

September 13, 1994
Vol. 168, No. 36**State Missions Update enclosed****FOR THE RECORD****On hold**

A proposal to radically change the way Baptists do home missions in Florida will be put on hold at the request of a special study committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. See page 2.

Foster figure

A Baptist missionary kid drew upon his musical heritage to fill the shoes of Stephen Foster this summer in the annual Bardstown production of "The Stephen Foster Story." See page 3.

Family Forum

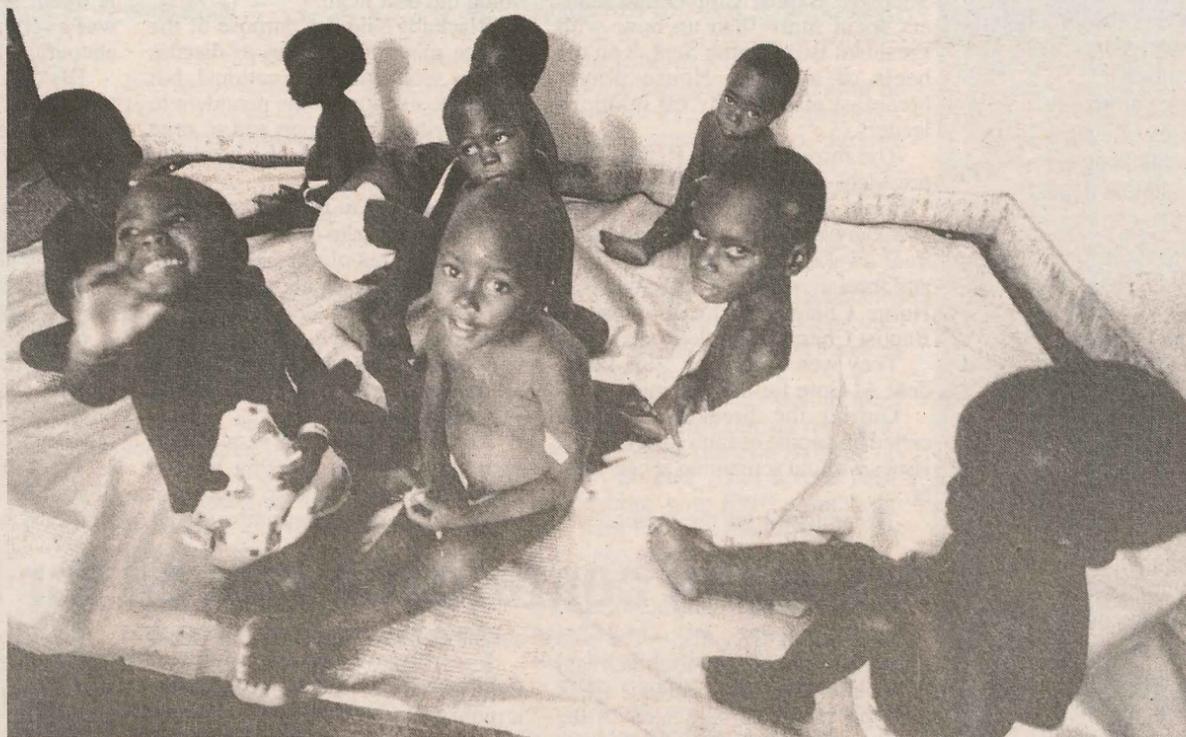
My daughter is divorced and now living with another man. What should I do? See page 4.

Editorial

Both sides could reduce demand for abortions. See page 5.

Book ministry

Kentuckian Olin Williams is leading a nationwide effort to send books to foreign mission fields. See page 7.



"UNACCOMPANIED MINORS" Most of these children's parents probably are dead from disease or as victims of ethnic slaughter in Rwanda. Still, authorities don't refer to them as "orphans" because in the past refugee children without parents have been put up for adoption, only to find their parents later as situations returned to normal. So for now, they are labeled "unaccompanied minors" and placed in special refugee camps. Southern Baptists are working in several of these children's refugee camps, including this one at Carea, Zaire. All of these children are estimated to be under two years of age. See additional photos and story on page 6. (BP photo by Bob Carey)

Chaplains minister at Guantanamo Bay

ATLANTA (BP)—"Stress runs deep and tensions high" at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, but "opportunities for ministry abound," a Southern Baptist chaplain reported.

Seven Southern Baptists are among the 39 military chaplains serving in the corner of Cuba where thousands of Haitians and Cuban refugees are detained.

Chaplains and their assistants are working 10 to 12 hours a day, seven days a week, Chaplain Joe Cappar wrote in a recent letter to the Home Mission Board's chaplaincy division.

When Cappar wrote, 14,616 Haitians were living in Guantanamo Bay, and Cubans were beginning to be as-

signed there.

Among their many tasks, chaplains lead Bible studies, prayer and worship services. More than 200 Haitian adults have been baptized at Guantanamo Bay, Cappar reported.

"This past Lord's day, we had over 300 (attending services) in one camp alone, gathered under a cargo parachute for shade from the hot Cuban sun—sitting on cots or picnic tables or standing—for over two hours of singing, praying, preaching and communion," Cappar wrote.

"Tears filled my eyes as I listened to a Haitian choir sing 'Amazing Grace' while a 4-year-old hugged my leg and fixed his longing eyes upon

mine. He hugged even harder as I gently stroked his wiry hair and bony, soft-skinned back.

"Imagine it—a crusty U.S. Navy Captain and a migrant Haitian 4-year-old sharing the love of Jesus Christ under a parachute in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba."

In addition to meeting spiritual needs, chaplains facilitate communication between military agents and the refugees, assist in processing procedures, work in educational programs, help distribute food and personal items, accompany the sick to medical services and assist with the family reunification process, Cappar said.

'Outside, I reeked of success, but inside I just reeked'

By Terri Lackey
SBC Sunday School Board

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—As a big shot corporate executive, Don Amick thought he had it all—a six figure income, a fancy car, \$700 suits and \$300 shoes.

He spent more time on planes between job sites taking care of business than he spent at home. Eventually, he lost his wife to divorce, intimacy with his sons to absentee fathering and his soul to job stress.

"On the outside, I reeked of success, and on the inside, I just reeked," said Amick, who now is vice president and managing director of Right Associates in Greenville, S.C., an outplacement and career transition firm.

When Amick discovered money was not buying him happiness, he left his high-paying job in Boston, not knowing where he was headed.

"I did what I preach no one should do—leave a job without having a job," Amick explained in a seminar at the Single Adult Labor Day Weekend at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center. While he had no job prospects, Amick said he knew God was with him in his decision to resign.

Flipping through TV stations while traveling, he hit on a Christian station and heard the testimony of a man who also had lost all he loved to career. "God spoke to me through TV, and later he came into my life in a small church in Concord, N.C.," Amick said.

As a career counselor, Amick realizes most of America's workforce is not happy.

"Eighty-seven percent of Americans are in some degree cynical about going to work every morning," Amick said. "Only 13 percent know they are doing what they should be doing."

Problems arise when people associate who they are with what their occupation is, Amick said. "Your work day is only eight hours long. The rest of the day is yours. You need an identity outside of your job."

In the early 1980s, Amick said the average American worker stayed with the same company 25 years. Now the length of tenure with one firm is 4.8 years, and by the year 2000, it will be 2.5 years, he said.

So it "doesn't pay to attach your identity to your job," Amick advised.

Mastering life and using it to the fullest paves the way for using God-given talents and potential, Amick said. To accomplish this, he advised:

■ Quit blaming others. "You must quit blaming someone else for all that goes wrong and for your unhappiness. Quit defending your position and quit seeking praise for where you're at."

Kentuckian to recruit volunteers

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Kentucky Baptist layman Bill Snowden is one of two people tapped by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board to enlist more volunteer missionaries.

Snowden, 63, and Gene Greer, 72, began working with the board's volunteers in missions department Sept. 1 as volunteers.

Snowden, a Winchester resident and volunteer dentist at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in Pineville, will match Southern Baptist health care professionals with volunteer medical projects overseas.

Greer, church recreation consultant for the Baptist General Convention of Texas in Dallas, will enlist Christian athletes for volunteer projects in sports evangelism.

The new roles will help deliver on "our commitment to enlarge opportunities for volunteers," said FMB President Jerry Rankin. "We recognize volunteers are a tremendous resource that can impact the world for Christ and be a valuable supplement to the work and strategies of our missionaries."

Snowden and Greer bring to their assignments "a network of professionals" in their fields, said Jim Furgerson of the FMB's volunteers in missions department. "This will broaden our horizons for ministry" through volunteer missions, he said.

