

FOR THE RECORD

Super Saturdays equip Baptists to serve all people

By Marv Knox
Editor

Florida changing
A proposal is moving through committees of the Florida Baptist Convention that would make the state convention fully responsible for home missions in Florida, eliminating support from the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.
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Churches ousted
Several churches affiliated with the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky, a black Baptist group, have been virtually removed from membership for licensing women to preach.
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Solid Rock
Solid Rock Cafe, a new youth ministry venture in London, is drawing teens by the hundreds.
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Youth baptisms
Kentucky Baptist churches must take action to stop a long-term decline in youth baptisms, warns a youth evangelism consultant.
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Editorial
Tell the truth: Did the devil really make you do it?
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Professor removed
Molly Marshall, associate professor of Christian theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has agreed under pressure to a settlement that will remove her from the seminary faculty.
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FLORENCE—Christians must share God's love everywhere if they are going to follow Jesus' teachings in the modern world, Vernon Cole told participants at the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Super Saturday church leadership conference last weekend in Florence.

The meeting at Florence Baptist Church was the second of six Super Saturdays sponsored by the KBC church growth and administration division, which Cole directs.

"Serving Today's People" is the theme for this year's conferences, which bring together training in multiple areas, from Sunday school to evangelism. The conferences are designed for both laypeople and ministers.

The theme doesn't say, "Serving Church People," Cole noted. "Many of today's people are outside the church, and we must find strategies to reach them."

Those strategies may be "a little bit different" than traditional church programs, he conceded. That's because the key to reaching people for Christ in coming years will mean "reaching out and touching folks where they are."

And that means spreading the Christian gospel—and visible evidence of God's love—as broadly as possible, he said.

As an example, Cole described Jesus' parable of the sower and the seed, reported in the 13th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew. In that parable, the farmer casts seed on the path,



HANDS-ON TRAINING Linda Krutzman of Parkland Baptist Church in Louisville learns to play the autoharp with instruction from Joyce Cordell, who led a Super Saturday conference on using music in teaching. Like many of the dozens of conferences offered at Super Saturday, Cordell's class allowed participants hands-on participation in the techniques being taught.

on rocky ground, among thorns and on good soil.

"The farmer sowed with abandon—everywhere. He didn't choose his spots," he said. "Jesus is saying to us his grace is in abundance, and we don't have to be particular about where we sow it, and the Holy Spirit will take care of its growth."

Christians and churches "aren't responsible for the harvest, but for planting seeds of graciousness throughout the community," Cole stressed.

To illustrate, he told about a church in Cincinnati that has built its

ministry upon "servant evangelism."

The congregation has used a wide variety of ministries to tell unchurched people about God's love expressed through Christ, he said.

Among the church's ministries, members have taken pizzas to people as they move into homes in their neighborhoods, stood at busy street corners and passed out soft drinks to motorists stopped at the lights, started a program to change motor oil for single mothers, cleaned restrooms at service stations, and have even gone yard-to-yard with "pooper scoopers" to clean up behind neighborhood

dogs. All of the ministries are absolutely free, and when people ask why, members tell them, "God has been very kind and gracious to us, and he tells us to be gracious to other people," Cole reported.

As a result, the church is reaching significant numbers of unchurched people in the community, he added, noting 21 percent to 33 percent of participants in the church's six weekend services are not members.

The church's ministry points to five principles for serving today's
□ See Super Saturdays ..., page 6

'God's arithmetic': 1 minus 1/3 equals 2

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

CANEY—A third of the congregation at Faith Baptist Church in Caney walked out last March, but it wasn't because of power struggles, budget constraints or disagreements over the color of new carpet.

The church had voted to start a new mission, and members invested themselves as well as their finances and spiritual support.

On Feb. 27, when Pastor George Oney called for members of the Caney church to help start a mission in nearby Malone, 21 of the 65 people attending responded, he said.

"We had mixed emotions about it," Oney said. "We felt excited ..., but everybody felt anxious about it, too, with a third of the congregation being gone."

Edmon Burgher, director of missions for Red River Baptist Association, noted the church planting effort was significant because the sponsoring congregation divided for all the right reasons.

At a time when churches often get embroiled in controversy and consequently lose members, Faith

Baptist Church has demonstrated unity and cooperation, Burgher explained.

Oney said God seemed to bless the church's efforts every step of the way.

A probe of the area last winter led by D.M. Aldridge, church starter strategist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, revealed a need for a church in Malone, where they found more than 150 homes within a two-mile radius.

Oney and Mike Lindon, a member of Faith Baptist and a former bivocational pastor, prayed together, earnestly seeking God's will for meeting the need there, Oney said. Lindon said he felt God calling him to serve as pastor of the mission.

When they sought a building to use, the owner of a facility in Malone just "turned over the keys" to them, Oney said.

The new work—Grace Baptist Mission—saw immediate growth, Lindon added.

"On the first Sunday in March, we had our first service. Forty-eight people attended; ... and three people got saved that first day."

People continued making decisions almost weekly at the mission, Lindon said.

Worship attendance has grown to about 65. A total of 12 people have professed their faith in Jesus Christ, "and we've had countless rededications and other decisions," he explained.

By May—just two months after the first service—Grace Baptist Mission voted to request permission from Faith Baptist Church to become a self-supporting church.

At a 2 p.m. service June 19, members held a "constitution celebration," Lindon said. The mission adopted a constitution and bylaws, and changed its name to Grace Baptist Church.

Meanwhile, the remaining two-thirds of the congregation at Faith Baptist Church "struggled through" a re-adjustment phase, Pastor Oney explained. For about two months, some weren't sure they understood God's mathematical approach of dividing an already small congregation.

However, God multiplied their efforts as well, he said.

For example, on a recent Sunday in August, Faith registered nine more people in Sunday school than the same time a year ago, Oney explained. "God has really intervened."

Lottery study reveals who plays & pays

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

LOUISVILLE—The Kentucky Lottery appeals equally to wealthy and poor people, but low-income people who play the lottery apparently gamble a greater percentage of their incomes, according to a recent study.

"As a percentage of income, low-income people spend more on the lottery than high-income people," explained Bruce Gale, director of survey research for the University of Louisville Center for Urban and Economic Research.

In real dollars, low-income and high-income people "actually spend about the same," he said. "There is nothing in the data that says the lottery is particularly attractive to low-income people. It's just attractive to who it's attractive."

The University of Louisville study found that the average spending of all lottery players is \$7.81 per week.

But losing that \$406.12 per year would have a dramatically different impact on the budget of a family earning \$10,000 per year than for a family
□ See Study shows ..., page 9

Moving? See page 4 (0823)

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Aug. 9** marked the 30th anniversary of a woman being ordained to the ministry in a Southern Baptist Church. Addie Davis was ordained at Watts Street Baptist Church in Durham, N.C., on Aug. 9, 1964. Although an estimated 1,000 Southern Baptist women have been ordained since that time, Davis said in a recent interview that she believes things have "gotten worse instead of better." Davis spoke at an anniversary celebration at Watts Street Church July 31.

■ **Twenty-four positions** have been deleted in the Bible teaching-reaching division of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. That constitutes about 10 percent of the 224-member staff in the division. The staff reduction is part of an ongoing restructuring at the board, where dozens of other jobs already have been cut.

■ **Rebekah Naylor**, Southern Baptists' only resident missionary in India, has received a two-year renewal of her license to practice medicine at the Baptist Hospital in Bangalore. Mission administrators called the renewal miraculous, because Naylor has faced uncertainty about her future in the predominantly Hindu country for years.

■ **Broadway Baptist Church** in Kansas City, Mo., has withdrawn from Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association after 10 months of conflict within the association. Other churches in the association were angered when Broadway conducted an internal study on homosexuality and determined it would neither affirm nor condemn homosexuality. The church also had been criticized for the views of co-pastor Paul Smith that everyone ultimately will be reunited with God in heaven.

Florida may redefine state missions & ties to HMB

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (ABP)—A Florida Baptist committee voted Aug. 18 to keep most of the money the state convention sends to the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and thereby remove the HMB from any control of home missions personnel and strategy in Florida.

The proposal, which awaits approval by another committee and the full convention this fall, represents a major change in the way Florida Baptists relate to the HMB, effectively taking the HMB out of missions work in Florida.

The Florida Baptist Convention, the sixth largest in the SBC, sent \$1.9 million to the HMB in 1993 through the Cooperative Program, the SBC's central budget. In turn, the HMB sent \$1.3 million back to the state to support jointly funded missions personnel and projects.

John Sullivan, executive director of the Florida Baptist Convention, cited two events that prompted the call for change—the "unilateral" decision of the HMB to cut funding of state conventions by 6 percent next year and the recent decision of HMB trustees to study the agency's relationship to state conventions that handle con-

tributions from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

"They have no right to investigate us, just as we have no right to investigate them," Sullivan said. The Florida convention allows churches to designate money to the Fellowship.

Politics aside, the proposal has strong support among both conservatives and moderates for pragmatic reasons.

Members of the convention's budget and allocations committee, which unanimously approved the proposal, said the HMB funding cut poses a threat to missions work in the state and violates the cooperative agreement, the document that defines how the HMB and Florida convention will relate.

That agreement, which governs Southern Baptist missions work in all states, prohibits "unilateral actions in areas of cooperation" by either the HMB or the state convention. It also encourages state conventions "to assume administrative and financial responsibility for direct mission work now conducted by the HMB as rapidly as possible."

"All we are doing," said budget committee Chairman Jerald Hicks of

Orlando, "is what their guidelines permit us to do."

"And encourage us to do," added Sullivan. "There was a time when we needed funding for home missions. We don't need that any more."

The proposal came from a special budget study committee, which considered several ways to recoup the anticipated 6 percent cut in HMB funds. Rejected were cuts in Florida personnel, reductions in the Florida budget, and reductions in the amount of money Florida sends to the national Cooperative Program, which would have made all SBC agencies pay for the loss of HMB funding.

Instead, the committee chose to retain the amount of Cooperative Program money that normally would return to Florida via the HMB. Since Florida receives less money that it sends to the HMB, the difference of about \$600,000 would be sent through the SBC as a designation to the HMB to support missions work in other states.

Likewise, all other Cooperative Program gifts from Florida churches—about \$8.3 million a year—will be sent through the SBC as designated funds for distribution to all other

agencies according to standard percentages.

Although that practice would place the Florida convention outside traditional Cooperative Program channels, Sullivan said he is hopeful the SBC will still count the gifts as Cooperative Program funds.

Untouched by the recommendation is the \$2 million Florida Baptists contribute to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Committee members who spoke in favor of the proposal said it was preferred because it would mean no net loss in HMB mission work and eliminate "mounds of paperwork" required by the HMB.

No committee members spoke against the plan. HMB administrators were not available for comment.

Florida is home to 32 missionaries paid jointly by the HMB and state convention—17 field missionaries and 15 state convention staffers. Under terms of the cooperative agreement with Florida, the HMB pays 65 percent of those salaries. The HMB claims another 76 missionaries in Florida, including 38 long-term volunteers, but does not pay their salaries.

General Association excludes churches over women's issue

By Mark McCormick
Louisville Courier-Journal

LEXINGTON—It was only after a great deal of prayerful consideration that James Anderson Jr. licensed his own sister as a preacher.

Even after bestowing the license, Anderson said, he waited six months before he let her preach. "She thought I didn't love her anymore," Anderson said, smiling.

But his fears were realized Aug. 17 during the annual meeting of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky: Anderson's church, Forest Tabernacle Baptist Church in New-

burg—and several others in Louisville—were essentially kicked out of the 126-year-old General Association because they had licensed women preachers in violation of the organization's rules. The association is a group of black Baptist churches in the state.

A notice the General Association circulated warned that a February 1993 vote "was the voice of the body that churches who have licensed women preachers cannot register in this body for membership."

The vote was made entirely by men; women don't have the right to vote in the General Association.

"It's amazing how blind they are," said Faida Alma Alexander, who was licensed by the pastor at Louisville's St. Stephen Baptist Church, Kevin Cosby, in 1990. "How can they see the oppression from the white power structure and not see what they are doing to women in God's house?"

Alexander said "the black church has been in the vanguard for liberating black folks as a people, and here they are now denying the women the right to vote. ... What's next? Are they going to attack the churches that still fellowship with me?"

Anderson's church and First Gethsemane Baptist Church in Louisville were removed. Other Louisville churches that have been or probably will be removed include Hill Street, Bates Memorial, St. Stephens, Canaan Missionary, King Solomon, Centennial, Bethel and Burnett Avenue.

The result of the 1993 vote is the rejection of annual membership applications of churches in violation. Members of these churches are barred from holding office in General Association business.

But the move also will hurt the General Association's pocketbook, because member churches help finance association entities such as Simmons Bible College and the American Baptist newspaper.

The association is "committing suicide, in my estimation," by kicking out some of the biggest financial givers, Alexander said.

The General Association moderator, G.H. Childs Sr., stood by the vote, saying that only a tiny minority of the nearly 600 association churches believe in licensing women to preach.

"It's not going to separate or divide us," said Childs, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in Lexington for 29 years. "The spirit of this year's meeting is one of unity and togetherness."

Anderson said other pastors at the

conference have told him they still love him but disagree with his views.

Anderson said what a local church does ought to be the business of that church and not the state body.

The issue of voting rights in the association also has been at issue.

T. Vaughn Walker, pastor of First Gethsemane Church, one of the churches denied membership last week, took out an ad in the American Baptist newspaper appealing to members to grant voting privileges to women in the association.

The ad said that some congregations are about 80 percent female and that "taxation without full representation is wrong."

Mayme Green, president of the Baptist Women's Missionary Convention, a General Association auxiliary, was reticent on the issue, saying only that voting rights are "something I'd like to see. It's a new day, and everything is changing."

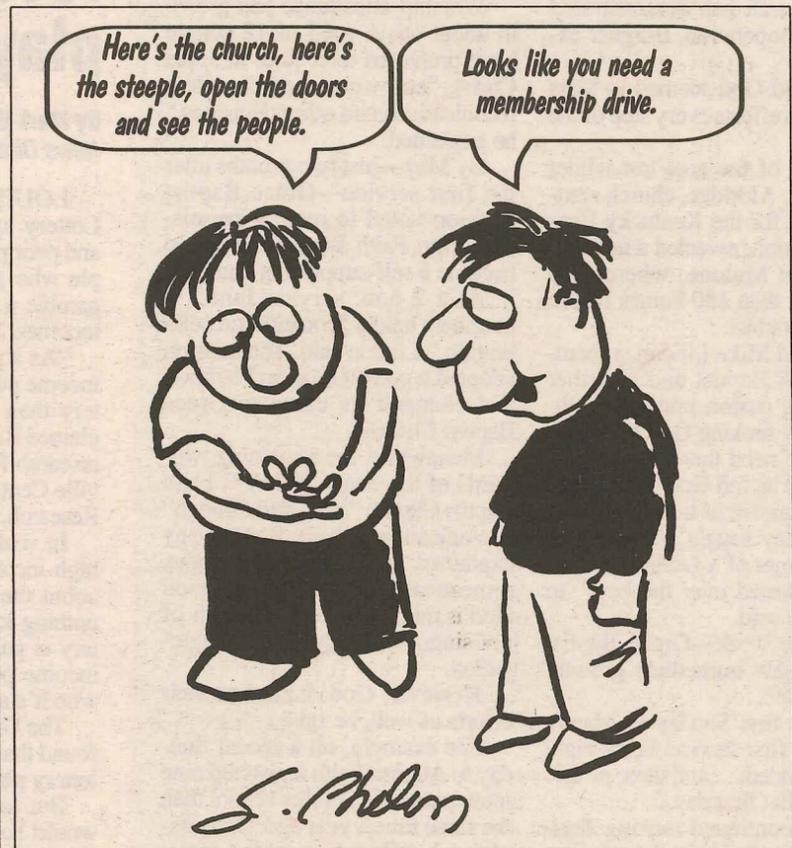
The ad also saluted the Central District Baptist Association moderator, Russell Awkard, for supporting voting rights for women. Central District encompasses the Louisville area.

