but I didn't go down. Then he threw his gun down and ran off, and I staggered across the street to a store for help."

Today the 31-year-old Edmondson begins sharing his testimony by saying, "I praise God that he has allowed me to see another day."

True to his pledge to God, he says he has left behind all connections with illegal drugs, liquor, gambling and even a budding career as a professional comedian.

Ten years of that lifestyle have been replaced by regular speeches in churches and anyplace else he can get his message across, especially to young people.

Edmondson knows several other people died in violent crimes the same night he was shot. "He saved me for a reason."

He believes part of that reason is so he can carry God's message to some of the kinds of people he used to know.

"You will not hear my gospel behind the pulpit as much as in the street. My desire is to go into every crack house to tell them what Jesus has done for me," Edmondson said. "It is my desire to help my people."

When he talks to youth, as he did recently at Simeon Baptist Church in Nashville, he tells them, "You have a right to choose who you are going to serve."

Edmondson warns that the devil—whom he refers to as "the enemy"—does not play fair. He uses videos and popular music to talk about murder and carrying guns and quitting school.

"The enemy is so deceiving, he will use your best friend to approach you about drugs and other temptations.

"We seem to want to wait on God,

but the devil is moving now. When you are sitting at home, the enemy is sitting beside you, and he knows what you like. He's going to hit you at your weakest point."

There are ways to resist the devil, Edmondson says. "So many doors are open whereby the enemy can get to us. So I close some doors—I don't listen to rap unless it is gospel rap."

Some Christians—including some Christian young people, he says—are "secret service agents or double agents, in church on Sunday but in the club on Saturday."

Real believers are going to act different from that, he says. "If your father is a king, what does that make you? If you are a prince or princess, walk like one!"

He concedes he still goes into clubs and similar places, but says it is for a different purpose now.

"I go in to share the gospel because people that need to hear it are there, but when I finish telling them, I'm out of there."

Edmondson says he is committed to his new life in Christ. Since he went to work for God, there has been no turning back.

And he plans to keep on talking about Jesus: "I will not shut up till I go up."



**NEW LIFE** Alton Edmondson miraculously survived a shooting ordered by his former drug associates and now lives to tell of the power of Jesus Christ.



*Kentucky Baptists, your childcare ministry is 125 years old this year -- the oldest in the Southern Baptist Convention! Plan now to praise our Lord for His goodness in two great ways!*

**1.** Attend the family celebration festival in your area!

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>May 14</b>   | Big Sandy Area Celebration<br>First Baptist Church, Pikeville |
| <b>June 4</b>   | First Baptist Church, London                                  |
| <b>June 25</b>  | Spring Meadows Children's Home, Middletown                    |
| <b>July 16</b>  | Dixon Temporary Shelter, Dixon                                |
| <b>Aug. 6</b>   | Baptist Youth Shelter, Morehead                               |
| <b>Sept. 4</b>  | Erlanger Baptist Church, Erlanger                             |
| <b>Sept. 17</b> | Glen Dale Children's Home, Glendale                           |
| <b>Oct. 8</b>   | Genesis Home, Mayfield  |

**2.** Celebrate in your church on anniversary Sunday --

**June 26**

Each Kentucky Baptist church will receive special materials in May to use in a special church celebration.



Celebrating  
**125**

Years of Love

**KENTUCKY BAPTIST HOMES FOR CHILDREN**