Snowden, now retired from a private dentistry practice in Winchester, has worked overseas 17 times as a short-term dental volunteer through the FMB. He also helped establish the Baptist Medical-Dental Fellowship, an organization promoting volunteer missions among Southern Baptist health care professionals.

Both Snowden and Greer hope to
□ See *Kentuckian to recruit ...*, page 9

■ Understand that attitudes make each day better or worse. "I make the difference between a better day tomorrow and a bitter day tomorrow. When you're in control as you can be of your life, it's up to you to make each day a better day. God has given us two ends—one to sit on and one to think with. Our success is in direct proportion to the one we use the most."

■ Understand that excellence is not optional. "Excellence has no time clock. There is no stopping and starting it. You must do your best mentally, physically and spiritually today. And tomorrow morning, you have to get up and do it all over again."

■ Like yourself. "We cannot love others if we don't love ourselves."

■ Learn from everyone around you. "If we slow down and listen, there is a lesson to be learned every day of our lives."

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Dilday named to Top 20.** Russell Dilday has been named by Texas Monthly magazine as one of the 20 most influential people in Texas. In its September issue, Texas Monthly names the recently fired president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary among its "Texas Twenty." The magazine suggests that Dilday's firing "may prove to be a turning point in the continuing war between fundamentalist and so-called moderate Baptists."

■ **Davis leaving Midwestern.** Vernon Davis, vice president for academic affairs at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, has resigned to direct a new graduate theological education program at Hardin-Simmons University. Davis will begin work Jan. 1 at the Texas Baptist school, where he will teach theology and lead the school's new master of divinity program. Davis cited the impending retirement of seminary President Milton Ferguson and the changing climate at Midwestern as reasons for making a move now.

■ **Brymer criticizes Sullivan.** Jack Brymer, who resigned abruptly as editor of the Florida Baptist Witness Aug. 26, said "stealth support" from John Sullivan, executive director of the Florida Baptist Convention, was a major factor in his decision to step down. Sullivan attends meetings of the Witness Commission as an invited guest. He participated in a discussion at the Aug. 26 meeting, reportedly introducing a suggestion that the Witness restrict its use of stories from Associated Baptist Press in support of the editor's editorial freedom in the past but suddenly changed his position. Sullivan declined to discuss his comments at the meeting.

■ **Mission 95 coming.** Final plans are underway for a global missions conference in Louisville Dec. 27-31 designed to "open the eyes of college students to what God is doing in the world and invite them to be a part of it." Registration opened Sept. 1 for "Mission 95," which is expected to bring 5,000 college students and 100 missionaries to the Commonwealth Convention Center in Louisville.

■ **Hemphill emphasizes spirituality.** In his first presidential address to faculty and students of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ken Hemphill urged them to view their educational and ministerial experiences in a spiritual light. "Your being here is not a political decision," he said. "It is a call from the sovereign God to prepare so that his Holy Spirit can use you to invest your life in the redemption of the world. Everything we build at this seminary and everything you build in your churches and your lives must be based on the perfect word of God."

Three SBC leaders meet with Clinton

WASHINGTON (BP)—Three Southern Baptist Convention leaders spent more than an hour with President Bill Clinton Sept. 8 on the heels of a White House prayer breakfast attended by 60 religious leaders.

The three were Jim Henry, SBC president and pastor of First Baptist Church in Orlando, Fla.; Henry Blackaby, director of prayer and spiritual awakening for the SBC home and foreign mission boards; and Rex Horne, Clinton's pastor at Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock, Ark.

They were joined by Vice President Al Gore for half the meeting.

During the breakfast Clinton called on people of faith to debate the issues without screaming at each other.

"We mustn't let the culture war

divide us," he said. "Pray for me. I'm doing the best I can."

Blackaby said the purpose of the private meeting was not to discuss politics, convention or national, but rather "to encourage the president to be a spiritual statesman and to urge him to openly call for the nation to pray for him."

"We wanted to let him know that during these times of bewilderment and change, people are looking for someone who rises above the mess and sees things as God sees them," Blackaby said. "We wanted to pray with him and affirm that God's people are praying for him. It was a very, very productive meeting."

Jim Henry agreed the session was extremely positive, saying he and Blackaby "were able to share our hearts, our perspectives and our con-

cerns as Southern Baptists. I feel he is open, sensitive and listening. It was a very special time. I came away encouraged."

Blackaby said he presented Clinton with a copy of his book, "Experiencing God," and an oil painting by Texas pastor and artist Dick Moody. The president vowed to hang the painting in his home, and his staff said he probably would read the entire book before the end of the day.

The meeting concluded with prayer. Blackaby said.

"The four of us, joined by two presidential aides, all stood and joined hands in a very sweet time of prayer. I was on one side of the president and Jim Henry was on the other. I feel this could be the beginning of a very important relationship," Blackaby said.

Arkansas conference moved for Falwell

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—The pastor of Bill Clinton's home church said he wouldn't let Jerry Falwell speak from his pulpit, so organizers of the Arkansas Baptist Pastors' Conference moved the meeting to another church where Falwell could speak.

Falwell was invited, then reinvited to speak to the Oct. 31 conference, which precedes the annual Arkansas Baptist Convention.

The convention will be held at Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock, the president's home church. But the Pastors' Conference now will be held

at First Baptist Church of Little Rock.

Rex Horne, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, said the issue really is more than just "Falwell vs. Clinton" but that a review of the videotapes Falwell is selling in an attempt to discredit the president ultimately swayed his decision.

Noting Immanuel is "first a church and not a convention center," he said, "I feel a responsibility to our people for what I preach and practice and what we believe together. I feel certain things are appropriate and other things are not."

Falwell was invited to speak by Pastors' Conference President Wallace Edgar, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Texarkana, because "several people said it would be a boost in evangelism, soul-winning and witnessing," he said.

First Baptist Pastor Bill Elliff said his church would take in the conference out of deference to its leaders.

"Our decision was not so much pro-Falwell as the right of the Pastors' Conference to have who they want to have," he said.

Based on a Baptist Press story

Florida proposal on hold at Brister's request

LEESBURG, Fla. (ABP)—A proposal that would take responsibility for missions work in Florida—and about \$1.3 million annually to pay for it—away from the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board may be delayed, at least until it is looked at by a committee already studying the ways in which the various SBC entities relate.

Florida Baptist Convention Executive Director John Sullivan announced Sept. 6 he would ask state leaders to postpone action on the plan, at the request of Mark Brister, who chairs a seven-member committee studying the programs and struc-

ture of the SBC. Sullivan said he will meet with the Brister committee Oct. 28.

Brister followed Sullivan as pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Shreveport, La. Sullivan moved from the Louisiana church to the Florida convention leadership post.

The Florida proposal, approved Aug. 18 by a state budget and allocation committee, would transfer administration of all home missions work in Florida to the state convention's offices in Jacksonville. Currently the work is administered by the HMB from offices in Atlanta through joint funding of missionary

positions with state conventions.

Brister said he asked Sullivan to "hold off" on bringing the proposal to the State Board of Missions at a Sept. 8-9 meeting and invited both Sullivan and HMB President Larry Lewis to meet with the SBC program and structure study committee in October.

Brister said the committee wants to learn more about the "background, reasons and objectives that prompted" the proposal, which is of interest to the committee because it "considers relating in a new way to one of our agencies and represents a paradigm shift in missions giving."

Mohler warns of five dangers

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—In his second convention address as president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Al Mohler warned students of five "grave dangers to acknowledge and avoid" in their studies.

During the Aug. 30 service, which opened the academic year at the Louisville school, Mohler cautioned against the dangers of:

■ Conceiving of theology as knowledge about God rather than knowledge of God.

■ Sacrificing piety for study.

■ Mastering Scripture instead of being mastered by Scripture.