"We are on record as supporting" voting rights for women, Awkard said. "The women are involved and supportive, and ... churches have a right to select their own messengers."

Cosby, an outspoken proponent of ordaining women, was incredulous that women still could not vote in the organization.

"The wall has come down in Berlin, communism has been dismantled in the former Soviet Union and women in the state of Kentucky still cannot vote," Cosby said the night of the vote. "If that's the only agenda of the church (keeping women from voting and out of the pulpit), then you ought to shut the church down."

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KENTUCKY

Teens rolling in for Solid Rock Cafe's new ministry

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

LONDON—The renowned Hard Rock Cafe in London, England, has nothing on Solid Rock Cafe in London, Ky.

The Kentucky version offers more than famous burgers and a popular T-shirt, explained organizer Rick Long. Solid Rock Cafe not only gives teens a place to go, but introduces them to Jesus Christ, the person Long calls the true "Solid Rock."

"This is a creative, contemporary way to reach teenagers for Jesus Christ," said Long, minister of youth at First Baptist Church in East Bernstadt. "And it's working."

Since the center opened last February as a Christian alternative for weekend entertainment, 250-500 teens have been spending their Friday evenings there each week, Long said.

"The theme at Solid Rock is showing the teenage world that being a Christian is fun," Long explained. "Too often, they go into church and see a straight-faced, unemotional atmosphere. That's not at all what Christ would want."

The center, located in a former furniture store in downtown London, "is in a real good location, with a lot of room to expand," Long said.

Colorful banners hanging from the ceiling and walls decorate the spacious, brightly lit facility. A large stage on the left wall spotlights live Christian musicians, dramatists and comedians for 20 minutes each hour. Favorites during the summer have been the Kentucky Baptist Student Union Son teams, and a regional drama group, the Covenant Players.

Between performances, a profes-



SKITTISH A group of teenagers at London's Solid Rock Cafe act out a skit, while Rick Long reads the narration.

sional Christian disc jockey plays upbeat tunes of Michael W. Smith, Stephen Curtis Chapman, Amy Grant, D.C. Talk and more—contemporary artists with Christian themes.

A "bar" across the room offers non-alcoholic drinks and the traditional foods teenagers love—pizza, pretzels, nachos, popcorn and candy.

Assorted tables and chairs feature newsprint tablecloths, complete with crayons. "Kids make wonderful murals every night," Long said.

Two ping pong tables also get a workout. And occasionally, organizers host Christian versions of game shows like "Family Feud" and "Name that Tune," Long said.

Once each Friday, Long or one of the volunteer leaders presents a succinct evangelistic message.

"We have a real strategic follow-up plan," he explained. A "let's talk" room located upstairs is available each night, staffed by volunteer "Christian listeners," for teens who need to talk about relationships,

school problems or spiritual matters.

Those who make decisions at that time fill out a card, and that week, a volunteer from the center contacts them. Solid Rock also organizes small group discipleship programs.

Sponsoring churches also receive the names of local teens who make decisions, Long added.

The center is operated by Solid Rock Ministries Inc., a non-profit interdenominational organization created by Long and First Baptist Church in East Bernstadt.

Long and his youth group got the idea for Solid Rock Cafe when they discovered a similar ministry in Hilton Head, N.C., during a mission trip last year.

Long said accumulating a broad base of community and church support for the center was a key to its success.

Christian bookstores, car dealerships and individuals—as well as Baptist, Assemblies of God, Christian and Methodist churches—all help

keep Solid Rock on solid financial footing.

Volunteers staff the center, and most of the food, drinks and entertainment are donated, Long said.

Another key to Solid Rock's success is that God has blessed the ministry, Long said. "Drug users have come here and found their way out of the drug scene. And many kids have been saved."

Solid Rock is a lot less intimidating than church, and Christian youth feel comfortable inviting their non-Christian friends, he explained. Long estimated that 60 percent of the teens who come do not attend church.

Church youth groups around the area also have grown since Solid Rock opened, he added.

Teenagers who attend Solid Rock agree it is a good alternative.

"I've never had a bored minute there," said Ian Henson, 14, a new member in East Bernstadt.

"My favorite part is that there's always new people there," added Christy Waldroff, 14, also a First Baptist member. "I think it's a great place for teenagers to hang out. It's a great place to meet people."

Solid Rock is open Fridays from 7 p.m. to midnight. During the school year, it also is open on Tuesdays for college night, which draws nearly 70 students from nearby campuses. And on Thursdays, about 15-40 teens attend "Word at the Rock," an issues-oriented Bible study.

"Long-term, we really hope to expand into more of a teen center-type atmosphere," Long said. That may include tutoring services, counseling or even after-school programs. "We're very open to what God wants to do."

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Gregory Wills** has been named archives and special collections librarian at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He will become the seminary's first full-time archivist. He is a graduate of Duke University and Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and recently completed requirements for a doctorate in historical studies from Emory University.

■ **Mark DeVine**, former pastor of Black Lick Baptist Church in Glen Dean, has been named visiting professor of Christian theology at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo. Devine is a recent doctoral graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

■ **Professional golfer Chi Chi Rodriguez** will be the featured guest at a fundraiser for Georgetown College Sept. 13. The event at Canewood in Georgetown will include a barbeque luncheon at 1 p.m. and a gallery clinic taught by Rodriguez. Georgetown College will award the pro golfer an honorary doctorate early in the day. Proceeds from the fundraiser will fund the Chi Chi Rodriguez scholarship at Georgetown. Cost for the luncheon and clinic is \$75. For information, call (502) 863-7099.

Kentucky churches urged to stop decline of youth baptisms

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

If Kentucky Baptists want to ensure the future of their churches and be faithful to the Great Commission, they must start baptizing more teenagers, warns a national youth ministry consultant.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention, along with every other Baptist state convention, has experienced a dramatic decline in youth baptisms since

1971, says Dean Finley, a youth evangelism specialist with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"This not only reflects the aging of our denomination, but those who will be there to support our churches in coming years," he says. "The history of declining denominations would reflect a decline in their ability to reach young people."

Nationwide, youth baptisms in Southern Baptist churches peaked in 1972, with 137,667 baptisms. Youth

baptisms hit a record low in 1987, when only 79,000 12-to-17-year-olds were baptized.

The youth baptism trend has been relatively stable since 1987, with 80,438 youth baptisms recorded last year.

But overall, youth baptisms in Southern Baptist churches have declined 42 percent since 1972.

Some have reasoned that this is due to a declining youth population in America, Finley notes. But while the youth population clearly has declined, it has not declined at such a steep rate as youth baptisms, he reports.

For example, the youth population in Kentucky declined 17 percent from the 1970 U.S. Census to the 1990 Census. Yet from the peak year of 1972, youth baptisms in Kentucky Baptist churches declined at nearly three times that rate—53 percent.

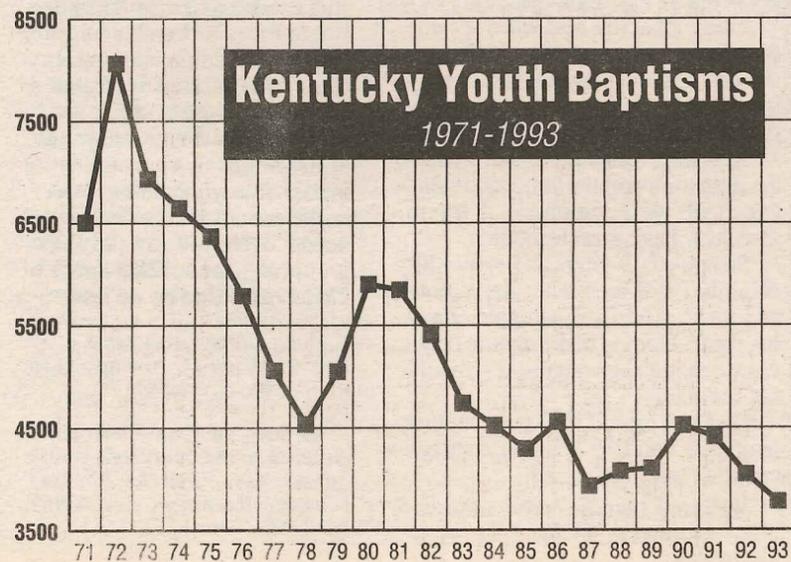
To help churches begin to stem the tide of eroding youth baptisms, Finley is promoting an emphasis called "Youth Reach." This is a simultaneous youth evangelism effort scheduled for 1994, 1997 and 2000. The first Youth Reach emphasis was in 1991.

The central element of Youth Reach is a baptismal celebration service, in which all youth baptized during the previous year are honored.

The baptismal celebration service should be preceded by any of a variety of youth evangelism strategies, Finley suggests.

These strategies may include outreach visitation, youth camp, concerts, Bible studies, missions trips, youth vacation Bible schools or revivals.

For more information about Youth Reach, contact the KBC evangelism office at (502) 245-4101 or Finley at (417) 862-1111.



Top Kentucky churches in youth baptisms for 1993

1. Oneida Baptist Church, Oneida 90
2. Green River Baptist Church, Cromwell 24
3. Ninth & O Baptist Church, Louisville 22
4. Mountain Ash Baptist Church, Williamsburg 21
5. Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown 20
5. Highview Baptist Church, Louisville 20
7. Vine Grove Baptist Church, Vine Grove 19
7. Faith First Baptist Church, Regina 19
9. Calvary Baptist Church, Glasgow 18
9. First Baptist Church, Jenkins 18
9. Cumberland Baptist Church, Cumberland 18

(Based on data from Uniform Church Letters. "Youth" in this data is defined as 12-year-olds through 17-year-olds.)

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

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What's life worth without God?

My family and I were watching the Bill Murray movie "What about Bob." A scene in the movie has a young boy telling Bob: "I'm going to die ... one day. I am going to die!" It has dawned on the young one that his life will end one day. He then yells, "It really doesn't matter if I die now or later, because I am going to die!"

His fear was that his life had little meaning. This secular movie's answer to the boy's problem was, "We only exist to have fun, so enjoy it while it lasts."

Unfortunately, many people go through life trying to gain enough "things" before they die to say that their life "meant" something. Others seek "personal pleasure satisfaction" as the only reason for life.

What's the point?

God wants us to

realize our eternal importance. God desires that we live life for him. God nudges us to see how he fits into every part of our lives.

What is your life worth? Nothing, without God at its center.

The Bible tells us that God knew

MINISTERIALLY SPEAKING

Selective Scripture

I am continually amazed at the selective use of Scripture and inconsistency by some moderates when they want to bash conservatives. The letter "Let God judge" (WR, Aug. 2) is a choice example.

Throughout the letter, the author accuses the "fundamentalists" of judging other Christians and closes the letter

by saying, "Leave the judging to the Lord and be about his work." Yet he is guilty of the very sin he decries by lumping all conservatives together and by presuming upon their motives and intents. For example, he says, "The fundamentalist steamroller continues to destroy good Christian people ..." and "... fundamentalists leaders know that in reality it is about imposing their belief system on others." That sounds pretty judgmental to me.

The writer further accuses conservatives of being Pharisees, writing, "When modern Pharisees (is that love?) place rules before people, they lose the power of the gospel." I do not know the author's theological framework, but I would imagine Karl Barth could not have said it better. I'm sor-

ry, but there is such a thing as propositional truth in Scripture.

The letter then stated, "Rejecting fellow Christians and excluding them from the church is the same as rejecting Christ!" Yes, I Corinthians 13 urges us to love, but the fifth chapter of that same epistle urges a church to do just what the author decries—exclude a brother for immorality.

His selective use of Scripture is tragic. Such inconsistencies should no longer surprise me.

*Bruce E. Truman
Mount Olivet*

BAPTIST FORUM

God's split

Those who are working for organizational "unity" in our convention should be careful, lest they be found to be opposing God.

Was God working in the Protestant Reformation, a split from the Roman Catholic church? Was God working in the Separatist movement in England, a split from the Church of England, from which came the first Baptists? Was God a part of the formation of the Southern Baptist Convention, a split from what is now the

us before we were in the womb. He has planted his purpose for our lives in our hearts. God speaks through our hearts. He wants us to listen to him.

The heart is forever making the head its fool. Let us be sensitive to our hearts' leading us to a deeper walk with God, a commitment to learn more about him in Bible study, to worship him regularly and more completely, to praise him more thankfully, to serve him more completely, to share him more consistently, to know him more fully.

God doesn't want crowds; he wants disciples. Let us give him what he wants because we love him.

*Larry Nobles, pastor
Green Hills Baptist Church
Fisherville*

American Baptist Churches? If the answer is yes to these questions, then it is clear that God has been working to split denominations for many years.

But what about unity? What unity? There are 27 Baptist denominations in America already; another one won't make much difference. Clearly the unity of the Bible is spiritual unity, not organizational unity. As was pointed out in the recent Southern Baptist Convention meeting, we have much in common with other born-again believers, regardless of their denominational affiliation.

But won't a split hurt missions? Clearly not.

Despite controversy in the SBC, the number of missionaries supported by the Foreign Mission Board is at an all-time high. Add to those the number of missionaries supported by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and we see a clear trend of growth in missions. People will support missionaries who believe like they do—missionaries they can trust.

For those who have eyes to see and ears to hear, it appears that God is working to split our denomination.

*Michael Barley
Louisville*

The lemonade stand

I was rushing, as I too often am, squeezing last drops from the time needed to go from the Baptist Building to an assignment.

On this afternoon, I headed home to change, pack a few things and drive to a speaking engagement in West Kentucky.

As I topped the hill in the newer part of our subdivision, none I judged to be over 7, waved at me, held up a sign and shouted, "lemonade!" A mother stood protectively in the shadows of the garage area.

I applied the brakes, took a closer look, but decided I really shouldn't stop. I was already pushing it.

Looking through the rear-view mirror, I sensed their disappointment. My nearly stopping had created some anticipation that I might be a sale. One of the little ones had moved toward my car and was now moving back to the little band of entrepreneurs.

I might as well have stopped, for

the picture lingered with me the remaining several blocks to our home. And I couldn't erase the picture of their hopeful faces.

In 30 minutes or so, I was ready to go, so I decided to drive back the same way to the Gene Snyder Freeway, hoping the little band was still there. But they were not. The box-stand was missing; the children were gone.

I was surprised by my own sense of disappointment, not only in their absence but in my having missed this opportunity to make a few children happy for a passing moment, though they will never know.

With the picture of the happily manned lemonade stand still emblazoned on my mind, I made my way west, not at all comfortable in spirit.

Failing to stop at the lemonade stand reminded me of times before, when I have missed moments of serendipity because I was in a hurry or was too busy.

Among my personal failures is the one of trying to squeeze too much into

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall



FAMILY FORUM: AGING

Pay attention

By John Lepper

The spirit of the times in our culture nudges us to be politically correct in choosing words and in relating to people. Countless interest groups vie for the attention of politicians and business- es. We in the church need to pay attention to the way we relate to individuals and groups of people. We need to go beyond political correctness and strive for moral and ethical correctness.

A recent call from an elderly friend reminded me of the fact that churches sometimes overlook senior adults. Pastors and church leaders need to pay attention to older people. With Jesus Christ as our model, we need to be inclusive, showing his love to persons of all ages.

Our population is aging rapidly. Businesses are going to great expense to target older people. Churches need to identify seniors as a target for ministry and outreach. Senior adults sometimes feel "put on the shelf" by their churches, even at a time when this segment of the population is growing.

Consider the following list of reasons we need to pay attention to older people:

■ They need the ministry of the church.

■ They have more discretionary time and can add energy to the ministries of the church.

■ Many of them have served faithfully for years and can add wisdom to decisions.

■ Senior adults provide a large measure of the financial base of the church. Senior adults need the church, and the church needs senior adults.

Church leaders may have the notion that only younger families with children and teens can add vitality to the church. Admittedly, young families add freshness and aliveness to a congregation. But to focus a church's ministry only on a certain group is to practice a kind of elitism foreign to the claims of the gospel.