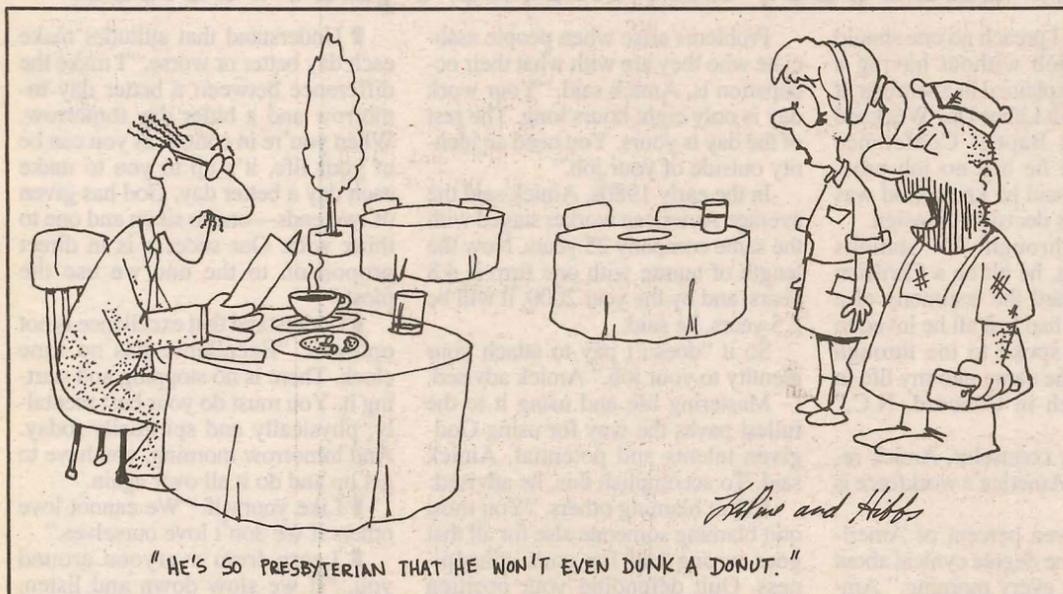
■ A ministry well trained but uncalled or uncared.

■ A church intended for the church but alienated from the church.

Mohler said theological inquiry should not be lost amid human conjecture.

"You should study the field of theology and give yourself diligently to understanding the discipline, but do not be lost in the midst of much human speculation," he said. "Understand how God has revealed himself and his ways in Scripture and how the believing church has come humbly but truly to know him."

Mohler declared that God can be known by practicing scholarship with a reverence for biblical authority. "We must practice that method of interpretation which seeks honestly and faithfully to understand the meaning of the text without denying the full truthfulness of the text," he said.



KENTUCKY

Monty Carter elected to KBC evangelism associate post

Lexington pastor Monty Carter has been elected associate director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's evangelism office.

Carter, 32, pastor of Southern Heights Baptist Church, was approved for the evangelism leadership position by the KBC Executive Board's administrative committee Sept. 8. He will begin Oct. 16.

A major portion of Carter's job will be devoted to youth evangelism. He will coordinate YouthFest, the annual youth evangelism conference that is the largest KBC meeting each year.

"We're delighted we're going to have a young man with both training and experience in youth evangelism and youth concerns," noted Bill Jagers, the KBC's evangelism director.

Prior to his pastorate at Southern Heights, Carter was the youth minister at Memorial Baptist Church in Frankfort, and he worked with youth as a lay member of Carmel Baptist Church in Indianapolis. Youth ministry was his major field of study when he earned a master's degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

"Monty has done outstanding work of accelerating outreach at his church," Jagers said. "He has a broad look at evangelism, seeing it as both a program and an emphasis."

"He knows how to do church, and he will be a wonderful asset to what Kentucky Baptists are all about in helping share Christ across the state."

Carter entered the ministry after a career in broadcasting. He was a news and traffic reporter, promotion director and sales representative for radio stations in Indianapolis and a reporter for WHAS Radio in Louisville.

He was on the staff of Memorial in Frankfort from 1990 to 1992, when he went to Southern Heights in Lexington.

In addition to his degree from Southern Seminary, Carter earned a bachelor's degree from Butler University in Indianapolis.

He is a member of the KBC nominations committee and several committees of Elkhorn Baptist Association, and he is a deacon consultant for the KBC.

Carter and his wife, Teri, have two children, William Casey, 9, and Sarah Elizabeth, 3.



Monty Carter

Missionary kid fills Foster's shoes

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

BARDSTOWN—A Southern Baptist missionary kid filled Stephen Foster's shoes this summer, bringing a personal Christian faith and an international background to the lead role in Kentucky's beloved outdoor drama, "The Stephen Foster Story."

Actor/singer Carlton Hall, 24, recently completed his third summer of performing on Bardstown's popular stage.

Vivid childhood memories of bilingual sing-a-longs in Kenya with his family influenced a love of music that eventually led Hall to a singing and acting career.

"When I was a kid, my mother sang all the time," he explained. "We always had long drives out in the bush (country), and she got me to sing a lot."

Recently, though, Hall's music has centered around the pure early-American variety—Stephen Foster style—including such classics as "Beautiful Dreamer," "Oh, Susanna" and "My Old Kentucky Home."

"The Stephen Foster Story," 36 seasons old, has drawn more than 2 million patrons from all 50 states and beyond.

The late Paul Green, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, adapted the story, which displays in dramatic form one year in the life of Stephen Collins Foster.

Foster, considered to be one of the first truly American composers, wrote more than 200 original compositions in his brief career. He lived in Pittsburgh, but made frequent trips to Kentucky. During one such visit, he was inspired to write "My Old Kentucky Home," now the official state song of Kentucky.

Hall said he finds both commonalities and differences between himself and Foster. "Stephen was very naive and very idealistic," he said. "Yet, he had a great love for relationships"—especially with his mother.

Hall was an infant when his parents, Carl and Gerry Hall, were appointed by the Southern Baptist For-

eign Mission Board as missionaries to Kenya in 1970. "My folks primarily worked with the Masai," a nomadic, warring tribe, he explained.

As a missionary kid, Hall grew up learning Swahili alongside English.

"I had a great childhood," he said. Without the luxury of a television and with few playmates his age, however, Hall read a lot of books. He said he chose an acting career because it appeals to the imagination.

In 1988—the year Hall graduated from high school—his father died unexpectedly after suffering a sudden heart attack in Kenya.

The tragic death, as well as other pressing concerns during that time, left an indelible mark on Hall and his mother, he said. After several communications with FMB administrators, Mrs. Hall resigned from her position and moved back to Arkansas.

In the fall of 1988, Hall chose to attend Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark., for several reasons, he said: His parents were alumni of the school, which is known for a strong music program, and "I wanted to be close to Mom."

He graduated with majors in music and drama and a minor in Russian.

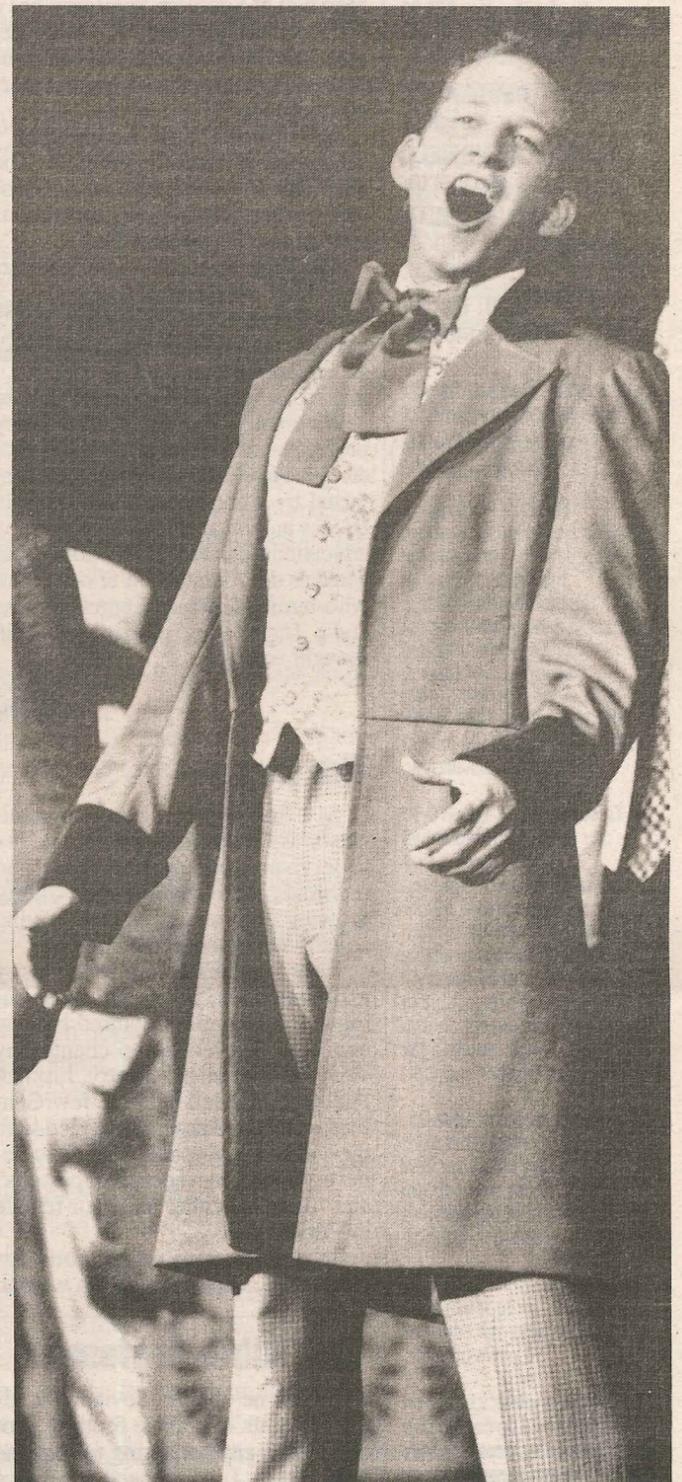
Hall credits his drama instructor at Ouachita, Scott Holsclaw, with the idea to audition for "The Stephen Foster Story." Holsclaw grew up in Louisville and performed with the show during the 1970s.

Maintaining a Christian faith in the theater world is an ongoing challenge, Hall acknowledged. "Going into the theater ... probably threw me more into the world than just about any other job."

"In the theater ... you find out quickly that lots of people believe differently," he said.

Scheduling and traveling create a further hardship to Christian actors, he added.

"My faith has changed; it has become much more internal," Hall explained. "It's difficult to develop a home church. You have to find a very personal faith ... you have to find that strength without all the fellowship all the time."



BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Stay-at-home missions.** Instead of taking their traditional August mission trip to a far-away location, 47 members of Valley Creek Baptist Church in Elizabethtown met pressing needs at home. They conducted three backyard Bible clubs, painted the building, paved the parking lot, cleared three acres of wooded area and completed other odd jobs that had been neglected for some time. "Our entire congregation has been encouraged," said Pastor Steven Hill. "Those who never have attended a mission trip have been enlightened as to what mission work is about."

■ **College raises \$750,000.** Campbellsville College's current capital campaign has raised \$751,354 in its Taylor County emphasis, according to Paul Osborne, campaign chair-

man. "This amount raised demonstrates that the community and the college are teamed as partners. Both of us want to see the kind of continued growth experienced at Campbellsville College these past seven years."

■ **Stevens awarded.** Jimbo Stevens, minister of music at Central Baptist Church in Winchester, has been named a 1994-95 ASCAP Award winner by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. Stevens has had 125 compositions published by 20 companies.

■ **Music Institute anniversary.** The 50th anniversary of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's church music school will be celebrated during this year's Church Music Institute on the seminary campus. Spe-

cial guests include Paul Westermeyer, professor of church music at Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary; Milburn Price, former dean of the seminary's music school; Mark Hayes, a composer, arranger and pianist; and Hugh McElrath, senior professor of church music at Southern. For information, call (502) 897-4115.

■ **Clergy coffee planned.** The Kentucky Psychiatric Association will host a clergy coffee Oct. 3 at the Hurstbourne Conference Center in Louisville. The event is open to all Kentucky clergy as part of Mental Illness Awareness Week. Leigh Conner, chairman of the psychology of religion department at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, will speak. For reservations, contact Bill Amos at (502) 852-7986.

FAITHFUL FOSTER Southern Baptist missionary kid Carlton Hall sings the lead role of Stephen Foster in this summer's production of "The Stephen Foster Story" in Bardstown. (Photo by Beth Dolezal of The Kentucky Standard)

OPINION

WESTERN RECORDER

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

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No protection

Behind the resignation of Molly Marshall at Southern Seminary lies a fundamental question, "To what degree should the actions of religious academic institutional administrators go unchecked?"

I affirm the First Amendment's separation of church and state. The amendment, however, does not protect workers of religious institutions from autocratic persecution.

Bankers, retailers, manufacturers and other workers enjoy equal opportunity employment and discrimination-law protections, including the right to contractual litigation. Yet seminary professors and others are denied protection. How is it that citizens are protected by a constitution with built-in checks and balances, and are slain by educational autocrats. Al Mohler has acted as the John Calvin of our times, who burned Michael Servetus at the stake for having opinions Calvin thought wrong.

Jeff Chandler
Louisville

The best

My first female mentor in seminary was Molly Marshall. My faculty supervisor went on sabbatical and recommended her because of my growing openness to women serving equally with men in the church.

Years of preparation for ministry and time given for preaching, teaching and ministering required biblical exposure that led me to change my views on women in ministry. Just like Paul had wrestled with the Jew/Gentile barriers and others struggled with the slave/free question, I came to believe "God is no respecter of persons" and "there is neither male nor female in Christ."

In male-dominated religious circles, I had never witnessed a woman

The 'Bible professor'

This time of year inevitably leads my thoughts to college football. Not that I have any hankering to play the game again. I would need assistance just to put on my uniform, and I can't imagine doing even the pre-game warmups!

I suppose my mind takes me there because those college years, football included, were some of the most pleasant years of my life. Friendships formed there still bring joy—and that's a long time ago.

But it goes deeper than that—on down into the fabric of who I am, for the struggle of my soul found resolution there. In that college context, I accepted the claims of God upon my life.

Maybe that's why I journey back—to touch base with my own pilgrimage.

There were many "shapers" of that college experience—professors, players, a coach, a Baptist Student Union director, a fraternity roommate—others.

Perhaps initiated by visiting with his widow, Carolyn, a few weeks ago

serving equally with men. I learned to respect and revere Professor Marshall, not because she was a trailblazer for women in ministry, but because she is competent, compassionate and caring as a servant of Christ who loved being a Christian professor. She gave God her very best and required that of her students. In short, Professor Marshall shattered my notion that women could serve equally with men in church—some women are just superior.

I'm indebted to Professor Marshall for dramatically improving my theological training. She exemplified the best in integrity, courage and theological insights, mixed with genuine compassion for her students. Thank you, Professor Marshall!

Steve Hadden
Georgetown

They'll reap

It was with sadness we read of the forced resignation of Molly Marshall from Southern Seminary.

There are not many times we see personality, beauty, brains and Christian qualifications in a single individual as she possesses.

Instead of dismissal, she should have been elected president of Southern, but that would have overshadowed some of our convention men.

If we have women doctors to take care of our physical needs, why can't we have women to take care of us spiritually? Any person—man, woman, boy or girl—that can lead to the salvation of a soul should be praised, not persecuted or humiliated.

We shudder to think what our U.S. churches would become with all-male leaders, because our highest percentage of attendance is women. Look at all the good things Woman's Missionary Union organizations do.

Those responsible for lies and harassment should re-read their Bibles

at Oneida, I have been thinking about my college Bible professor, Dr. George Redding.

He was elected the "most popular professor" one of the years I was there. Through his dramatic presentations in his courses on "The Life of Christ" and "The Life of Paul," this newly-called minister found a compelling attractiveness in the Scriptures. Alice and I were thrilled when he agreed to perform our wedding soon after graduation.

He took some legitimate pride in having preached, it was presumed, in more Kentucky Baptist churches than anyone in the state at the time of his last years.

My beloved "Bible professor" is gone now. But his ministry is continued, not just at Georgetown, but at Campbellsville and Cumberland, our three Baptist liberal arts colleges.

Such a ministry especially is strategic in those colleges which are not primarily focused on ministry training. The opportunity to influence hundreds of youth who will enter non-church vocations should not be underestimated. They will become the "salt and light" in the mission of God and

(especially Romans 1:25 and Hosea 8:7) and Billy Graham's "Unto the Hills." Both tell many times of the consequences of persecution and other sins. Also, both tell about the great women of the Bible.

So to you, antagonists, your highly achieved fame won't last long because in Galatians 6:7 we read: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked. Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Edwin H. and Ida B. Lewis
Sanders

Go figure

I find it interesting that Dr. Molly Marshall's critics are accusing her of believing in both universalism and apostasy. How can one simultaneously believe that all will be saved and that persons can fall from grace?

Either her accusers have failed to recognize the inconsistency of their logic, or their motives in attacking Dr. Marshall are different than what they claim.

What's wrong with this picture? Go figure!

Mark Waters
Crestwood

Homegrown mullahs

Your splendid editorial on the Molly Marshall situation at Southern Seminary (WR, Aug. 30) was a forceful statement supporting the concept of academic and intellectual freedom. It is the height of irony that a denomination's seminary leadership feels it must control the search for truth. We now appear to have our own homegrown set of mullahs who fear the free breezes of divergent theological thought.