All human beings are created in the image of God and are of inestimable worth. We as leaders in the church need to be careful not to overlook any person or group of people. The Spirit of Christ calls us to do no less.

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.

Tell the truth: Did the devil really make you do it?

Many years ago, psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud assuaged his clients' guilt by telling them their mothers caused them to commit their awfulest deeds. Two decades ago, comedian Flip Wilson got rich providing Americans a one-size-fits-all excuse for every moral fault: "The devil made me do it." Not so long ago, philosopher Robert Bly propelled the men's movement by telling guys their daddies were to blame for their character flaws and inability to throw sliders over the outside corner of home plate.

But that was then. Today's faddishly former-guilty realize guilt-absolution has gone high-tech. Now we can blame genes—the anatomical codes that determine the color of your eyes and the shape of your nose—for everything from embezzlement to infidelity.

If your genetic predisposition compels you to read the Western Recorder's front-page articles, you'll recall a story on this topic in last week's paper. Theologian Ted Peters urged Christians to begin thinking about the relationship between genes and ethics. He cited a criminal case, where the California Supreme Court lightened the sentence of an embezzler because his lawyer convinced the justices he had "a genetic predisposition to alcoholism" and committed the crime while drunk. Peters also pointed to research claiming some people inherit biological temperaments conducive to criminality. "The next decade will find our entire society wrestling with a dramatic array of questions regarding the cultural, philosophical and legal implications of genetic research and proposals for biological determinism," he predicted.

As if on cue, Time magazine carried a cover story titled "Infidelity: It may be in our genes." The article reports the findings of evolutionary psychologists, the scientists who attempt to track development of the human brain and its impact on behavior. Based on research conducted on a vast array of primates, these scientists believe people are predisposed genetically to cheat on their mates. It all has to do with an inbred male desire to impregnate as many females as possible so as to sire as many offspring as possible so as to gain immortality, at least into the next generation. It also has to do with the female's desire to trick as many males as possible into believing her offspring are theirs too, so that the little ones will be protected and nurtured, and she will be immortalized, at least into grandmotherhood.

So, expect to hear round after round of gene-blaming:

■ "Yes, Your Honor, I did drink that whiskey, rob that convenience store and shoot that clerk. But don't blame me—I've got this chromosome that makes me want to steal things and hurt people."

■ "Well, Darlin', it's true that I did go down to the honky-tonk the other night after I called you and said I'd be working late. And after that—I can't deny it—I slept with your ex-best friend. But don't blame us—we've got these genes that made us do it."

■ "My fellow Americans, I come before you today to set the record straight. It was not my fault that I lied to Congress, embezzled the taxpayers' money and sold my votes to the highest bidder. I am not to blame; DNA did it."

If all this sounds familiar, that's because it is. Since Adam and Eve got caught buck-naked eating the first apple in the Garden of Eden, peo-

ple have been trying to pin the blame on someone else. You remember what happened. Adam blamed Eve; Eve blamed the serpent; and the serpent took the next bus out of town.

People of faith, especially theologians, were pondering this inclination to do wrong centuries before evolutionary psychologists started watching the bedroom habits of monkeys. And if the psychologists had talked to the theologians, they could have saved themselves months of camping in the jungle. Almost everyone with a lick of Bible knowledge and theological sense knows people have a nasty predisposition to be mean, do bad things and even cheat on their spouses.

We call that the doctrine of original sin. Here's a paraphrase: When Adam and Eve set themselves ahead of God, breaking God's command not to eat the forbidden fruit, something changed inside them. Since then, every human has inherited the inclination to turn from God, to put self first, to sin.

Some people will see recent scientific assertions as attempts to usurp the power of God and the authority of the biblical message. Others will see the doctrine of original sin as a fairy tale and scientific discoveries as hard evidence. Neither will be accurate. Science and faith are not mutually exclusive. Science is on a quest to discover how. Theology has been about the business of explaining Who, what and why.

So what if science proves a genetic inclination toward adultery? Every honest woman and man could confirm that notion without a shred of "scientific" proof. And the maturely righteous know they do not have to yield to wrongful impulses. As reformer/theologian Martin Luther said, "You can't stop the crows from flying over your head, but you can keep them from building a nest in your hair."

In coming months, people will point to science and say we can't do either. They'll say we are captive to genetic predisposition. Some will say gene structures absolve us from guilt. "We can't help it; we're 'wired' that way."

In the words of Calvin, the pint-sized philosopher of the funny pages: "Grow up, get a life and stop whining."

OK, perhaps that response is too harsh for the Christian community. We should show sympathy for people whose upbringing, life experiences and even biological constitution incline them toward sinful actions. However, we also can deliver a double-barrel message of responsibility. "You and you alone ultimately are responsible for your actions. But God can help."

The testimony of Scripture, the life of Christ, the example of saintly Christians, and the thought and teaching of 2,000 years of Christianity all bear witness: Yes, adverse circumstances affect human life, and temptations do indeed arise. But the God of the universe holds us accountable for our actions, not our inclinations. The grace extended through Christ can redeem past failures and shortcomings. And the power of the Holy Spirit is available to help us persevere in times of weakness and temptation. So, no matter who you want to blame for your actions, one final day you and you alone will answer for what you've done. Be ready.

Marv Knox

Shed tears for HMB?

The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's recent announcement that it will cut 25 staff positions due to tight finances comes as no surprise. A money shortage has plagued several Southern Baptist agencies in recent years, and the latest round of cuts was the HMB's second major staff reduction. But many Southern Baptists will have a hard time working up sympathy for the board. At the same meeting where the staff cuts were made, the board also voted to follow the Southern Baptist Convention directive not to accept funds from churches channeled through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Last year, that was almost a half-million dollars. One wonders how many positions could have been saved if the ministry of the board, not pride, were the priority.

Marv Knox

Don't look in your genes if you get the itch to go running around

I held a copy of Time magazine in my hands, reading the cover story, "Infidelity: It may be in our genes."

"Says here that maybe people can't help cheating on their spouses," I told Joanna, waving the magazine so she could see what I was reading. "These scientists called 'evolutionary psychologists' have been watching the mating habits of apes for years. Seems chimpanzees are promiscuous as all get-out. So, the scientists think there's something in human genes that makes people cheat."

This wasn't our first discussion of marital infidelity. Through our sisters, we know the pain of unfaithful mates and absentee daddies. Through many tears, we've discussed and debated what makes people—

especially men, it seems—run around on their spouses.

"There's something in their jeans all right," Joanna retorted. "But monkeys don't wear 'em."

Sometimes we laugh to keep from crying. But although the subject of infidelity is a fertile field for jokes, it's not really funny. While one partner sows wild oats, the other reaps a harvest of agony.

You know I don't claim to be an expert at much of anything. And while Joanna and

I have a good and happy marriage, we'd neither say it's perfect. But we've learned some lessons along the way and observed some wonderful marriages. So here's our antidote to the "genetic predisposition" to ruin a good thing:

■ Talk, talk, talk. That's the key to remaining best friends—knowing what's going on with each other. You'd be surprised how many couples drift apart because they don't keep in touch.

So you're tired after the kids go to bed; stay up and talk.

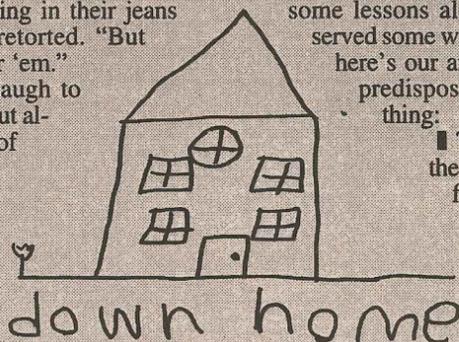
■ Laugh. Humor is the best balm for sore marriages. When you back up from them, many of the everyday sources of marital irritation are silly if not outright funny. Laughter—with each other, at the goofs—pulls the stinger out.

■ Make love, not war. Women need intimacy; men need sex. Good partners take time for both and enjoy both. So you're tired after the kids go to bed; go to bed, but don't go to sleep.

■ Hang in there for the kids. Who says the kids'll be better if you split up? Thousands of single parents do admirable jobs of raising kids, but it's easier if you're a team.

Forget your genes; listen to your heart.

Marv Knox



KENTUCKY

Super Saturdays equip Baptists to serve all people

Continued from page 1
people, Cole said:

■ Always focus on planting the gospel "seeds."

■ Let God be responsible for the spiritual harvest.

■ Christian service to others redefines a secular person's perspective on what being a Christian means.

■ Serving people's needs touches people's hearts.

■ People listen to the gospel when

Christians treat them like friends.

The first Super Saturday was held Aug. 13 at First Baptist Church of Madisonville. Upcoming Super Saturdays will be held at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, Aug. 27;

Unity Baptist Church in Ashland, Sept. 10; Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah, Sept. 17; and First Baptist Church of Somerset, Sept. 24. For information, call (502) 245-4101.

SUPER SATURDAY SAMPLER

■ **Start a family ministry.** Churches face increasing opportunities today to impact their communities through family ministry, said Rick Elsey, pastor of Casky Baptist Church in Hopkinsville.

The "traditional" family known in the 1950s is all but gone, he said. Families with a married mother and father and their children living in the same household, accounting for 50 percent of American families in 1960, he said. Such families represent 3 percent of American households today, he reported.

In 1970, only 23 percent of children lived with one parent, he continued. But 60 percent of today's 3-year-olds are projected to live with a single parent at some time in their childhood.

Elsy suggested nine steps by which any congregation can develop an appropriate family ministry.

First, recognize the need for family ministry, he said. For example, ask church leaders to answer this open-ended question: "Our church needs to provide a ministry to families because ..."

Second, determine the needs of families in your church and community, and then prioritize those needs. There are many ways to do this, including conducting a family census in the church or holding a family needs forum, Elsey said.

The third step is to evaluate existing provisions and program within the church. Even churches with no existing family ministry programs usually at least have people with skills and interests that could be helpful, he said.

Fourth, review available resources outside the church, including community support and denominational resources.

Fifth, determine your church's objectives for family ministry.

Sixth, determine what programs, projects or activities you will offer to meet

these objectives.

Seventh, publicize and promote what you have to offer.

Then, provide the programs and activities you have planned.

Finally, celebrate what you've accomplished and evaluate how to continue.

The biggest problem churches will face is not looking for something to do, but being overwhelmed by too many opportunities for family ministry, Elsey said.

■ **Teach them with music.** Music can be a powerful tool for teaching children Scripture and biblical lessons, according to Joyce Cordell, an elementary school music teacher and children's choir coordinator at Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville.

Cordell said music does not have to be confined to children's choir programs. She illustrated several ways for music to be applied in Sunday school classes and other settings.

For example, good music texts can be used to teach children important concepts. She illustrated a method of playing a song for children in repeated segments, each time asking them to listen for something different in the text.

With a text such as "Everything was made by God; everything you see" the teacher first might ask, "In this song, what did God create?"

Then, the teacher might ask the children to name some things God made. The application could be reinforced by leading the children to draw pictures of those things, she added.

When the children leave, they will carry with them both a visual reminder of the biblical lesson and a mental reminder through the song.

Also, chanting provides a unique way to help children learn Scripture verses,

Cordell explained. She demonstrated by putting a biblical text to a simple chant and using visual aids to emphasize the key words.

■ **Help for codependency.** A new resource from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board can help churches untangle the difficulties of "codependency," said Phil Bradley, associate director of Northern Kentucky Baptist Association.

Bradley introduced "Untangling Relationships: A Christian Perspective on Codependency."

It's part of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's LIFE Support series of courses designed to help people overcome various types of spiritual and emotional challenges in their lives.

Codependency is "an obsessive and unhealthy compulsion to take care of other people" that doesn't acknowledge appropriate boundaries of responsibility, Bradley explained. Examples include battered wives who remain with their husbands at their own peril and sometimes family members of alcoholics who "cover" for the alcoholic.

The "Untangling Relationships" course defines six characteristics of codependency, Bradley said: lack of objectivity, a warped sense of responsibility, a need to be controlled or controlling, excessive hurt and anger, a life characterized by guilt and shame, and a feeling of being lonely and pressured.

"Untangling Relationships" would be a good course for four groups of people, he said: those who want to learn more about codependency, people who identify closely and personally with the title, some who know they have codependency problems and want to help themselves, and others who suspect friends, family or fellow church members are codependent and need help.

■ **Curriculum changes coming.** Kentucky Baptists who use the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Life and Work Sunday school curriculum will notice major changes beginning this fall, according to Jeff Hicks, associate director of the KBC Sunday school department.

The Life and Work series—which approaches Bible study by examining Scripture in light of life issues affecting people, churches, doctrine, ethics and missions—is one of the board's three Bible study curriculum lines.

The latest changes in Life and Work will focus more intently on the life-phases of adults, Hicks said.

The Bible study materials have been subdivided into four categories, he said. They are "Directions" for ages 18-34, "Pursuits" for ages 35-54, "Ventures" for ages 55-69 and "Pathways" for ages 70 and up. The curriculum also has materials for single adults, he added.

Each product, as well as coordinated teaching materials, has been designed help Sunday school participants apply the Scripture in ways that are most meaningful for their lives, Hicks said.

For example, special case studies and contemporary illustrations will be provided for each age group.

"The foundational reason for the changes has been to provide applications of the biblical material that are appropriate for each age group," he noted. "The lessons will be vastly different, according to age groups and station in life."

Two other major changes will be noticeable, Hicks added.

First, and most obvious, the materials now are printed in full color, with enhanced photographs and graphics.

And second, the turn-around time in preparing the materials has been reduced substantially, so that lesson illustrations will be more contemporary.

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Celebrate, FBC, 2890 Broadway, Paducah, KY 42001. (502) 442-2728

President Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Foundation

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship has begun the formal search process for the first president of its new CBF Foundation. The Foundation's Board of Trustees expects to employ a person for the position of chief operating officer of the Foundation by January 1, 1995.

Recommendations and applications should be sent by September 1 to: CBF Foundation Search Committee, P.O. Box 450329, Atlanta, GA 31145-0329

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Stewardship: Budget planning is elementary.
Seminary Extension: Training is closer to home than you may think. **Foundation:** Advantages of a charitable gift annuity.
Cedarmore: A secret worth telling.

The proverbial wolf might not howl at your pastor's door, but an Internal Revenue Service agent might ring his doorbell if your church doesn't handle ministerial taxes correctly.

The IRS's crackdown on tax violations is one of the hot issues in ministerial compensation today, reported Don Spencer, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annuity department.

"The IRS is looking a lot closer at ministers, and because of that the interest in taxes has intensified," he said.

The July 5 Western Recorder quoted a Forbes magazine report that disclosed ministers are one of 31 "industries" targeted for scrutiny by the IRS's market segment specialization program, Spencer recalled. Ministers have come under the IRS's steady gaze largely because their dual tax status—as employees for income tax and self-employed for Social Security—is complicated and confusing.

And some Kentucky Baptist ministers can verify the intensity of IRS scrutiny, he added, noting several dozen ministers have contacted him regarding tax audits.

He has coached the audited ministers on how to explain how they

completed their tax forms.

"Most of them have had no problems," he said. "But some of them have had to pay back-taxes. The highest owed was \$7,000, and several have been in the \$1,000 to \$3,000 range."

Taxation is one of Spencer's specialties and an important area where the annuity department can help churches. It's part of a larger platform of services in ministerial compensation, insurance and retirement planning.

In recent years, computers have made Spencer's ministry more efficient and more accurate.

For example, the department uses a computer program designed specifically to help churches structure the financial compensation they provide their ministers.

That program is supplemented by another, which helps churches—and particularly staff search committees—compare their compensation to the packages offered by similar churches.

Computer-generated materials can help the churches figure taxes, plan retirement compensation and make payrolls.

Spencer also uses a computer to help ministers project the retirement benefits and tax benefits that will be

theirs as they participate in the Southern Baptist Convention's annuity program.