Baptists of all races and gender need to recognize the situation and realize anew how antithetical it is to our heritage.

Keith P. Eiken
Louisville

those who will support the mission of the church.

One of the "new generation" of "Bible professors" is Dr. Kenneth Fought in the department of religion at Cumberland College. A graduate of that institution and former pastor in Ohio, Kenny already is becoming well-known in eastern Kentucky. I was privileged to hear him teach Galatians at the Mountain Missions Conference this July. Outstanding!

The steady flow of students through his classes now and for years to come is one of the blessings Kentucky Baptists reap through our financial investment in the college.

I am glad to note that many of our Kentucky Baptist churches call upon these and other professors to preach, teach, lead revivals and serve as interim pastors. The positive influence from that is far more significant than we can measure.

As I journey back to college days, aware that there are new generations of students, including newer and stronger football players, I am deeply grateful that there among them is a new generation of "Bible professors."

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



FAMILY FORUM: MARRIAGE

Living together

By Diana Garland

Q My daughter is divorced and now is living with another man. I am worried about what this will do to my two little granddaughters. What can I do?

A Family members make lifestyle choices contrary to Scripture. Sadly, the choice to just live together is affecting increasing numbers of families. A recent survey indicates that in the 1990s, almost half of adults who marry have lived with a partner outside of marriage.

All sociological indicators suggest living together hurts the partners and their children. Only about 20 percent of those who live together are still together after five years. Living together does not give the strong foundation a family needs. The children suffer all the loss associated with parents divorcing. God intended marriage as a good gift—a covenant that, with God's grace, lasts a lifetime. Making a family is tough work; inevitably conflict within and troubles without arise that require that kind of covenant.

What can you do for your daughter? First, recognize your relationship with her must demonstrate the same kind of covenant love that characterizes marriage—love that says, "No matter what happens, I love you." Despite the Samaritan woman's lifestyle of "just living together," Jesus cared for her. He listened and met her in what she perceived her need to be when others shunned her. He knew about her lifestyle, but he did not make it a barrier between them.

Show your daughter, your grandchildren, and even your daughter's partner that you love them. Loving others does not mean condoning all their choices. No doubt your daughter already knows how you feel. Condemnation and judgment will only harden hearts. Love your daughter, pray for her family and reach out to them with love and acceptance. When the opportunity comes—and it will—tell your daughter of your concern and deep desire that she and her family have all the good gifts God intends.

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

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

Both sides can help reduce the demand for abortion

Anti-abortionist Paul Hill's summer gun blasts murdered abortionist John Britton and clinic escort James Barrett and more: They cast a garish light on the most divisive issue of our day.

And if Americans believed their borders enclosed the abortion controversy, the United Nations conference on global population taught them otherwise. Abortion pitted so-called Roman Catholic and Muslim nations against Protestant and secular countries, even as they sought to contain the world's burgeoning mass of humanity.

The rancor characterizing the abortion debate leaves observers wondering if antagonists can find ground for agreement. Adherents from the poles of the debate hurl invectives at one another while narrowing the venues for dialogue to bumper stickers. "Abortion stops a beating heart" honks at "Keep abortion safe and legal," who glares at "I'm pro-life, and I vote," who snarls at "Pro-choice, pro-woman, pro-child." Not surprisingly, the abortion battle has reached a stalemate.

So, the combatants should take a serious look at the other end of the issue. They should discover ways to eliminate or at least reduce the demand for abortion. Assume that each group has a constituency it can reach, and commission both to go out and help keep women who don't want to be pregnant from getting pregnant.

For the church's part, many Christians have been squeamish about talking about sexuality and pregnancy. Churches must intensify efforts to teach biblically centered sex education. They also must be aggressive, developing more sex-ed programs in formats that will reach more young people beyond the walls of their churches. All young people must hear one message: Abstinence is the only certain way to prevent pregnancy, as well as AIDS and the whole cesspool of venereal diseases.

However, sex education is only the beginning. The reasons why young people turn to sex are legion. Education can help turn the tide against peer pressure and raging hormones. But Christian outreach in many forms is needed for help with other causes:

■ Who better than Christians to mend wounded self-esteem with the balm of Christ's love? Young people, especially girls, need to know they have worth because they were created by God and redeemed by Christ, and they don't have to "put out" to be loved or have value.

■ Who better than Christians to bind broken homes with the reconciling power of Christ's love? Young people and their parents can be loved past strife and rebellion, and young people once again can find love and acceptance in their living rooms, not the back seats of cars.

■ Who better than Christians to teach people how to "do" family in a healthy, creative environment? Young people who never have had decent role models for parenting and family living can learn from Christian surrogates who take them under their wings and lead them to see and understand godly family living.

■ Who better than Christians to break the twin shackles of ignorance and poverty? Young people, particularly from disadvantaged neighborhoods, can find hope and promise by learning trades from Christian workers and obtaining jobs from Christian business people.

All these measures must be undertaken to break the cycles of pregnancy and abortion that impact thousands upon thousands of young lives across the nation. No single step can make a huge difference; they must be undertaken together. And no single church can do it all; churches must band together, pumping resources—human, as well as material—to the churches in the neighborhoods where the highest incidents of abortion occur.

Of course, these aren't the only answers to the abortion problem. It's exceedingly complicated and pervasive. No amount of effort will eliminate all unwanted pregnancies, and women well past their teen years still will want to rid themselves of undesired pregnancies. Churches must intensify their efforts to develop crisis pregnancy centers to walk women through those unwanted pregnancies and help them either keep their babies or place the children in homes where they are wanted.

Christians also must recognize their participation in the "global village." This means support for foreign education and economic development programs that lift people beyond the ignorance and poverty that bind them to the population boom. Studies show many of the world's poorest women are the ones who have the most pregnancies. However, pregnancy rates decrease when their overall education increases, when their husbands are convinced lower birth rates are in the families' interest and when the families' economic status improves.

Of course, these modest efforts won't "solve" the abortion problem. Yet they are steps toward reducing the demand for abortion. And those are steps worth taking.

Marv Knox

Brymer's resignation marks double loss

Baptists suffered a double loss when a contingent of Florida Baptist Witness trustees finally hounded Editor Jack Brymer into resigning.

First is the loss of a talented, committed and honorable Christian minister. Brymer distinguished himself through nearly two decades of service as associate editor of the Alabama Baptist. And during the past decade at the Witness, he produced one of Southern Baptists' best newspapers. The Witness pioneered the use of packages of stories to provide in-depth coverage of issues facing Christians and their churches, winning top awards for coverage of AIDS and domestic violence.

Second is a loss in the search for truth and fairness. Brymer resigned after Witness trustees—who had argued the issue for the umpteenth time—deadlocked in a vote to restrict his use of news sources. Brymer sought honesty, balance and fairness, and a trustee-led quest for predetermined, politically prepackaged "truth" struck a blow to the paper's integrity his conscience could not endure. So he resigned rather than participate in a mockery of the editorial process.

Brymer will be gone soon. But he will not be forgotten. His creativity, fairness and editorial objectivity will be remembered as standards for those who have admired him throughout his distinguished career.

Marv Knox

Pro-choicers and pro-lifers may never agree, but everyone concerned about abortion can take steps to help reduce the demand for terminating pregnancies.

Owls dine lower on the food chain, but they don't have to eat tomatoes

Mrs. George served up a food-chain lesson last week.

Molly brought it home and dished up a discussion during dinner.

"Mrs. George visited our class today," Molly announced, fiddling with her fork as if she could talk her black-eyed peas right off her plate.

"She brought these owl 'ap-some-things,' and we broke them open and looked at the stuff inside. It was cool."

"Owl what?" I asked.

"Owl 'ap-something.' I don't remember what," Molly answered. "How many more bites of these peas do I have to eat?"

"You should see," Lindsay chimed in. "There was a rat skull and some other rat bones. It was really gross."

"Gross" is what I'd call this conversation, especially at the table," Joanna responded. "Molly, eat three more bites of black-eyed peas, and some of your chicken. And you've got to have some fruit too."

"So this owl thing, is this what's left over after the owl eats?" I inquired.

"Sort of," said Molly, the second-grade biologist.