"We're continually trying to get churches, ministers and other church employees to see the need for participation in the Church Annuity Plan," the SBC's pension fund, he said.

Lately, Spencer has received

good news, as numerous churches and ministers he has contacted in recent years have decided to participate.

Unfortunately, many Kentucky Baptist churches still provide their ministers with lump-sum payments.

The church pays a certain amount, and the minister is left to decide how much to put into salary, how much into annuity, how much into insurance and how much into expenses.

"With all the financial pressures upon ministers—especially young ministers with families—it's so easy to put saving for retirement off, and only much later do they realize how much they need it," he said.

But saving early pays off well, he added, noting every dollar invested in an annuity at age 30 is worth as

much as \$2 invested at age 40.

"Little by little, more churches are taking responsibility for providing a certain amount for their ministers' retirement," Spencer reported. "I find so many churches really want to do the right thing, but so often church members haven't had any experience with this and are at a loss as to what to do.

"They're glad to learn a basic five-step process to structure support for their ministers," he said, noting he will detail that structure in the September issue of Events.

He praised the efforts of churches like First Baptist of Prestonsburg, which is pastorless, for doing solid research to prepare for a new pastor.

The church's pastor search committee and interim pastor, Quentin Lockwood, have conferred with both Spencer and Guy Futral, director of the KBC minister-church support division, to prepare for calling and compensating a pastor.

To receive similar help, contact Spencer at the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433, phone (502) 245-4101.



Don Spencer

Two Benefits of a Recorder Subscription

If you receive the Western Recorder only once a month, when the Events insert is published, you're only getting part of the picture.

The Recorder is published weekly—50 times per year—to provide Kentucky Baptists with local, state, national and international news and opinion about religion, trends and Christian living.

Once each month, the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board pays for the Recorder and Events insert to be mailed to all church and associational leaders who don't subscribe to the paper.

If you're a once-a-month recipient, subscribing to the Recorder could have two benefits. First, every individual subscription from Kentucky Baptist leaders relieves the KBC of additional expense to send Events to you. Second, you get four times the news and features offered in the Recorder by having a year-round subscription.

To subscribe, call (502) 244-6470 or write to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253. An individual subscription for one year costs \$10.60.

A discounted rate of \$8.50 is available when two or more people from the same church subscribe.

Conflict Resolution Available to Churches

If your church is troubled by internal conflict, there's good news and bad news.

The bad news: You're not alone.

The good news: Help is available through the services of a conflict management consultant.

Guy Futral, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's minister/church support division, reports an increasing number of requests to his office for help resolving church conflict.

This may not indicate more conflict today than before, but at least indicates a greater willingness to deal with conflict openly, he said.

Futral defines conflict as situations where two or more parties believe that what each wants is incompatible with what the other wants.

In cases of church conflict—whether between the pastor and church leaders, between two or more staff members or between segments of the congregation—the best hope for a resolution is to call in an outside mediator, Futral advised.

A trained conflict management consultant can help congregations discover the causes of their disagreements, find a way out and see a vision for a better future, he said.

In most cases, current congregational conflicts open old wounds unresolved from previous conflicts, Futral said. That makes unraveling church conflict more complex.

"Conflict resolution is an effort to resolve some of the old, buried issues as well as the current issues, and then focus the congregation's attention on what they will do in the future."

Futral and several other Kentucky Baptists are trained conflict management consultants. They are available to advise Kentucky Baptist congregations, or to recommend other consultants.

The consulting process usually involves two weekend events, one for a listening process and another for congregational participation in a resolution process.

When properly handled, conflict can produce some positive results, Futral explained. Some of these include:

- Producing better ideas.
- Forcing people to search for new approaches.
- Surfacing and dealing with longstanding problems.
- Clarifying points of view.
- Stimulating interest and activity.

■ Giving people a chance to test their capacities.

But conflict also can produce negative results that may be fatal or life-threatening to a church, he added. Some of these include:

- Causing people to feel defeated or demeaned.
- Increasing distance between people.
- Creating a climate of distrust and suspicion.
- Causing good, creative people to leave.
- People or small groups that ought to cooperate may become concerned only with their narrow interests.
- Active or passive

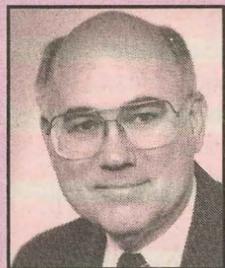
resistance may develop where teamwork is needed.

Despite these dangers, and in spite of the fact that help is available, the biggest barrier to conflicts being resolved in churches is denial that conflict exists, Futral said.

He compares this to a marriage that everyone who observes recognizes to be troubled by conflict, but the couple themselves won't recognize it. Like such couples, congregations often wrongly declare, "We can handle it on our own."

But few congregations either can or do "handle it," he said, without outside help.

For more information on conflict resolution in your church, call Futral at (502) 245-4101 or write his office at Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40243.



Guy Futral



EVANGELISM

Preparing spiritually

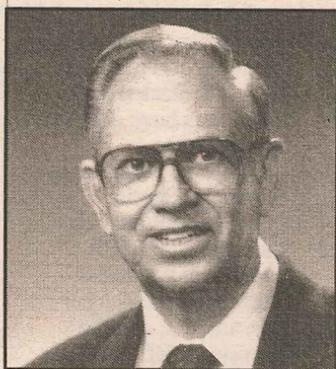
"Sessions of Prayer" for Here's Hope '95. Share Jesus Now. September 19-20 • Elizabethtown, Severns Valley Baptist Church

Organizational and promotional planning are in motion. Now comes the spiritual groundwork.

Sessions of Prayer for Here's Hope '95 Share Jesus Now, a two day event September 19-20, will call Kentucky Baptists to pray for Southern Baptists' simultaneous revivals emphasis which begins next year. Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, is the host site.

Sessions of Prayer will offer attendees:

- A time of devotional music and worship, led by Allen Case, minister of music, Severns Valley Baptist Church
- A brief message on prayer by T.W. Hunt, prayer specialist in the Discipleship and Family Development Division at the Baptist Sunday School Board. Hunt travels across the nation encouraging



T. W. Hunt

Southern Baptists to pray. He is the author of the 1987 Baptist Doctrine Study textbook on prayer and a 13-week Lay Institute for Equipping course, PrayerLife, which was released in 1988.

Following a brief study on prayer, Hunt will lead Kentucky Baptists in uplifting requests for Here's Hope '95.



Allen Case

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's Office for Evangelism is sponsoring the September 19-20 free event. The Monday evening session begins at 7:00 p.m. (EDT). The Tuesday afternoon session, which begins at 1:00 p.m. (EDT), is a repeat.

Call Bill Jagers, director, Office for Evangelism, at (502) 245-4101, extension 331, for more information.

Other prayer-oriented ways local churches can prepare for Here's Hope '95

Praying for laborers

Jesus said, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:38).

Laborers are needed to harvest God's fields. There is no shortage of lost people, only a shortage of soul-winners. This is a problem faced by all churches, large and small.

Church members will not become soul-winners until they are convicted by the Holy Spirit and surrender to His will. Then they will share their faith. The following activities will help members do this. These arrangements can be made by a designated prayer committee.

Wednesday night prayer meeting

Consider setting aside one upcoming Wednesday night for a prayer meeting to pray for laborers. Suggested formats include:

- Dismiss other midweek activities and meet for one hour (adults, youth and older children).
- Sing a hymn on soul-winning: "Rescue the Perishing," "Lord Lay Some Soul upon My Heart," "Set My Soul Afire," "Lead Me to Some Soul Today," or an appropriate song in the language of the congregation.
- Ask someone to sing "My House is Full but My Field is Empty," "People

Need the Lord," or an appropriate song in the language of the congregation.

- Do a 15-minute Bible study on Matthew 9:36-38, emphasizing:

A plentiful harvest
The lost are everywhere
The workers are few
Pray that the Lord will send workers.

Ask Jesus to send soul-winners from your church.

Another Wednesday night prayer meeting could focus on workers harvesting souls.

Sunday night prayer call

Another way to pray for workers is to have a prayer call during one or two upcoming Sunday night services. Speak about the tremendous need for soul-winners; ask someone to provide music about soul-winning; call members to pray that God will send workers into His harvest. Ask those who will to kneel at the altar. Close the prayer time when appropriate.

Prayer retreat

Another option is a prayer retreat. This is an excellent way to pray for workers and the lost by name. If you decide to have a prayer retreat, there must be thorough planning. Consider these suggestions:

- Decide the length and time of the retreat (overnight, one evening, all day

Saturday). If the the retreat is overnight, consider child care, food and other arrangements.

- Decide if the retreat is for everyone or just a select group (deacons and spouses, Sunday School workers, youth).
- Plan the time schedule. Include breaks, refreshments (optional), and the prayer agenda.
- Choose the type music to be used, considering the availability of a piano, guitar, or tapes.

There are three objectives for the prayer retreat: cleansing and dedication of the members, listing the names of the lost, and praying for the Lord to send workers into His harvest.

The group can be divided into smaller groups, each with a group leader. The leader will take the small group through the one-hour agenda found in the Day of Prayer material. The group can be subdivided into smaller groups, each with its own leader. Follow the same format as found in the Day of Prayer material or develop your own format.

Material for this article is from the Here's Hope Share Jesus Now, "Step One of the Pastor's Preparation Guide," available from the Office for Evangelism at (502) 245-4101, extension 330.

Local church planning

September-December 1994

- September 23
Sunday School Launch Day
- October 2
Evangelize the Lost Launch day
- October 2-9
Church Member Enlistment
- October 9
Here's Hope Commitment Day
- October 16
Prayer Covenant Sunday
- Pastor and church attend associational Here's Hope kick-off rally during annual meeting
- October 15-November 19
Roman Road Witness Training (one day, any Saturday)

1995

January

- January Bible Study (Galatians)
- January 8
Soul Winning Commitment Day
- Continue Sunday School Prospect Discovery
- January 9-March 9
Implement 60 days of soul-winning
- January 14
Adult Roman Road Witness II

February

- Continue 60 days of soul-winning
- Begin Harvest Revival preparation plans six weeks before revival date
- February 19-22
Churchwide Home Mission Study

March - September

- Complete 60 days of soul-winning
- March 5-12
Week of Prayer for Home Missions
- March 12
Here's Hope. Share Jesus Now. Commitment Service
- Conduct a Harvest Revival
- Start-a-Church Sunday
- April 2
Evangelism Day in Sunday School

"From Step One of the Pastor's Preparation Guide"

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

DIRECT MISSIONS

Language missions: a growing ministry

**Language Leadership Conference
September 23-24
Baptist Building, Middletown**

Language missions are growing in Kentucky Baptist life. Because of this, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Direct Missions Department is sponsoring a Language Leadership Conference September 23-24 at the Baptist Building in Middletown. The Friday conference is 6:30-9:30 p.m. The Saturday conference is from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The event is free. Call to make reservations for lunch.

For further information, contact Tony Hough, Direct Missions Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 244-6461.



Conferences offered

The Language Leadership Conference is designed to instruct and inspire language pastors and leaders in their ministries. Three conferences will be offered:

Denominational Relationships

*Dr. Joe Hernandez
Assistant Vice President
Home Mission Board, SBC*

Who are Southern Baptists? How do we constitute a church? How do we become cooperative in state and national conventions?

Financial Stewardship

*Dr. Elias Pantoja
Manager for Special Groups
Annuity Board, SBC*
Church Budgeting; Making a Pastor's Package Work for Him; Retirement Package

Evangelistic Outreach: Here's Hope '95

*Rev. Bill Jagers
Director
Office for Evangelism, KBC*
Presentation of Here's Hope strategy for Ethnic and Language Churches

BROTHERHOOD

Does your fall calendar include these events?

Leadership/Human Needs Training Eight regional sessions September 1, 2, 15, 16

Next month's eight regional Leadership/Human Needs Training sessions will provide those interested in Brotherhood or its leadership positions the opportunity to learn more about the men and boys' missions organizations.

The eight regional Leadership/Human Needs Training sessions include:

September 1	<i>Southwestern Region</i> Lone Oak First Baptist Church
September 1	<i>Central Region</i> Radcliff Stithon Baptist Church
September 2	<i>Southeastern Region</i> London First Baptist Church
September 2	<i>Western Region</i> Dawson Springs First Baptist Church
September 15	<i>Southern Region</i> Russellville First Baptist Church
September 15	<i>North Central Region</i> Ft. Thomas Highland Hills Baptist
September 16	<i>South Central Region</i> Harrodsburg Harrodsburg Baptist
September 16	<i>Northeastern Region</i> Pikeville First Baptist Church

The time for each regional Leadership/Human Needs Training session is 7:00-9:00 p.m. local time.

State Brotherhood Convention October 7-8

Shepherdsville, First Baptist Church
Festivities begin with an annual Brotherhood Golf Tournament on October 6 at Louisville's Penn Run Golf Course. The convention begins the next day at 9:00 a.m.

Convention program personalities include: Don Jones, director, National Red Cross Disaster Relief; Wyman Copass, pastor, Yellow Creek Baptist Church, Owensboro; Rusty Griffin, coordinator, Brotherhood Commission Overseas Projects; Mickey Caison, coordinator, Brotherhood Commission Disaster Relief; Mike Melloan, regional Brotherhood director; Richard Easterling, pastor, Liberty Baptist Church, Liberty; Randall Rogers, president, Kentucky Brotherhood; and Bill Jagers, director, Office for Evangelism, KBC.

For more information on these Brotherhood events, contact Bob Simpkins or John Lott, KBC Brotherhood Department at (502) 245-4101, extension 319.

FAMILY MINISTRY

Find growth and enrichment as an individual and family

Make plans now to attend an enrichment or training event sponsored by the Family Ministry Department. Mark your calendar now and watch future editions of EVENTS for additional information or call the Family Ministry Department at 502-245-4101.

Enrichment for Couples Fall Festival of Marriage Southern Baptist Seminary September 23-25, 1994

This weekend retreat provides couples a time to get away and concentrate on their marriages. Couples find ways to strengthen their relationships through worship and fellowship with other couples and through workshop opportunities. Make plans now to attend this event held in the relaxed atmosphere of Southern Seminary. A list of local hotels is available upon request.

Enrichment for Single Adults Single Adult Retreat Cave City Convention Center March 17-19, 1995

This centrally located event is planned especially for single adults and their leaders. The weekend experience is of special interest to never married singles and those single again as a result of divorce or death of a spouse. Single Adult Sunday School teachers

and other church leaders will gain insights and learn effective ways to minister to singles.

Enrichment for Senior Adults Area Daytime Celebrations

Four area daytime celebrations bring events closer to senior adults. These celebrations provide senior adults from varied-size churches an opportunity to have fun and fellowship and also grow spiritually.

March 21—Lone Oak FBC (Paducah)

March 23—Madisonville FBC

March 28—Ashland FBC

March 30—London FBC

Senior Adult Overnight Retreats

Senior Adults and their leaders have two choices for overnight retreats. These events are held in the relaxed atmosphere of our state Baptist assemblies. They begin on Monday evening and end with lunch on Wednesday. These retreats provide senior adults and their leaders an opportunity to have fellowship, deepen their spiritual lives and renew their commitment to serve.

May 15-17—Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Bagdad

May 22-24—Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly, Hardin

Especially for Leaders

Divorce Recovery: A Training Workshop for Leaders

**Haworth Conference
January 27-28, 1995
Melbourne Heights Baptist Church
Louisville, Kentucky**

Half of all marriages made today will, in all likelihood, end in divorce. About six out of ten second marriages end in divorce. What is your church doing to provide an effective ministry to those caught in the pain of divorce?

Make plans now to attend this year's Haworth Conference to find practical help on how you can develop a divorce recovery ministry in your church. Experienced leaders will share their insights and expertise on how to provide an effective ministry to those persons who have been divorced.

Meet us on a Super Saturday

You will have an opportunity to receive training to meet the needs of families on a Super Saturday*. Two family ministry interest conferences are being provided on Super Saturdays:

■ **True Love Waits**—Learn how this nationally acclaimed program can help you help youth make wise decisions about their sexuality.

■ **Responding to the Needs of Families**—Learn how you as a church leader can become pro-active in helping families grow in Christlikeness.

*Look for information about Super Saturdays on page 8a of EVENTS.

MINISTER/CHURCH SUPPORT

Ministers' wives gather October 21-22 for renewal, recreation, fellowship

The eighth annual Minister's Wives Retreat is scheduled for October 21-22 at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly. This retreat provides a time for renewal, recreation and fellowship for wives of ministers. This year's theme is "Walk with Me. . . Today and Tomorrow."



Mary Ann Ward

The retreat keynote speaker is Mary Ann Ward, a former Southern Seminary Ministry Formation Supervisor and wife of Dr. Wayne Ward, a retired Southern Seminary faculty member. In her address to attendees, Mary Ann will emphasize the ways in which the Bible describes our "walk with God," today and tomorrow, now and forever.

The retreat begins with dinner at 5:30 Friday and concludes at 2:00 p.m. Saturday. For those wanting a "little extra," early bird conferences begin at 3:30 p.m. Friday and additional bonus conferences are offered on Saturday between 2:00 and 3:30 p.m.

Pre-registration is \$15 per person and is due by October 3.

The total registration cost is \$45, but the pre-registration fee is included in the total amount.

For more information, contact:

Peggy Berry
Minister/Church Support Division
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, Kentucky 40253-0433
(502) 245-4101, extension 243

Retreat topics--take your pick

In addition to worship and fellowship times together, a number of conferences are planned to cover a variety of interests and needs. Participants will have the opportunity to choose three or more of the following sessions:

- **Domestic Abuse**
Sheila Downing Estep
- **Folded Fabric Ornament**
Debbie Fisher
Wife, mother, quiltmaker
Mayfield
Cheryl Slaughter
Wife, mother, quiltmaker
Mayfield
- **Tyler Turkey Pin**
Debbie Fisher and Cheryl Slaughter
- **Redesigning Personal Paradigms**
Dee Gilliland
Executive Director/Treasurer
Kentucky WMU
- **Redeeming Your Time**
Debbie Lloyd, freelance writer
"Minister of Education on Sabbatical"; mother, pastor's wife
Shepherdsville
- **Traits of a Healthy Family**
Sheila Talley
Minister's wife, counselor at
Cornerstone Counseling
Lexington
- **A Christian World-View for Today and Tomorrow**
Sharyn Dowd, Professor
New Testament
Lexington Theological Seminary
- **Spiritual Growth within Your Reach**
Michael R. Duncan, Pastor
Eminence
- **A Missionary's Perspective**
Leslie England
Missionary, Phillipines
On furlough in Campbellsville
- **Cuts, Breaks and Bruises that Don't Show**
Sheila Downing Estep
Administrative Assistant
Baptist Sunday School Board

FAMILY MINISTRY

Symposium to provide useful tools for leaders who minister to youth

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will host a conference for church leaders who minister with youth and their families. The "Youth and Family Ministry Symposium: Models of Ministry in the Local Church" is slated for October 7-8.

The effective and caring youth and/or family minister today recognizes the necessity of complementary youth and family ministry. However, it is difficult for the busy minister to develop such a comprehensive ministry with limited resources. This conference seeks to provide such resources.

The event features a keynote address by Martin P. Strommen, founder of Search Institute and Augsburg Youth and Family Institute.

Ten workshops are available Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. These workshops will provide pertinent and applicable resources for your ministry. The workshops offer a forum to discuss issues,

concerns, ideas and strategies for youth and family ministry.

You will leave this conference with workable resources you can actually use! Who should attend? Anyone whose ministry involves ministering with youth and their families in any capacity. This includes:

- youth ministers
- pastors
- ministers of education
- family ministers
- church social workers

The conference begins with registration at 8:45 a.m. on Friday and concludes at noon Saturday.

Cost: \$125, includes one breakfast, one lunch and materials.

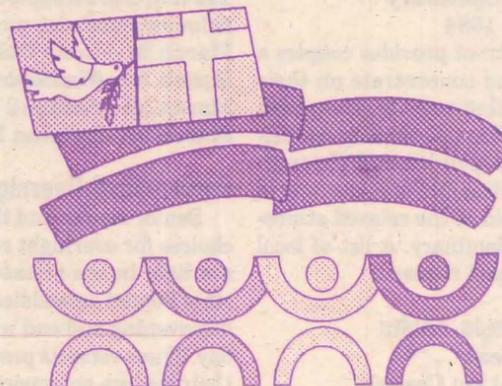
For further information, call the Family Ministry Department, KBC, at (502) 245-4101, extension 250, or the Continuing Education Office of Southern Seminary at (502) 897-4315.

PARTNERSHIP MISSIONS

A Christmas worth remembering

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's Partnership Missions Office wishes to express appreciation to Kentucky Baptist churches for their support in sending 15,000 Christmas gift bags to Moscow children. Partnership Missions received 1,500 additional bag requests, but were unable to fill them due to lack of quantity.

Still needed: Bibles. Send a \$1 donation for children's New Testaments. The children's gift evangelism team volunteers will distribute these Bibles during a trip to Russia December 29-January 12. Call Benton Williams or Calvin Wilkins, KBC Partnership Missions Office, at (502) 245-4101, extension 236 for more details.



KENTUCKY / RUSSIA
BAPTIST PARTNERSHIP

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

CHURCH MUSIC

Seniors to join voices, tune hearts

Tune My Heart, a mini-musical for senior adult choirs, is the focus of the Senior Adult Choir Festival October 24-25. Seniors will gather for two days of mass choir singing, fellowship, individual choir singing and worship. The festival host site is Living Hope Baptist Church, Bowling Green.

Don Schlosser, a music design editor for adult and youth periodicals at the Baptist Sunday School Board, will be the festival's guest director. Karen Love, of Living Hope Baptist Church, will serve as accompanist.

This year's featured special music presenters is the senior choir from Bowling Green's First Baptist Church. Their performance is Monday evening at 8:30.

Interested choirs can prepare Tune My Heart weeks in advance. This mini-musical will highlight the final worship service on Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. The public is invited to attend free of charge.



Registration is \$50 per choir if entered by October 7.

For a registration form or more information, contact Cheryl Davis, Church Music Department, KBC, at (502) 245-4101, extension 325.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

You are coming...aren't you?

Super Saturday '94 is a must-event for church leaders. It offers both leadership and special interest conferences designed to enhance your Discipleship Training skills for leaders in the following areas: adults, youth, children and preschool.

Also:

Special Interest Conferences

Life Support Leader's Handbook • This resource is designed for leaders and facilitator of LIFE Support groups. It includes how to organize the ministry.

Bible Drills • NIV option will be available for both children and youth in 1995.

Search for Significance • This interactive resource helps participants build their self-worth on the forgiveness and unconditional love of Christ.

TeamKID • Kinds in Discipleship, a discipleship club for children grades 1-6, is designed to help you reach kids.

Untangling Relationships: A Christian Perspective on Co-dependency • This book helps those persons who are codependent or those who live and work with co-dependents.

Wise Counsel • Practical training for lay leaders to learn basic counseling skills for use in daily situations.



Remaining Dates and Sites:

August 27	Lexington Immanuel Baptist
September 10	Ashland Unity Baptist
September 17	Paducah Lone Oak Baptist
September 24	Somerset First Baptist

Questions? Contact Doug Strader or Jim Clontz, KBC Discipleship Training Department, at (502) 245-4101, extension 335.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Circle this date now!

Super Sunday III October 30

October 30 has been designated as Kentucky Baptist's High Attendance Day in Sunday School. This annual event gives each church an opportunity to reach new persons for Christ and His Kingdom.

The statewide Super Sunday II goal is to reach 200,000 people in Sunday School. Last year's event reached nearly 200,000.

A complete packet of instructions and promotion aids will be sent this month to each church in the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

For further details, contact either Chip Miller, Jeff Hicks or Jewell Nelson, KBC Sunday School Department, at (502) 245-4101, extension 300.

VBS...not just for kids

The unusually bad weather forced school closings, and delayed the last day of school here until June 4. It also caused another problem for me. What would I do with my student summer missionaries and other volunteers on the Vacation Bible School team? We solved that problem by taking Vacation Bible School to Beech Tree Manor Nursing Home in Jellico.

I scheduled the VBS with the activities director at the home so there would be no schedule conflict. We planned a fast moving one hour program that included the pledges to the flags, Bible study, a mission story, lots of group singing, special music and clowns. The schedule was divided into 10 minute segments.

The school began on Monday morning with 35 present. Students were typical nursing home patients. Some were more alert than others. All of them seemed to enjoy the daily activities. On the second morning, a patient who is retarded, and

has been institutionalized all of his life, came to VBS with his own American flag for the pledges. He brought it every morning. We ended the school five days later with 35 present.

There are a few problems. Some patients talked out loud during the sessions. Others wanted to go some place else. We witnessed one fight, and a wheel chair wreck. All in all, it was a wonderful week.

Nursing home Vacation Bible School is definitely different. It is challenging, demanding and rewarding.

Janus Jones
Director of Missions
Mount Zion/South Union
Baptist Associations
Williamsburg, Kentucky

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

CHURCH GROWTH & ADMINISTRATION

A missionary's testimony of Cooperative giving

When Dr. Baker James Cauthen was president of the Foreign Mission Board, he often spoke of the cooperative Program as being the 'Life-Line' of Southern Baptist missions. He said it well, I think.

For one Kentucky boy, that 'Life-Line' functioned like this, though at first I hardly realized how it was all happening:

My area of our state was very poor. My home church was small with *preaching* only once each month. Obviously there was little pastoral leadership. So, how do you take a little fellow like that and move him along in life to the point of being an 'emeritus' foreign missionary with thirty-four years in Bangladesh?

At the age of nine I became a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We never missed Sunday School. Kind gracious women led my Royal Ambassadors (RA) group. Then, another wonderful opportunity came along for that Kentucky boy. The 'associational missionary' helped the little church organize a Baptist Young People's Union which met on Sunday night.

At BYPU, most of us read our *parts* but that didn't turn out too badly. In a period of about six years that church produced six 'preacher' boys. God was at work with two of those preaching, living and dying in our home area. One lived and died in New York as a Baptist pastor. Another gave most of his life as an Indiana pastor.

The fifth of those six is my only brother, a home missionary in California.

Since we rarely saw our pastor, the 'associational missionary' gave strong support to the church leaders. His work area covered several associations, yet he had time and ability to help many of the churches.

So, by the time I completed high school, Cooperative Program support had its place in my life. Sunday School, BYPU, RAs and VBS which were organized by the 'associational missionary,' were all, in one way or another, involved with Cooperative Program support.

Along with these, deeply stamped upon my mind, are the speakers, mostly home missionaries, in those *Schools of Missions* now known as World Mission Conferences.

In 1958 when I was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board, my eldest sister said to me, "Well, you got what you wanted didn't you." I had no idea what she meant by those words. She explained, "When you were little, after attending a *School of Missions*, you could only talk about being a missionary preacher for the starving Hindu people of India." That word, I understood, was forceful to me as a little fellow. Now, I could only reply I was on my way to what had been a part of the India of my boyhood, East Pakistan.

Of course, I gave little thought as to the source of all these good things being poured into me as a little Kentucky boy. But surely, God was giving thought to it!

At the age of sixteen, after my high school graduation, I did begin to understand much of what was happening to me as I became a friend of my new *full-time* pastor, O.G. Lawless. *Full-time* meant we had *preaching*, good preaching, every Sunday afternoon. We were back for BYPU but our pastor was not there.

His first responsibility was to his other church where he preached Sunday morning and Sunday night.

A good buddy of my pastor was the 'associational missionary,' Isaac Hucaby. The two seemed to be involved in everything in our little association. Neither had much formal education but both were extremely intelligent and I knew they were highly, informally, educated. I also knew I would never reach the heights these two reached but because of them, I wanted to be better and do more for my Lord.

These two gentlemen often spoke of Cooperative Program support. They helped me to see something of what happens when Baptists work and give together. As a teenager, I attended the Baptist World Alliance with my pastor when it met in Cleveland, Ohio. Isaac Hucaby constantly involved me in VBS in churches all over our association.

But after farming for four years, my life took another turn. I became a student at Campbellsville Junior College, a Kentucky Cooperative Program supported institution. God used college professors and BSU to help me find myself. Two years later, I was a preacher boy with my mind and heart open to preaching anywhere in the World.

Then, another step: My senior college was supported by the generous giving of Texas Baptists. Wayland Baptist University exposed me to international students from many countries around the world. I graduated knowing I was to be a foreign missionary.

Then Southern Seminary revealed to me the greater outreach of Southern Baptist giving.

This support involved all of the Southern Baptists, not just one state convention.

As a Southern Baptist missionary, I knew the sources of my salary, the house in which I lived, the vehicle I drove, the cost of sending my children to school, and my retirement. The 'Life-line' was at work in my life.

Now, I get an even better look. Just a glance at what I see in Kentucky makes me glad I can participate through my church in supporting missions, in supporting our four Baptist colleges and other institutions of our Kentucky Baptist convention. I don't know everything we are doing but what I do know and see, I am generally well pleased.

My heart beats rapidly when I understand more about what God is doing through our Cooperative Program-supported work from the Ohio River to the Tennessee line and from Pikeville to Paducah. In eastern Kentucky a little church was ready to close its doors and disband. But someone suggested, "Let's see if we can get a little assistance from the Missions department of the KBC." They got it. Now, about 125 people gather on Sunday morning in a beautiful, "paid-for-by-themselves," \$250,000.00 building.

In the three years since Betty and I returned from Bangladesh, I haven't seen it all; but I have seen much from Maine to San Diego and from Chicago to South Carolina. I am a part of what is happening across this great area of our nation through the work of the Home Mission Board as my church, the Westport Road Baptist Church (Louisville), guarantees that part of my tithes and offerings is contributed through the Cooperative Program.

So, when I meet a deacon in the Uptown Baptist Church, Chicago, and realize he is a former drug addict, I find myself thanking God that he permits me to be part of Southern Baptists giving together.

Though most of the time I am quiet about it, I surely do not want anything to happen which would lessen this strong support of what God is doing through Southern Baptists in cooperative giving. In fact, I find myself praying, "Dear God, help us a Southern Baptists to cooperate more freely, more generously, as we share your love with people throughout your entire world. In particular, dear God, help me to never fail in support of my Home Mission brother in California, nor of that western Kentucky man who serves with his family in Burundi and who's father is a retired pastor. May my support for a western Kentucky woman who's father has been one of our director of missions, who's aunt served as a missionary in Japan, even as she serves in that difficult part of your world we know as Yemen, never fail."

"And, dear God, it really 'comes home to me' when I remember that eastern Kentucky man, a pastor's son, an only child, serves with his family in Mongolia."

"Nor, dear Father, let me ever forget what it has taken to get these good people to the place in life where they now serve effectively for Your glory..."

"And don't let our support in giving waiver... for I believe this is Your thing You are doing."