"It's what the owl eats and can't use, so it coughs it up

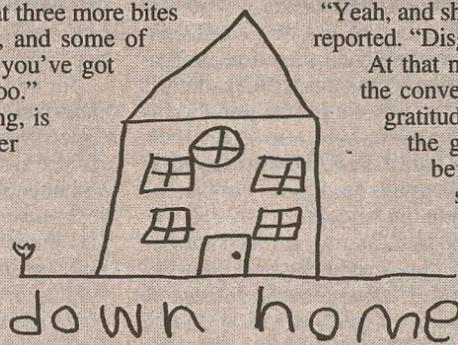
in the 'ap-something,' that Mrs. George brought to school and we broke open. You

should see. I've got the rat head downstairs. It's cool."

"Yeah, and she touched it!" Lindsay reported. "Disgusting."

At that moment, I lost track of the conversation, recalling with gratitude that I had demanded the girls wash their hands before dinner. Joanna succeeded in shushing the non-dinnertime discussion at the dinner table.

Later, I went downstairs to see the rat parts, all laid out on a paper towel, in which Molly carried them home from school.



I also read the handout Mrs. George sent home from school. Turns out "ap-something" is "pellet," which Mrs. George, who travels from class to class teaching science, used to illustrate the animal food chain.

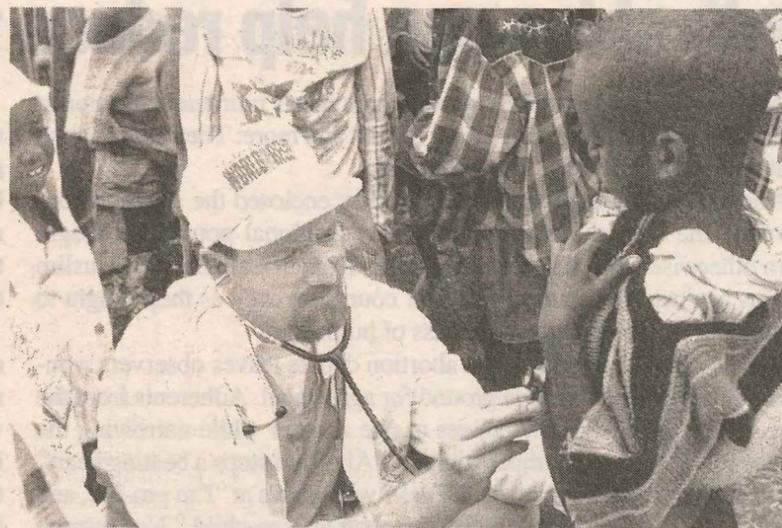
Who says kids aren't getting a better education these days?

When I was about Molly's age, the closest I came to a food-chain lesson happened in the lunchroom.

Russell Zielke, Linda McDowell, Gary Barkley and I got into a food fight, throwing our stewed tomatoes at each other, after someone decided they weren't part of our food chain.

But some things remain the same. We had to wash our hands afterward too.

Marv Knox



HANDS OF MERCY At a UNICEF clinic among the refugee camps for Rwandans in Goma, Zaire, a little boy pulls close around the neck of Donna Schmoyer (left), a Southern Baptist nurse from Fort Worth, Texas. Brian Shirley (top), a respiratory therapist and new Christian from Dunsmuir, Calif., listens to a little boy's chest at one of the camps. Karen Owensby (above) of Hendersonville, N.C., offers maternal compassion to babies in a camp for unaccompanied minors. In this camp, many babies need motherly care, but not enough mothers are left to hold and caress the babies. (BP photos by Bob Carey)

Kentucky doctor joins first Baptist relief team in Zaire

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

MOREHEAD—The only Kentuckian to headline the first Southern Baptist emergency relief team for Rwandans believes the civil unrest there poses a strong warning for the United States.

"We're seeing a country whose political and military strength has disintegrated, and I think it could happen here," said Chip Wood of Morehead. "The results of human suffering and man's cruelty to his fellow man is basically a spiritual problem. In many ways we're just as pagan as these African countries."

Though he currently attends Johnson Church of God, Wood is a former member of Providence Baptist in Frankfort and First Baptist Church in Morehead. He remains active in the Southern Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship, which issued a call in late July for medical personnel to travel to the war-torn region.

The mission was organized to help

establish a camp for refugee children in Goma, Zaire, which borders Rwanda. About 9,000 children, many of them orphans, have flooded the region. The Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission and Foreign Mission Board plan to keep sending teams until November, when they will re-evaluate the needs.

A family practice specialist with St. Claire Medical Center, Wood said he felt called to the two-week mission. Available vacation time, substitute physicians and other details paved the way for him to join the 14-member team.

But when he arrived in Goma in mid-August, he found conditions anything but smooth.

Children ranging from infancy to age 15 appeared shell-shocked, withdrawn and listless, he said. Most were of pre-school age. Some had lost their parents. Others were abandoned by parents unable to feed them. Some simply were separated from families in the mass exodus from Rwanda.

Fortunately, a cholera epidemic

had subsided. But most children were naked, dirty and malnourished, Wood said. Dysentery afflicted many, causing diarrhea and dehydration. Others suffered from malaria, tuberculosis, pneumonia, chicken pox or mumps.

"There were flies everywhere, no latrines, and people cooking food over open fires," Wood explained. "Most of the kids had worms. Nutrition was a problem. The kids got one hot meal a day, usually beans and rice."

In addition, the SBC-operated camp (one of more than a dozen in the region) wasn't ready to accept the 500 children it plans to house in tents. Volunteers had to soften the volcanic-rock surface with sand and gravel, and grade it. They dug latrines and built a road into the property with help from a French army unit.

Much of that work was done by Brotherhood construction workers. In the meantime, the two doctors and four nurses on the team traveled to two nearby camps to offer aid.

"We were very limited in what we

could do," Wood said. "Simple things were a chore, like starting an IV to give antibiotics. We had a lot of medicine but the country is so disorganized it was hard to get it to them."

"Most of them were traumatized. A lot sat around all day. Often, we would just play with them, pick them up, hold them, feed them. Basic sorts of things."

Wood hopes the Southern Baptist project will serve as a Christian testimony to the people, including the government and United Nations agencies in Zaire.

Many of the camps lack a heartfelt love and concern for the children, he explained, so Baptists have an opportunity to show the difference between a group serving the Lord and workers who are there because it's a job.

For information about volunteering for the Rwandan refugee ministry, call the Brotherhood Commission at (901) 278-7839. Designated contributions for Rwandan refugee relief may be sent through the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

MISSIONS

Danville group fulfills dreams, leads 157 to Christ

By Dawn Richerson
State Correspondent

DANVILLE—A recent mission trip to Russia was the fulfillment of a longtime dream for seven members of Calvary Baptist Church in Danville and for a Russian congregation waiting to occupy their first sanctuary.

The trip also was instrumental in introducing 157 Russians to new life in Jesus Christ.

Members of Calvary Baptist Church are no strangers to missions giving and involvement. In his 27 years as pastor, Ernest Martin has watched the church grow in missions commitment, he said, including trips to Eastern Kentucky, Ohio, Idaho and Nigeria.

This year, 5 percent of the church's budget was earmarked for hands-on missions experiences such as the Russia trip, part of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's partnership with Russian Baptists.

"We became very interested in being a part of the Kentucky Baptist partnership with Russia," Martin explained. Almost immediately after the partnership was announced, the church voted to support a Russian home missionary, pledging \$2,400 for two years.

Then six members committed to travel to Russia with Martin. And other members of the church helped their seven short-term missionaries raise funds for the journey.

In addition to Martin, team members included Dexter Belcher, Don Helton, Pete Kendrick, Harold Kilby, Kittley Settles and J.D. Westerfield.

Kentucky partnership coordinators Larry and Joy Lindsey met the Calvary group at the Moscow airport, making the transition to foreign soil a

smooth one. A five-hour bus trip then took the Kentuckians to Vizhnia Volochok, a city of about 70,000 people located 150 miles northwest of Moscow.

Built in the 1920s, Vizhnia looks like a city in ruins, Helton said. Many buildings stand vacant or deteriorating, and once-beautiful canals built by Peter the Great during his reign as czar are overrun by polluted waters.

In addition, store shelves are bare. Once, when they ran out of paint, members of the Russian fellowship searched for two days and found only four gallons of paint.

"One of our convenience stores probably has more than all the city of Vizhnia," Helton said.

The economic hardships have left an indelible mark on the Russian people, the Kentuckians reported.

The group's interpreter, a Russian schoolteacher, informed them up front that she was bitter and angry about the condition of her homeland.

Like most Russians, she lives in a small high-rise apartment complex, sharing a bathroom with one or two other families. Throughout the years of communist rule, she scraped to save all the extra funds she could in hopes that she, her husband and their two children might someday have a home of their own. After 15 years, they almost had enough for a down payment on a small house.