Jim McKinley, retired missionary to Bangladesh

Kentucky Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Free Materials Order Form

Quantity	Item	Item#
	Cooperative Program Church Event Guide <i>Evangelize All the Lost</i>	SCP-32
	Cooperative Program Month Poster	SCP-14
	Transformation Through Cooperative Giving • Cooperative Program 1994-95 Budget Brochure <i>Identifies destination of CP dollars, includes pie graph</i>	
	Transformation Through Cooperative Giving Poster	
	A Cooperative Program Cram Course <i>A concise presentation of the Cooperative Program especially for youth and adults</i>	SCP-25
	Cooperative Program Messages for Children	SCP-2
	Cooperative Program Bulletin Board Ideas	SCP-8
	Giving Together (limit one) <i>A Cooperative Program/Stewardship drama and activities book for use in churches of all sizes.</i>	SCP-23
	Personalized Computer Printout of your church's CP giving September 93-August 94 <i>Allow 2 weeks delivery</i>	

Quantity	Tracts	Item#
	"Southern Baptists Working Together"	CP-22
	"What is the Cooperative Program?"	NCP-28
	"Do My Church's CP Gifts Count?"	NCT8-1
	"A Plan that Works"	NCTO-7
	"Why Increase Cooperative Program Giving?"	NCT5-9

Get Ready for 1995

	Cooperative Program Day in Your Church April 9, 1995 • Planning Guide	SCP-4
	Cooperative Program Feature <i>Plan monthly mission features</i>	SCP-21

Church _____
 Contact Person _____
 Address _____
 _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Association _____

Send orders to: Church Growth & Administration, KBC
 P.O. Box 43433 • Louisville, KY 40353 • 502/245-4101

STEWARDSHIP

Budget planning? It's elementary

Advance Planning and Evaluation



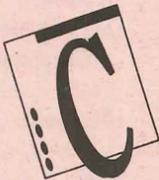
- Church giving history
- Stewardship Standard
- Projects to be budgeted
- Ministry proposal form
- Church budgeting task assignments

Budget Preparation



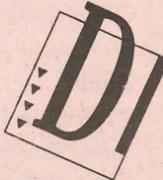
- Example of budget
- Church staff compensation
- Presentation suggestions

Cultivating Commitment in Giving



- Budget program suggestions
- Forward Program
- Other ideas for cultivating commitment

Development Projects for Growing Stewards



- 1994-95 planning calendar
- Suggested stewardship and Cooperative Program activities

The above are a few of the contents from *Church Budgeting and Promotion*. Call Doug Strader, KBC Stewardship, at (502) 245-4101, extension 335 for more details.

SEMINARY EXTENSION

Seminary education, closer to home

For over 43 years, Seminary Extension has provided theological education and ministry training to thousands of church workers. Many of these were persons who answered God's call to ministry later in life and were unable to attend college or seminary.

Today Seminary Extension also offers training to many other church leaders, both paid staff and volunteers, including ministers, Sunday school leaders and teachers. Several curricula plans have been developed to meet the needs of church leaders regardless of their academic backgrounds. Some courses and programs of study lead to the earning of certificates and diplomas.

In Kentucky, there are eight active Seminary Extension centers with 156 students enrolled. Hopefully, at least two new extension centers will offer courses this fall. There are 60 students enrolled in home study through Independent Study Institute of Seminary Extension.

New courses being provided by Seminary Extension courses are reasonable. The Kentucky Baptist Convention provides financial assistance to associations offering classes and offers scholarships to ministers completing Seminary Extension courses.

For detailed information on any Seminary Extension programs, contact one of the following sources:



Seminary Extension

Donald Spencer
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, Kentucky 40253-0433
(502) 245-4101

Delbert G. Fann
Volunteer Seminary Extension
Consultant
606 Hawthorne Avenue
Shelbyville, Kentucky 40065

FOUNDATION

Advantages of a charitable gift annuity

Annuities have also been around for many years. Many people have long relied upon them as vehicles for providing income during retirement. When the concepts of charitable giving and annuities are combined, they offer distinct benefits for people who enjoy giving.

The charitable gift annuity is a unique plan for satisfying both philanthropic and financial needs. Under the terms of a charitable gift annuity, a donor transfers property to a qualified non-profit organization, such as the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. The organization contracts to pay the donor a specified amount for life of another person. At the death of the donor or a survivor, the money that remains is used for the charitable purposes of the organization.

A gift annuity pays each year a certain agreed-upon percentage of the amount you transfer to fund the annuity. Several factors combine to determine the percentage rate, which, once set for a particular annuity, never changes.

The exact amount of the annuity will depend on your age, the size of your gift and whether there are other beneficiaries. In most cases, the annuity will be from 4.5% of the amount of the gift to as much as 11%. But, there's more than just guaranteed payments

for life. You can generally expect these other financial advantages:

- An immediate income tax deduction
- Favorably taxed income
- Minimized capital gains taxes when you give appreciated property (the capital gains tax on your paper profit is partially avoided and the rest of the capital gain will be spread over the period you will be receiving the annuity payments).

If you have wanted to make a substantial gift but would also like to retain income, a gift annuity may be the answer. In addition to the possible financial benefits you may derive, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you have helped in the advancement of Kentucky Baptist Convention causes for many future generations.

For more information about the Charitable Gift Annuity, simply call Richard Cames, Kentucky Baptist Foundation office at (502) 245-4101, extension 354.

CEDARMORE ASSEMBLY

The best kept secret

One of the most surprising, but repeated statements Cedarmore Baptist Assembly staff hears is, "I didn't know this facility was out here. Do you have any other events during the year?"

Help us spread the secret

Cedarmore staff is ready to serve your event needs. The Kentucky Baptist assembly, located in Shelby County, offers facilities for all kinds of events—retreats and conferences for church and associational staffs, deacons, choirs, youth, Sunday school classes, discipleship classes, WMU, Brotherhood, just to name a few.

The duration of stay can be as short as a drive-in for a day involving two sessions and a meal. Or, Your event could extend overnight and include three meals. A week's stay is common, too, with Cedarmore providing meals, lodging and conference space.

Other activities

If your group likes physical activity we can provide special projects. The assembly has constant repair needs which include cleaning, landscaping, painting, electrical,

mechanical and plumbing. Another project is demolitions of several old barns where lumber and material can be salvaged.

The Cedarmore secret holds something for everyone! Contact the assembly for more details:

Cedarmore Baptist Assembly
Attn.: Harold Barnes
P. O. Box 37
Bagdad, Kentucky 40003

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

OTHER EVENTS

Direct Missions

World Hunger Day is October 9.
Order theme materials: Christian Life Commission
901 Commerce Suite 550
Nashville, TN 37203

Evangelism

September 12-14
CWT at Hardin Baptist Church has been cancelled.

Sunday School

January 1995
Winter Bible Study topic is "Galatians: Saved by Grace."

Small Church Growth

Tour Dates/Sites:

January 16
Hardin Church, Hardin
January 17
Wing Avenue, Owensboro
January 19
Eastwood, Bowling Green
January 20
Northside, Elizabethtown
January 21
Woodland, Middletown

KBC

A 1994 KBC accommodations listing is in this Western Recorder issue. Make your reservations EARLY!
The KBC annual meeting is November 15-16 at Frankfort's Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center.
Somerset

Upcoming Events

AUGUST

Emphasis:
Assembly Conferences
On-to-College Day

Church Growth

SUPER SATURDAYS

•August 27
Lexington
Immanuel Baptist Church

Evangelism

•August 25-27
Continuing Witness
Training Conference
Ashland, Unity Baptist
•August 29
Conference on Cults
Louisville
Chapel Park Baptist
•August 30
Conference on Cults
Radcliff
Stithton Baptist Church

WMU

WMU
Associational
Council training

•August 27
Somerset

SEPTEMBER

Emphasis:
Foundations, SBC;
Season of Prayer for
State Missions and
Eliza Broadus Offering;
State Missions Day in
Sunday School and
Offering; Student
Join-the-Church Day

Brotherhood

Regional Leadership/
Human Needs
Conferences

•September 1
Southwestern Region
Lone Oak
First Baptist Church
•September 1
Central Region
Radcliff
Stithton Baptist Church
•September 2
Southeastern Region
London
First Baptist Church
•September 2
Western Region
Dawson Springs
First Baptist Church
•September 15
Southern Region
Russellville
First Baptist Church

•September 15
North Central Region
Ft. Thomas
Highland Hills
•September 16
South Central Region
Harrodsburg
Harrodsburg Baptist
Church
•September 16
Northeastern Region
Pikeville
First Baptist Church

•September 4-10
Brotherhood
Leadership Week

•September 11-18
State Missions Week of
Prayer

•September 17
Disaster Relief Training
Mayfield
First Baptist Church

Church Growth

SUPER SATURDAYS

•September 10
Ashland
Unity Baptist
•September 17
Paducah
Lone Oak Baptist
•September 24
Somerset
First Baptist

Church Music

•September 25-26
Chorale Retreat
Louisville
Site TBA

•September 29-30
Singing Women Retreat
Elizabethtown
Severns Valley Baptist
Church

Direct Missions

•September 23-24
Language Leadership
Conference
Middletown
Baptist Building

Evangelism

•September 1
Here's Hope Launch
Prayer
emphasis

•September 19-20
Sessions of Prayer for
Here's Hope
Elizabethtown
Severns Valley Baptist
Church

Student

•September 5-9
Summer missions
debriefings
Local campuses

•September 8-9
Church Recreators Retreat

Golf Scramble (Sept. 8)
New Castle
Henry County
Country Club

Banquet (Sept. 8)
Jeffersontown
First Baptist Church

Ropes Course (Sept. 9)

•September 9-10
Student Missions Advisory
Committee
Middletown
Baptist Building

•September 17
Share Seminar Weekend
Local campuses

•September 30-October 2
State Student Convention
Williamsburg
Cumberland College

WMU

•September 11-18
State Missions Week of
Prayer/Offering

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

Check the appropriate boxes and mail the provided form below to:
Communications Office, Attn.: Denise H. Withers, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433,
Louisville, KY 40253-0433. To talk directly to a KBC department, call (502) 245-4101.

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

To Receive More Information

- Cedarmore Baptist Assembly (info only)
 Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly (info only)

Family Ministry

- Fall Festival of Marriage

Church Growth

- Super Saturdays

WMU

- Fall Retreats for Women

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Office _____ Home _____

Church _____ Association _____

Leadership Position _____

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

To Register

Super Saturdays (Pre-reg. fee: \$8 p/person)

- Aug. 27, Lexington, Immanuel Baptist Church
 Sept. 10, Ashland, Unity Baptist Church
 Sept. 17, Paducah, Lone Oak Baptist Church
 Sept. 24, Somerset, First Baptist Church

RUSSIAN HOME MISSIONARY SUPPORT AGREEMENT

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

1. Name of your church _____

2. Address _____

3. Telephone Number () _____

4. Pastor's Name _____

5. Your Name and Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

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

Date: _____

Signed: _____

BAPTISTS

Molly Marshall resigns after Mohler threatens firing

By Marv Knox
Editor

LOUISVILLE—Molly Marshall, the first woman granted tenure in Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's school of theology, has resigned her position effective Dec. 31.

Marshall, an associate professor of theology, was elected to the faculty in 1984 and granted tenure in 1988. Controversy—especially allegations regarding her views of salvation and the roles of women in ministry—has dogged her from the beginning.

During most of her career, Marshall received the support of seminary administrators, even as some trustees and others called for her dismissal. But that balance shifted last year, when trustees elected Al Mohler to succeed Roy Honeycutt as president.

The situation climaxed June 21, when the administration informed her charges for her dismissal would be initiated if she did not resign, Marshall said, an assertion documented by her correspondence with David Dockery, the seminary's vice president for academic administration.

Mohler declined to comment on the specifics of the charges that would have been brought. However, a June

30 memorandum from Dockery to Marshall indicates the charges would have centered around two areas.

First was her alleged "failure to relate constructively to" the Southern Baptist Convention, such as "teachings that might be in conflict with motions or resolutions passed at the SBC or support of/involvement with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship."

Second was alleged "violations of the Abstract of Principles," the seminary's governing document, regarding the doctrines of atonement, universalism, perseverance of the saints, God and Holy Scripture.

"The Abstract has been a smoke-screen," Marshall contended. She said she sent Mohler a memo Aug. 16 in which she reviewed each of the Abstract's 20 principles. Mohler responded with a brief letter that acknowledged receipt of the memo but that did not deal with her comments.

"Given a chance to respond to a clear presentation of my views, there was none," she said. "Hence, the issue is not theology."

She also charged that the administration's actions to remove her had constituted "a direct breach of contract" because she was notified of the plan to remove her even before charg-

es against her were presented.

Mohler countered that the issue is indeed theology, and that the appropriate forum for presentation and response to her views would have been provided if charges had been presented. He said the contract was not breached because the process for removal would have been initiated when he brought charges against her.

Mohler's recommendation for dismissal would have called for Marshall's case to be given a hearing before a disciplinary panel. If the panel affirmed Mohler's move, the charges to fire her would have gone to the seminary's trustees in October.

And that would have resulted in her ouster, Marshall said, noting she was told her trustee adversaries had both the votes and the will to fire her. If so, she would have been removed from the classroom and denied official contact with all students.

Because her resignation will not be effective until Dec. 31, she only will conduct her doctoral seminar this fall. The action removed her from her master's-level theology course.

Since Marshall joined the faculty in 1984, she has been a student favorite, known especially for her spirited, rapid-fire lectures and difficult exams. In 1993, she won the seminary's award for teaching excellence.

But her detractors—primarily conservative trustees—persistently have accused her of theological liberalism. It's a charge she successfully answered until this summer.

In 1986 and 1988, trustees determined charges that she believes in universalism—the notion that all peo-

ple will go to heaven—were without basis.

In defense, she wrote, "I ... clearly affirm the historical position of the evangelical church in its central belief in the necessity of Christ for salvation. Second, without qualification I affirm the church's evangelistic role in the proclamation of the gospel."

In 1990, Marshall, Honeycutt and five other faculty members were accused of liberalism. After a yearlong study, trustees declared the charges a rehash of previous claims, which the trustees already ruled invalid.

In 1992, the trustee academic personnel committee "brought to conclusion several years of continuing concern" related to her writings and declared "closure" on the charges. Later that year, trustees found no charges for dismissal after she was accused of espousing feminist theology.

This year, administrators demanded clarification of her remarks at a conference on women and the church. She noted she was asked to present an overview of feminist theology and made clear the views were not her own.

The difference between the early encounters and this summer's lies with the change in seminary administration, Marshall said. "I've always had unequivocal support from the president, provost and dean until the election of Al Mohler.

"He promised to enforce the Abstract of Principles. He has enforced it in his own rendering, which now stands as the measure of the faculty members' fidelity. We've never had an official interpretation. It always has



"What has made the difference is the change in president. I've always had unequivocal support from the president, provost and dean until the election of Al Mohler. He promised to enforce the Abstract of Principles. He has enforced it in his own rendering, which now stands as the measure of the faculty members' fidelity."
Molly Marshall

Christmas Joy Begins with You!



More than 11,138 churches like yours provided Christmas gifts last year for more than 363,677 children of prisoners. This year even more prisoner-parents have asked that their children receive gifts. You can help. Church volunteers are needed to buy and/or deliver Christmas gifts in the prisoner-parent's name, or volunteer one day a week in the Prison Fellowship office during the months of August-November. Children also receive an age-appropriate booklet that gives the gospel message.

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Prison Fellowship
P.O. Box 23063
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(502) 426-7291

Yes! Reserve our place.
Count our fellowship in on the ground-floor plans for Angel Tree this year. We want to reserve angels for _____ children (specify number).

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Name of pastor _____
Name of church _____
Street Address _____
City, ST & ZIP _____
Church phone () _____

INSPIRATIONAL TRAVEL 1994

Escorted by Rev. John Adkerson

Tour SP #4 16 Days-Australia & New Zealand-Oct. 3, '94

Tour HL #48 9 Days-Holy Land-November 9

Optional Extn: Egypt

Tour HL #49 9 Days-Holy Land & Egypt-December 26

Optional Extn: Rome

Pastors: Call for TOUR HOST information.

Contact: John Adkerson, PO Box 451174

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BAPTISTS

Molly Marshall resigns after Mohler threatens firing



"I am responsible to report to the board of trustees where there is a question of faithfulness to the Abstract ... I believe my interpretation of the Abstract is constant with the founders of this institution."

Al Mohler

Continued from page 7

been left to the liberty of the conscience of the faculty member."

Although he declined to cite specific charges, Mohler confirmed he believed Marshall crossed the line of fidelity to the Abstract.

"I am responsible to report to the board of trustees where there is a question of faithfulness to the Abstract and (a failure) to engage the denomination constructively," he said. "I believe my interpretation of the Abstract is constant with the founders of this institution. In my most honest judgment, significant concerns (about Marshall) remained, and these concerns were of a significant nature which would have produced formal charges."