But the political revolution that brought the downfall of communism and switch to a capitalistic market system stole her dream, she said. The value of the ruble plummeted sharply, making her family's savings virtually worthless.

By the time the Kentuckians left, they noted an amazing change of attitude in this woman, Martin said.

The Danville group spent most of their time constructing another kind of house—a house of worship for the Baptist congregation at Vizhnia Volochok. Local Christians already had erected the log structure, and the Danville volunteers did painting and staining. They also installed three large windows and finished the bathrooms in the building.

The Kentuckians marveled at the quality of workmanship used in the hand-built structure. "They had never even seen some of the tools we brought," Helton said. The Russians especially were amazed by a chainsaw, which the Kentuckians had to perform tasks the Russians had planned to do manually.

The Kentuckians—most of whom had previous experience with Habitat for Humanity or Kentucky Builders—felt frustrated with their slow progress on the church building. But a missionary later told them, "You may think you haven't done much, but people on this end feel like you've accomplished twice as much as they expected."

The Calvary volunteers also spent time sharing the Christian gospel in a variety of public forums, including high schools, civic centers and meeting halls.

One of the most memorable experiences took place in the city of Udomayla, where people live in apartment complexes situated around a nuclear power plant. The Kentuckians met with Christians in several of the apartments for prayer and fellowship. A public worship service drew about 75 participants.

With a population of about 45,000 people, Udomayla has no church of any kind. Christians in the city have been negotiating with the government

for a piece of land on which they hope to construct a church building. The Danville team gave the Christians money to start the building's foundation.

Wherever they went in Russia, the Kentuckians were struck by the warm reception of the Russian Christians and the deeply spiritual worship they experienced.

"The worship services were just outstanding, and a lot of it we didn't even understand," Helton said. "For that kind of service, you don't need an interpreter. They are very spiritual. They are very reverent, and they take their church life seriously."

The services also are less structured than American worship, he noted. For example, at the beginning of one service, a man fell down and prayed for Jesus to save him and committed his life to Christ during the offering.

"In our churches, we probably wouldn't even allow that," Helton said with a chuckle.

Martin said the Danville group saw many striking reminders of the radical changes that have swept Russia in recent years. In a vacant building in one small community where the Baptists were to hold a meeting, Martin's eye caught sight of a huge portrait of Lenin, partially concealed behind some empty boxes and covered with dust.

"I realized that in the past, this was where communist party meetings were held," he said. "And now, in that very building the gospel is being preached and people are responding."

Although the afternoon meeting had been arranged only earlier that day, more than 100 people attended, and 65 professed faith in Jesus Christ for the first time.

At the beginning of one service, a man fell down and prayed for Jesus to save him and committed his life to Christ during the offering.

Kentuckian directs worldwide missionary book ministry

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

EUBANK—Olin Williams never will forget the letter from Nigeria. The writer obtained his name and address from a friend who met Williams during one of his visits to the African nation.

"Sir, you don't know me," the man wrote, "but could you send me a Bible? If you can't send me a Bible, could you send me a New Testament? And if you can't send me a New Testament, could you tear a couple of pages out of your Bible and send them to me?"

"That pointed up to me the need for Christian material all over the world," says the Eubank native.

Williams is the executive director of Book Link, a mission action project of the National Fellowship of Baptist Educators. It is coordinated through the Brotherhood Commission's National Fellowship of Baptists in Missions.

The idea is simple. Collect Bibles and related concordances, commentaries, study books, hymn books, sermon tapes and other Christian materials. Then ship them overseas to SBC missionaries for distribution to individuals, schools and libraries.

In its first five years, the volunteer effort mailed more than \$185,000 of materials, at a cost of more than \$21,000. That included 68,000 books, 4,300 tracts, 1,300 tapes and 3,500 pieces of other Christian materials. They went to 57 foreign countries and six states.

Elected in August 1993 by the NFBE board to replace original executive director Hal Cooper, Williams is an ideal choice for the job. An English teacher for 32 years, he appreciates good literature. And as the veteran of nearly a dozen trips to Nigeria and Zimbabwe since 1985, he also knows first-hand the need for Bibles and other Christian materials in foreign lands.

His new job is the fulfillment of a step he took a decade ago. Feeling the Lord's direction to take early retirement, he moved from the Dayton, Ohio, area back to his hometown, 60 miles south of Lexington.

Eubank serves as "home base" for missions calls. They often lead Williams and his wife, Ernestine, overseas, including six of the past nine Thanksgivings. The trips are always evangelistic. Teams typically spend three weeks in a country, showing films and preaching the gospel.

A few years ago the Lord told Wil-

liams to go when his father was dying. It was tough, he said, but he obeyed and 400 people were saved. Afterward, he flew home for the funeral.

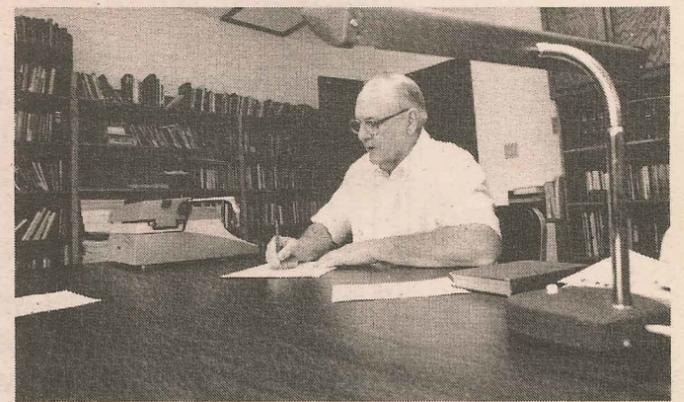
His stateside assignments have included Sunday school director and moderator for Lincoln County Baptist Association, deacon at Pilot Baptist Church, and two years as trustee of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College.

He also serves on Kentucky's disaster relief team and participated in Hurricane Andrew and Midwest flood relief in 1992-93. But, he added, "I'm getting too old for 15-hour days."

As the executive director, Williams is one of four NFBE members who accept book shipments. Book Link needs new funding sources. Approximately \$6,000 in annual postage costs have been paid through Books for the World, but that funding ends soon. The late Owen Cooper organized Books for the World to ship secular books overseas.

Steps began late last year to establish a Book Link Foundation. Williams says he hopes to replace the funding that expires in mid-1995.

"I don't think enough people are aware of it," Williams adds. "We haven't done a good job of getting the

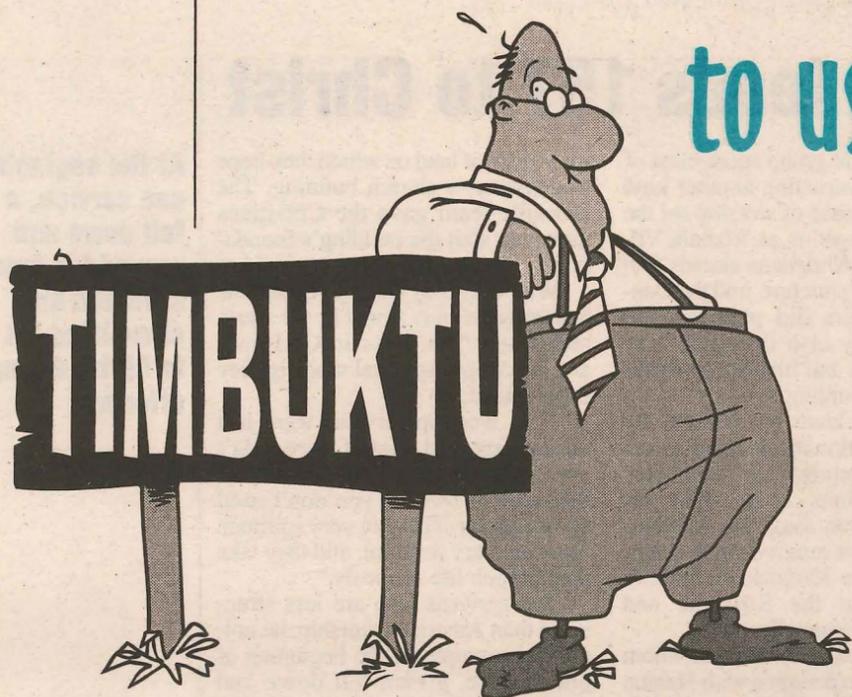


WORLD BOOKS Olin Williams, executive director of Book Link, sends Christian books and materials around the world from his home office in Eubank. (Photo courtesy of SBC Brotherhood Commission)

word out. If we could get 100 churches to put us in their budgets, we'd do fine. I believe this is a good ministry and if God's in it, he will provide for it."