Mohler rejected the notion that his decision to press charges would be tantamount to a guilty verdict. But he noted the trustees see the Abstract his way. "The president and the trustees share a basic understanding of the meaning and governing role of the Abstract. But I believe a hearing process would have been fair, thorough and respectful."

Observers of the situation have speculated that Marshall's gender has much to do with her troubles.

For her part, Marshall said: "I would say that is certainly a part of it. I'm an ordained Southern Baptist minister who has served as a pastor and am unapologetic for my views on the calling of women to ministry.

"They'll say it's not because I'm a woman; that we have other women on

the faculty. But because my position personifies a view that challenges hierarchical views against women in ministry, I have been the most visible target."

Mohler denied gender had anything to do with the situation.

"The issue is not the gender of the professor, but the substance of what the professor teaches," he said. "Even though I believe the New Testament excludes women from teaching authority and the pastorate in the church, this does not mean women should not teach on the faculty of the seminary or even in the school of theology."

Mohler declined to elaborate on the details of his problems with Marshall's teaching. But he did note: "Feminist theology, as distinct from the issue of the service of women in the church, is and has been one of proper concern related to Southern Baptist theological education. Without apology, Southern Seminary will not be open to a revision of basic Christian doctrine or of the text and character of Christian Scripture in order to meet the demands of what is now considered the mainstream of feminist theology."

Marshall said she was not an adherent of the "mainstream of feminist theology." However, she said the perspectives of a woman who is a theologian seem to be threatening to the new SBC power structure.

"The conservative resurgence is very fearful of the new wine of the liberating gospel of Jesus Christ," she said. "It breaks down barriers and

stands in judgment on dominative power. "I'm interested in the gospel being good news for people on the margin, for that is a theology of the Cross. The conservative resurgence portrays a triumphal theology of glory that finds ways to exclude people."

Marshall's career has been impacted by the larger "culture war" in society, she said. "There's a huge ideological critique going on, and I have attracted some issues. I think my views have been horribly misrepresented and caricatured. Fundamentalist men selectively read the Scripture and eschew women as equals in the body of Christ."

Mohler contended the issue is the integrity of theological education. "The Abstract of Principles has and will function as the anchor which will hold this institution to the truth of the gospel and the trust of the churches," he said. "I will answer to the board of trustees, to the churches and to God himself concerning my stewardship

of office. ... "There is absolutely no vindictiveness or personal agenda. The issues were theological."

Marshall said she chose to resign rather than fight the charges for three primary reasons.

"First, there was no chance of a fair hearing of my theological views because the decision to fire me was made prior to the disclosing of any charges," she said. "Second, I have become increasingly aware that the voices of dissent would not be tolerated under the Mohler presidency. I have no future here. And third, I care deeply for Ph.D. students whom I am supervising. If fired, I could not complete their supervision."

While affirming her colleagues, especially noting the other women on the faculty, Marshall claimed her ouster will send a message to them.

"The purging of one faculty member is a signal to others how the president and trustees plan to deal with dissenting voices."



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CRUISES

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May 1-5, 1995 - Cost: \$689

Guests: Dr. Paul Meier, Rick Stanley
Dr. Ike Reighard, The Imperials

Adventurous Alaska

Aug. 7-14, 1995 - Cost \$2000 - \$2400

Guests: Joni Tada, Dino (invited)
Dr. Paul Meier, Steve Arterburn

No liquor or casinos. Special activities for children.

Book before September 20, with full payment, and receive a super deluxe outside suite and other special incentives.

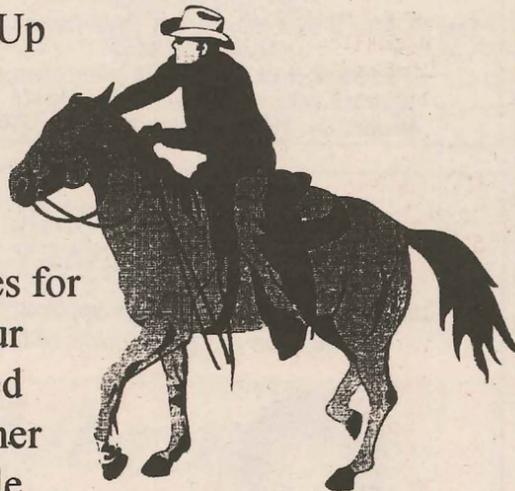
For information, brochures and reservations, contact:

Christian Tours, Inc. 1-800-505-8687

Celebrate the Sun!

It's Almost Round-Up Time!

September will be Food Round-Up month for the boys and girls of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. Your gifts of canned goods and other non-perishable food items can help supply our campuses for the coming year!



Suggested Items

Canned fruit, egg noodles, sugar (white, brown, & powdered), flour, cake & brownie mixes, spaghetti sauce, barbecue sauce, salad dressings, ketchup, salsa (mild), Heinz 57 sauce, mayonnaise, pasta (spaghetti especially), foil, wax paper, plastic wrap, vinegar, pickles & relish, fruit juice (grape, apple), lemon juice, sloppy joe sauce, canned soup (cream of mushroom & cream of celery), pancake syrup.

Celebrating 125 Years of Love
KBHC KENTUCKY BAPTIST HOMES FOR CHILDREN

1-800-456-1386

Come Join The Fun!



Sunday, Sept. 4

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children is celebrating 125 years of caring for children! Swimming and softball begin at 3:30 p.m. There'll be live musical entertainment at 4 p.m.

Food will be served at 5:30 p.m.

Vesper service begins at 6:30 p.m.

Northern Kentucky Area

hosted by Erlanger Baptist Church at

Bullittsburg Baptist Camp

4671 Garrison Creek Road

Burlington, Kentucky

3:30 - 7:15 p.m.

For more information, please call
1-800-456-1386

Celebrating 125 Years of Love
KBHC KENTUCKY BAPTIST HOMES FOR CHILDREN

KENTUCKY

Study shows lottery statistics

Continued from page 1
 earning \$40,000 per year, Gale explained.

Release of data from this study is partially related to settlement of a lawsuit between the Kentucky Lottery and the Temperance League of Kentucky. Under its previous administration, the lottery had sued the Temperance League, hoping to stop the release of certain information about lottery sales by ZIP code. Earlier this year, the lottery agreed to provide the Temperance League some of that information, along with this survey.

Among other findings of the survey on participation in and attitudes toward the lottery:

■ 49 percent of those who play the lottery see a benefit, while only 24 percent of non-players see any benefit. The most-frequently cited benefits by both groups were revenue for the state and money for schools and teacher salaries.

■ 54 percent of lottery players and 67 percent of non-players see disadvantages to the state lottery. The most-frequently cited negatives cited by both groups were that money played should go to other things, that people play who can't afford it, and that lottery proceeds aren't going

where they were promised.

■ Only 34 percent of all Kentuckians believe the Kentucky Lottery has been run honestly.

■ 51 percent of people who do not play lottery games said they abstain out of religious conviction. A surprisingly honest 10 percent of lottery players said they play even though it is against their religious beliefs.

■ 53 percent of Kentucky adults played at least one of the lottery's games within the last year.

■ Most people who play the lottery play more than one game. Only 17 percent of players had played only one of the lottery's games.

■ Lottery players are much more likely than non-players to participate in other forms of gambling. Lottery players were nearly three times more likely to have bet in office pools, 2.5 times more likely to have bet at race-tracks, three times more likely to have played bingo, and twice as likely to have gambled at casinos.

■ 36 percent of lottery players said they likely would go to a casino in a nearby state. Among those who would go to an out-of-state casino, 71 percent said that would not diminish their lottery playing, but 15 percent said it definitely would.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED: Part-time minister of youth. Send resumé to Ashland Avenue Baptist Church, 2735 Ashland Avenue, Covington, KY 41015. (606) 431-1624.

FREE: First Baptist Church, La-Center, would like to donate approximately 40 used pews to any church or mission. Call (606) 665-5408.

SEEKING: Full-time secretary for associate pastor and director of Christian education. General office duties required. WordPerfect experience preferred, and duplicating equipment experience a plus. Send resumé to Cleve Iler, St. Paul United Methodist Church, 2000 Douglass Blvd., Louisville, KY 30205.

AVAILABLE: Energetic ordained Baptist minister seeks church to pastor. 525 Timothy Trl., Campbellsville, KY 42718. Phone (502) 789-3412.

WANTED: Opportunity for part-time youth minister. Resumé to: Burgin Baptist Church, P.O. Box 266, Burgin, KY 40310. Phone: (606) 748-5188.

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

FOR SALE: Pevey sound system: one 300 series equalizer/power amplifier; one 8-channel stereo power mixing console; two model 112H speakers. Phone (502) 369-7868.

JOBS: Small manufacturing firm needs assembly line workers; must be fast with hands. Good pay and benefits package. Apply in person only. 823 South 15th St. Louisville, KY 40210.

SEEKING: Part-time music minister, Burton Memorial Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. Call (502) 842-1931 or 782-9165.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister to work with junior and senior highs. Very active youth group. If interested, send resumé to West Side United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 9983, Bowling Green, KY 42102, or call (502) 843-8430.

WANTED: Part-time minister of youth. Send resumé to Lebanon Baptist Church, 144 East Mulberry St., Lebanon, KY 40033.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor/minister of Campton Baptist Church, Campton, Ky. Send resumé to Search Committee, c/o Campton Baptist Church, P.O. Box 190, Campton, KY 41301. Phone: (606) 668-6976.

TOUR: 10-day Holy Land pilgrimage from Louisville, Nashville or Paducah, Nov. 1-10. Visiting Jerusalem, Bethlehem and all the holy sites; boat ride over Sea of Galilee. Meet our missionaries. \$1,599 per person; optional 2-day London extension available only \$286. Call Pastor Jack R. Studie, Sharon Baptist Church, Mayfield, (502) 247-8331 for a color brochure.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music/Christian education. Master of music degree preferred with Christian education background and experience. Must be creative and innovative to lead celebrative blended (traditional, southern gospel, contemporary) worship style. Must be qualified to lead total music program; must be evangelistic and mission-minded. Resumé accepted until Aug. 15. To: Paul Blizard, Reidland Baptist Church, 5559 Benton Rd., Paducah, KY 42003.

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

1994 KBC Accommodations

The 157th Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting is November 15-16 at Frankfort's Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center. The Civic Center, located off Wilkinson Boulevard between Mero and Clinton streets, is near the Kentucky River.

The hotels listed below represent facilities with blocked convention rooms in Frankfort, Georgetown and Lexington. Room rates are for 1-4 persons per night. Pay attention to reservation deadlines. **Individuals making reservations must identify themselves as attendees of the Kentucky Baptist Convention in order to receive established room rates. Make your reservations EARLY!**

Please note: The Executive Office of the KBC Executive Board makes every effort to advise Convention messengers concerning good lodging at a variety of prices in any host city. Messengers should be aware, however, that lodging other than that listed may be available. Also, individuals are expected to exercise personal discretion in the selection of appropriate accommodations. Telephone a hotel if you have specific questions about its services or policies.

Frankfort - Add 10.24% tax

Best Western Parkside Inn

80 Chenault Road
 502/695-6111; 1/800/528-1234
Located at Versailles Road and I-64
Continental breakfast free for first two paying adults in room
Close to restaurants
 Doubles (2 p, 2 b) \$54 + tax
 Doubles (4 p, 2 b) \$64 + tax
 Reservation deadline: October 31

Bluegrass Inn

635 Versailles Road
 502/695-1800; 1/800/322-1802
Located north of 676 E/W connector
Complimentary coffee
Close to restaurants
 Singles (1 p, 1 b) \$38 + tax
 Doubles (2 p, 2 b) \$42
 Doubles (4 p, 2 b) \$50
 Reservation deadline: October 31

Days Inn

1051 U. S. Highway 127 South
 502/875-2200
Located near the 460/60 (127 south) and Lawrenceburg Road intersection
Close to restaurants
 Singles (1 p, 2 b) \$35 + tax
 Doubles (4 p, 2 b) \$40 + tax
 Doubles (4 p, 2 b) \$50 + tax
 Reservation deadline: November 2

Holiday Inn Capital Plaza

405 Wilkinson Boulevard
 502/227-5100; 1/800/HOLIDAY
Located next to Civic Center
Restaurant
Parking garage
 Singles and doubles \$60 + tax
 Reservation deadline: October 14

Knights Inn

855 Louisville Road
 502/227-2282
On 460/60, southwest of capitol
Continental breakfast
 Singles (1 p, 1 b) \$29.60 + tax
 Doubles (4 p, 2 b) \$33.60 + tax
 Add \$5 + tax per each extra person
 Reservation deadline: October 31

Other Frankfort facilities (non-blocked rooms)

Red Carpet Inn
 711 East Main Street
 502/227-2282
 Singles (1 p, 1 b) \$31.95 + tax
 Doubles (2 p, 2 b) \$37.95 + tax

Super 8 Motel

1225 U. S. 127 South
 502/875-3220; 1/800/800-8000
Continental breakfast
Close to restaurants
 Singles (1 p, 1 b) \$40.57 total
 Doubles (2 p, 2 b) \$49.37 total
 Doubles (4 p, 2 b) \$58.17 total

GEORGETOWN - Add 9.18% tax

Days Inn of Georgetown

Delaplain Road and I-75, exit 129
 502/863-5000
Continental breakfast
Close to restaurants
 Singles (1p, 1 b) \$32.40 + tax
 Doubles (2p, 2 b) \$36.90 + tax
 Doubles (4 p, 2 b) \$45.90 + tax
 Reservation deadline: November 13

Ramada LTD

401 Delaplain Road (off I-75, exit 129)
 502/543-4400
Continental breakfast
Close to restaurants
 Doubles (2 p, 2 b) \$34 + tax
 Doubles (4 p, 2 b) \$38 + tax
 Reservation deadline: October 31

Shoney's Inn of Georgetown

Junction of U.S. 62 and I-75, exit 126
 502/868-9800
Restaurant (show toom key, receive 10% off meals except for menu specials)
Coffee in front lobby
 Doubles (2p, 2 b) \$42 + tax
 Reservation deadline: November 1

LEXINGTON - Add 11.3% tax

Quality Inn Northwest

1050 Newtown Pike
 606/233-0561
Located directly north of New Circle Road and south of I-75/I-64
Close to restaurants
 Doubles (2 p, 2 b) \$32 + tax
 Doubles (4 p, 2 b) \$40 + tax
 Reservation deadline: November 1

Note: Some of these listed facilities do offer non-smoking accommodations.

 Here's Hope.
 Share Jesus Now.

PEOPLE

KENTUCKY KERNELS

While it is widely thought that having children brings a married couple closer together, the divorce rates among childless couples and those who have children are about the same. Source: *George Barna in "The Future of the American Family."*

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **BLOOMFIELD**—Bloomfield Church called **Isaac McDonald** as interim pastor. Recently he concluded a one-year interim pastorate at First Church in Shepherdsville.

■ **BOWLING GREEN**—Highland Church called **Bobby Hatcher** as pastor. He was ordained to the gospel ministry by Richland Church in Morgantown July 24.

■ **DEMOSSVILLE**—Wilmington Church will celebrate its 190th anniversary with a Fiskburg Community homecoming Sept. 9-11. **Ray Wilson** will be the evangelist for the weekend revival. Other events are scheduled. Former members and friends are invited. **John Justice** is pastor.

■ **FLATWOODS**—First Church called **Donald Coleman** as pastor. He previously was pastor at South Jefferson Church in Louisville.

■ **GRADYVILLE**—Gradyville Church called **Tommy Wright** as pastor. He was ordained to the gospel ministry by New Hope Church in Greensburg Aug. 21.

■ **GREENSBURG**—Greasy Creek Church called **Mark Lile** as pastor.

■ **HENDERSON**—Immanuel Temple celebrated its 80th anniversary Aug. 21.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Valley Station Church called **Shirley Boatman-Parks** as educational children's director.

Eighteenth Street Church called **Randy Constant Sr.** as pastor.

Baptist Tabernacle licensed **Doug Campbell**, minister of music, to the gospel ministry July 3. Also **Phillip Garrett**, youth minister, was ordained to the ministry at First Church in Madisonville Aug. 21.

■ **MOUNT VERNON**—First Church will honor **Wendell Romans** at a retirement fellowship Sept. 11, 3-6 p.m.

■ **PADUCAH**—Lone Oak First Church ordained **Brad Henson** to the gospel ministry Aug. 14.

■ **RUSSELL**—First Church called **George Olsen** as minister of youth. He previously served as minister of education and youth at First Church in Walton.

■ **SOMERSET**—Eden Church called **Mark Hail** as pastor. He previously was pastor at Bethany Church.

■ **SONORA**—First Church will celebrate its 125th anniversary Sept. 11.

■ **STAMPING GROUND**—Stamping Ground Church called **John McPheron** as pastor Aug. 21. He previously was pastor at Slate Branch Church in Somerset.

■ **WHITESBURG**—First Church celebrated its 85th anniversary Aug. 14.

■ **WINCHESTER**—**William Snowden**, retired dentist, has accepted a two-year volunteer assignment helping recruit medical missions volunteers through the Foreign Mission Board's volunteers in missions department.

Warren County pastor Houchens dies

BOWLING GREEN—Bryant Houchens, a pastor of Kentucky Baptist churches for 53 years, died July 24 in Bowling Green. He was 83.

Houchens was a Warren County native who served as pastor of 11 Baptist churches, all in Warren County or surrounding counties: Highland, Otter Gap, Bethany, Plano, Clear Fork, Providence Knob, Woodburn, Park City, Calvary, White Stone Quarry and Black Jack.

Houchens also served on the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board, and he served on Warren Baptist Association's executive board.

Houchens was active in supply preaching until his death.

Shortly before his death,

Houchens preached at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in Pineville, where a Hemlock Heights student apartment was dedicated in his honor.

Funeral services were held at Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green July 27.

Houchens is survived by a daughter, Shirlene Meisel of Bowling Green; a son, Joe Houchens of Bowling Green; three sisters, Eunice Tabor of Bowling Green, Opal Meacham of Jeffersonville, Ind., and Novice Walker of Gallatin, Tenn.; a brother, Duncan Houchens of Bowling Green.

He had five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Christine.

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Sweet success

One is a boy, the other a girl. He has little family to call his own. She comes from a loving and supportive home. He bunked in the dormitory. She lived with her parents in campus housing.

Despite their differences, both Sarah Perrine and Kevin Thurman have excelled at Oneida. Both are what OBI is all about.

Kevin is living proof that OBI can be the place of a second chance. Born in Louisville, having little contact with his mother since birth, Kevin was raised in White Mills, Ky., by his grandparents until they died. Shuffled among family members and friends, he finally found his way to us in August of 1992.

In his two years at Oneida, Kevin truly excelled. Last year he received an "Outstanding Junior" award at graduation. He was co-editor of the 1994 school yearbook. He also was active in drama, BSU and academic team.

One of Kevin's highest honors and favorite memories was his trip to Washington, D.C., to attend President Clinton's inauguration. Kevin was one of 50 students to go with the YMCA to represent Senator Wendell Ford.

Kevin graduated this year salutatorian of his class. He earned 25 high school credits to receive a Commonwealth Diploma, the highest offered in Kentucky.

This fall Kevin will begin studies at DePaul University in Chicago. He has accepted the Arthur J. Schmitt Scholarship and will receive funding of \$56,000. Kevin is interested in pursuing a degree in school or business administration.

Sarah Perrine was one of our beloved "staff kids." Her father, Byron, taught Russian and German. Her mother, Cheryl, was a high school math teacher.

While making A's in her studies, Sarah found time for many co-curricular activities. She was active on our academic team, serving as co-captain 1992-94. She was Y-Club chaplain 1992-94, a section leader in band, sang in the school choir, served on the yearbook staff, participated in drama and played piano. She also found time for sports as well, including volleyball, swimming, basketball and track. Always eager to share and exercise her faith, Sarah participated in BSU, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Acteens.

Sarah earned many honors at OBI; she was our 1993 Yearbook Queen and a 1993 Kentucky Governor's Scholar. The faculty voted Sarah "most outstanding" student each of the past five years. In 1992 she was inducted into Delta Epsilon Phi, the national honor society for high school German students. During the summer of 1992 Sarah studied at the Goethe Institute in Germany.

Sarah was a Commonwealth Diploma recipient and 1994 valedictorian. Sarah received the Miss Oneida award, President's award and the William A. Evans Memorial Cup.

Sarah has accepted a \$24,000 scholarship from Mt. Holyoke in South Hadley, Ma., where she plans to major in international relations. She also will use a \$1,000 Wal-Mart scholarship.

Both Kevin and Sarah are Oneida success stories in every sense of the word. Please join us in praying for them as they begin their university studies.

Now we prepare for the onset of a new school year. Many others follow in these footsteps and find a second chance in this place.

W.F. "Bud" Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. 40972

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Asher Building dedicated

A long-time need for additional academic space has been met with the renovation of the former preschool center. The Asher Building has two faculty offices, electronic piano laboratory, organ and piano practice rooms, storage, work rooms and a large classroom for music, speech and preaching classes. Cox Interiors of Campbellsville donated the 212 raised panel doors to complete the interior.

Frank and Martha Robinson of Cleveland, Tenn., volunteered three weeks of labor on the interior finish. The floor tile was donated by Christian Appalachian Project through the efforts of Rysor's Interior of London.

Other volunteer workers came from Northwest Association, Hernando, Miss.; Bardstown Baptist Church; Clinch Valley Association, Va.; Bellview Baptist, Laurens, S.C.; and Campers on Mission from Indiana, Kentucky and Alabama.

The rehearsal/speech room was made possible by Tom and Peggy Prather of Louisville, Dan and Ruby Prather of Pigeon Forge, Tenn., and their mother, Sally Prather. Tom is chairman of trustees and Peggy was Clear Creek's first music teacher. An office was furnished by South Bevens in mem-

ory of his wife, Barbara Anne. Their daughter, Beth, just completed her second year as an English instructor.

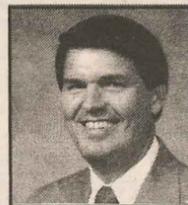
This beautiful facility memorializes George and Harriett Asher, who left the college the largest estate gift in our history—\$1.7 million. Interest from the endowment supports the library, scholarships and the workshop program. Asher

often provided medical treatment without charge to students. Mrs. Asher frequently sought students for work. The building also honors Mary Asher Wilson, organist at Pineville First Baptist for more than 60 years. Pinevillians remember the day of her funeral the church organ would not play. It worked the day before and the day after.

Extensive summer rains made it impossible to complete the exterior grounds prior to the Aug. 1 dedication. When everything is finished the project is expected to cost \$35,000. We have a remarkable facility at a low cost because of the tremendous contribution of volunteers. It is all paid for. Thanks to our many friends who have made this possible.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Christians cooperate to show 'Jesus' film in Albania

TIRANA, Albania (BP)—An international evangelical effort to bring the gospel to a former "forbidden country" has resulted in more than 2,300 Albanians registering decisions for Jesus Christ this summer.

Called "Project AERO, Albanian Evangelical Rural Outreach," the objective has been to show the "Jesus" film in the Tirana and Shkoder districts.

More than 15,000 villagers in 175 villages have viewed the presentations.

"Project AERO is a model of how Great Commission Christians must work together in the future to reach difficult areas of the world," said James Williams, president of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission.

Begun as a shared vision of workers with Cooperative Services International and Campus Crusade for Christ in Albania, the scope of the project required support from other organizations.

Project AERO partners include:

- Cooperative Services International, the aid arm of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va. About 16 workers, most committed to two-year assignments, participated in the initial blitz. They will carry much of the long-term follow-up load and church planting responsibilities.

- Campus Crusade for Christ. Its student work in Tirana served as a catalyst for Project AERO. Campus Crusade has several young adults serving in Albania on two-year assignments.

- Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. The Memphis-based missions education organization recruited volunteers to cook meals and run the base camps where participants lived when they were not staying in villages.

- Helimission. Based in Switzerland, Helimission provided a helicopter that transported volunteers to the remote villages.

- Mission Aviation Fellowship. Based in Redlands, Calif., this ministry has established a radio network for Christian workers in Albania.

In addition to these organizations, churches in the United States and Europe provided teams.

From both Albanian districts, volunteers were flown unannounced to the outskirts of rural villages. Teams would then unload equipment, walk into the village and ask permission of the village mayor to show the "Jesus" film.

While there were isolated incidences of resistance, most teams were received warmly. Team members typically were housed and fed by villagers.

After showing the film four nights, teams returned to their base camps for several days of rest and evaluation. They then returned to the villages to do follow up and to explore the possibility of ongoing Bible studies and church starting.

Matt Harmon, a telecommunications major at Ohio University in Athens, was on a team that used donkeys to move film equipment between

some villages. In one locale, 20-25 people held the first-ever church service in the village on the last day of follow-up.

"A week before, these people had never heard about Jesus, and now they were gathered for a service," said Harmon, a Campus Crusade volunteer.

"It has been a tremendous boost to my spiritual life to see people who are faithful to God's word going out, knowing their lives are in danger, facing sickness and long hours without water," said Furman Torey, a schoolteacher from Birmingham, Ala. A Brotherhood Commission recruit, he supervised the base camp in Shkoder for about two weeks.

For more than 40 years, Albania, a country the size of Maryland with 3.5 million people located between the former Yugoslavia and Greece, was under communist rule. In 1967, the government adopted an official policy of atheism, making it the "religion"

in the country.

Then in 1991, there was a student-led revolt against communism that resembled the 1989 attempt by Chinese students in Beijing. However, the Albanian student movement was successful. Although communism fell, the country has struggled to decide its destiny.

Today, the country remains in chaos. Some even call it anarchy. Meanwhile, evangelicals find themselves in a race to fill a spiritual void in a country where 70 percent of the population claims to be Muslim.

"I feel like the country will close within three or four years," said one resident worker, citing a possible return to communism or the establishment of Albania as an Islamic republic.

Project AERO will continue the next four summers.

By then, organizers hope to have covered the entire country with the "Jesus" film.

READY TO ROLL Albanian Eranda Papacru and American Tammy Thiessen prepare a reel of the "Jesus" film to be shown in Mafsheq, Albania, as part of a massive ministry called Project AERO. More than 2,300 decisions for Jesus Christ were registered this summer at film showings in more than 175 rural villages of the former communist country. (BP photo by Jim Burton)



Baptist workers report improved opportunities in Gaza

GAZA (BP)—Once again, it's OK to laugh and play in Gaza.

"It's a much, much happier place to live in. People feel free to get out at night. They have wedding celebrations like they did before," said Dona Fitzgerald, chairman of the organization of Southern Baptist representatives working in Gaza.

The hope that flooded in after Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat recently took the reins of power in Gaza has spilled over into the lives of Palestinians with whom the Baptists work.

Fitzgerald and her physician husband, Dean, came to the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip from Oklahoma in 1978. That was nine years before Palestinians launched an uprising against Israeli rule called the Intifada—and before Gaza City grew bleak and barren because of it.

Now the Intifada—directed at the Israeli military occupation—is no longer necessary. Under agreements hammered out between Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the Israelis have pulled out. The PLO has begun exercising its newly won rights to self-rule.

During the Intifada, the Israeli military forbade movement of people outside their homes after 8 p.m. The Intifada stopped celebrations and public music. Baptist workers likened life in the violent, fenced-in strip of land bordering Egypt, Israel and the Mediterranean Sea to living in a cage with 750,000 angry people.

But now conditions are even better than before the Intifada began, Fitzgerald said.

Personal freedom and a new burst of energy translates into opportunity for Gaza Baptist Church, a vibrant

group of believers whose numbers have grown from recent weekend revival services. The church is looking for an Arab pastor.

Its membership numbers about 30, but the church's reach extends far beyond that. "We have contact with a lot of people who aren't members," Fitzgerald said.

Seventy-five people attend Sunday school, and about 40 come to youth meetings. The church's Bible school this year attracted more than 100 children.

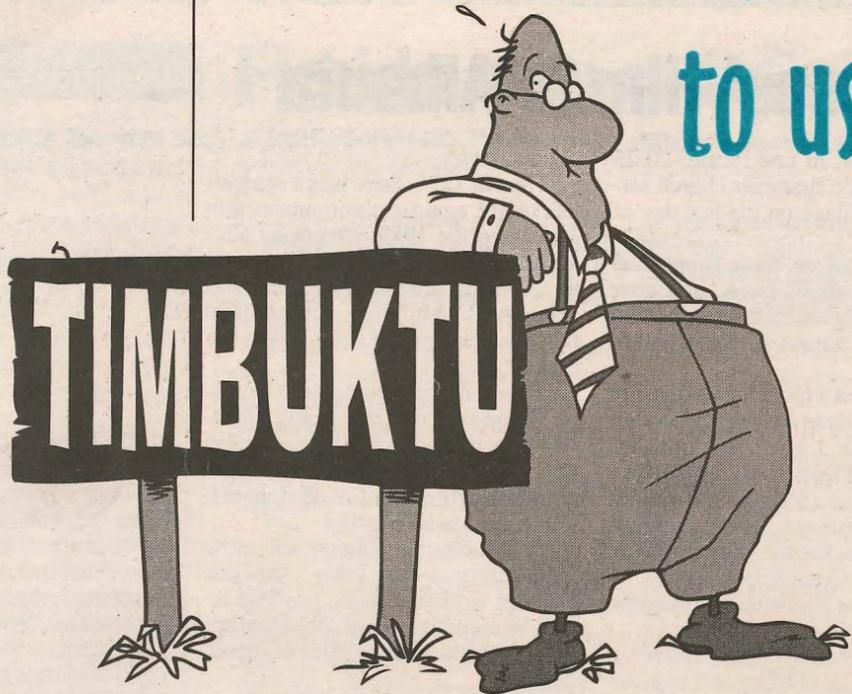
To strengthen the Baptist witness, Southern Baptist representatives are requesting new full-time co-workers—preachers and an English teacher—from churches in the United States. They're also asking for a teacher to make a career out of training teachers at a school for the hearing-impaired.

No one has yet been appointed by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board to fill those assignments. But a deaf educator and her husband (who will do youth work in the church) are expected to arrive soon for a short-term assignment.

Southern Baptist representative Paul Lawrence, who is designing continuing education classes in hospitals and clinics, also is asking for nurses to come for several weeks to teach subjects such as neonatal, oncological and cardiac-care nursing.

Lawrence taught at Baptists' nursing school until it was leased rent-free to the United Nations last year. Baptists were unable to keep it adequately staffed because of rising violence from the Intifada. Lawrence is working through former students at the school to offer specialized courses for nurses in Gaza.

You don't have to drive to Timbuktu to use the Western Recorder's news page plan



And answers to other myths

Using the Western Recorder's back page for your church newsletter never has been easier than today. Before assuming it's not right for your church, let us tell you all the things we can do to make your newsletter look better and cost less.

1. We can take it however you dish it out.

The Recorder receives church news pages in a variety of forms. Some churches type out their copy on a typewriter and paste it down. Some churches use a computer. Some use sophisticated desktop publishing systems. The point is, you don't have to invest in more sophisticated equipment than you already have. But, at the same time, you don't have to make a relic out of whatever "state-of-the-art" equipment you've already invested in.

2. You can mail, messenger or modem on Monday.

Churches get their news pages to the Recorder in a variety of ways. Some mail the page in. Some drop it off in person. An increasing number send it electronically. The bottom line: We need your page by noon on Monday for publication that week. That means you can get in your Sunday statistics if you hand-deliver your page or send it electronically.

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Your church news page may include as many photographs as you like. We offer high-quality reproduction.

4. It's a deal even Ross Perot would like.

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7. We'll set your staff free.

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8. It's no myth, mister.

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9. Oh, why not tonight?

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