Donations of Christian materials and monetary donations to pay for postage of books may be sent to Williams at 4155 Highway 328 W., Eubank, Ky. 42567. For more information about Book Link, call Williams at (606) 379-2140.

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.

3. We get the picture.

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.

Publishing your newsletter with the Western Recorder is an excellent value. We're good at helping churches balance their budgets by reducing newsletter costs. We can mail your church newsletter and all the helpful content of the Recorder to every family in your church for less than the cost of sending them a postcard. And with postage rates scheduled to increase again soon, we will be an even better value for the future.

5. Color us flexible.

For a small fee, you can use a second ink color other than black on your newsletter page.

6. We've got designs for you.

We offer six contemporary page designs which we'll gladly adapt for your use. These professional-looking designs will enhance the attractiveness and readability of your newsletter—all at no extra cost. But if you have your own design already, that's fine too. We'll work with you to make sure your page looks the best it possibly can.

7. We'll set your staff free.

Preparing a news page for the Western Recorder usually takes significantly less staff time than producing a newsletter in-house. This can free up your valuable staff time for other important ministries.

8. It's no myth, mister.

It may be a secret in some places, but it's no myth that the Recorder offers the best value for church newsletters combined with timely news of faith & inspiration.

9. Oh, why not tonight?

Now, is there any good reason why your church shouldn't be using the Recorder's news page plan? We didn't think so. Just take that simple step of faith and give us a call. We'll counsel with you, provide materials to help you and even come make a presentation to your church if appropriate. You'll never know how good this deal might be unless you ask. Call us now at (502) 244-6470.

Western Recorder
Practical Resources for Christian Living



State Missions Update

A Woman's Missionary Union supplement to the Western Recorder ■ Sept. 13, 1994

“Occasionally, someone will question why so many are going to Russia or other countries when there are so many needs and lost people here. Kentucky Baptists try to answer that question one week a year, and then minister throughout the year. Through the Eliza Broadus Offering, Kentucky Baptists minister in areas where little or no help would come without our state missions offering.”

■ *Eugene Reynolds, Bethel and Logan Baptist associational director of missions*

“The Eliza Broadus Offering is very important to the ministry at the Freeda Harris Baptist Center in Lookout. Money from this offering provides an accessible playground, a fence along the road for the protection of people playing on the playground, and a van for center transportation. For many of the programs, it is necessary to provide transportation to and from the center. The van is used to haul the approximately 200 Big A Club members to the center and then home. The van is used to haul children to Vacation Bible School and to day camp. I could go on and on about the uses of the van. But the bottom line is this: during this last year, the ministries of the Freeda Harris Center recorded 22 professions of faith. For many of these people, the van had been used either to bring them to the center ministries or to take the ministry to them.”

■ *Greg Whitetree, director of Freeda Harris Baptist Center in southeastern Kentucky*

“If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples.”

Jesus, as recorded in John 13:35

Dare to Be a Disciple

Participate in the Week of Prayer for State Missions

Give to the Eliza Broadus Offering

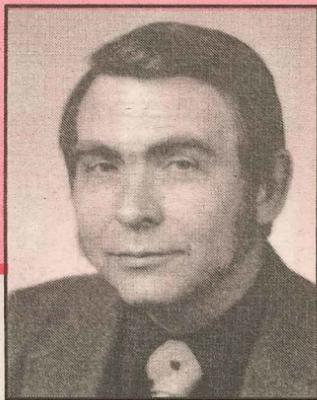
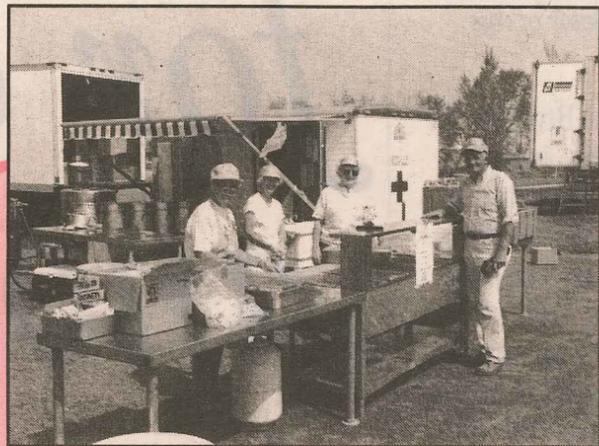
1994 Offering Goal: \$775,000

Why Support the Eliza Broadus Offering?

Kentucky Baptists offer a hand of friendship to hundreds of international students and their families each year, with support from the Eliza Broadus Offering. Among the KBC's international ministries are the annual International Student Retreat and the weekly meetings of Friendship International at local Baptist churches. In both large- and small-group settings, Kentucky Baptists offer emotional and spiritual support, English classes and personal assistance in getting settled in a new culture.



When disasters such as tornadoes, hurricanes or floods strike communities, Kentucky Baptists often are among the first to respond. The KBC's disaster relief teams offer free, hot meals to displaced individuals and families, as well as fresh water, clean-up services and spiritual support. Allocations from the Eliza Broadus Offering help purchase equipment such as heavy-duty vehicles and mass-feeding supplies for this unique ministry.



"Over a period of about 15 years, I have watched churches in Fulton, Hickman and Carlisle Counties call on the Eliza Broadus Offering funds in special times of need. When the Mississippi Baptist Church near Bardwell was seriously damaged by fire, they used both loan and grant monies to completely redecorate When Second Baptist Church of Clinton needed a new auditorium, state mission funds were available When one of our smaller congregations, New Hope, began to grow and needed educational rooms, special offering funds were provided In short, such provision of funds is an investment. ... We believe we are helped so we may help others."

■ Charles Blair, West Kentucky Baptist associational director of missions

Through the Eliza Broadus Offering, Kentucky Baptists workers on the "Churchill Downs" are providing the glamour of horse racing to a community of up to 100,000 people in low-paying, difficult jobs. Contact from churches is now conducted a Bible study every Monday night for individuals through...



"Kentucky Baptists are making a difference in our communities. We are doing more to glorify the Kingdom of God than any other denomination. We are touching the lives of children and adults through schools, orphanages, disaster relief, and home care projects. Our vision is to see the Eliza Broadus Offering maintain and strengthen the church. This offering is an investment. Artists can directly participate in our ministry. An active part in our ministry is to be a part of the Eliza Broadus Offering. ■ Bob Browning, Church in Some, president

through the Eliza Broadus Offering, Kentucky Baptists fund a ministry to workers on the "backside" of the track at Churchill Downs in Louisville. Behind the glamour of horse racing, there is a community of up to 1,000 people—many low-paying, dirty jobs and with little contact from churches. Baptist chaplains conduct a Bible study on the backside every Monday night and minister to individuals throughout the week.



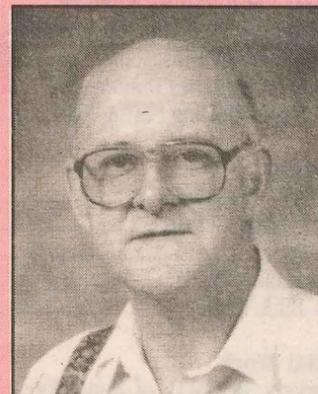
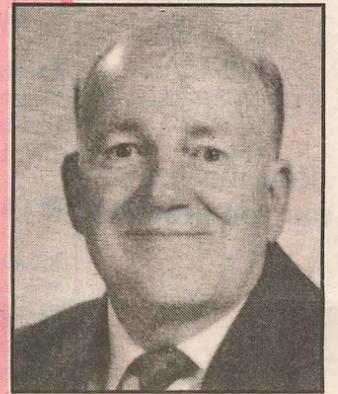
"I have been a part and I have seen the many lives that are touched by the mission projects supported by the state missions offering. In our church here at Rose Hill, we received state missions money to help start two missions. We have seen several souls saved in these missions."

■ *Charles Stewart, pastor of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland and former KBC president*



"Eastern Kentucky is reputed to have the second-highest rate of congenital deafness in the United States. The Eliza Broadus Offering supports Enterprise and Pike Baptist Associations in sponsoring Bible studies and activities among the deaf. One deaf lady said, 'My father was a preacher for almost 50 years, but I never understood anything at church. Now I am 48 years old and I can understand. I don't know where I would be if you hadn't found me.'

■ *Jim Smith, Enterprise Baptist associational director of missions*



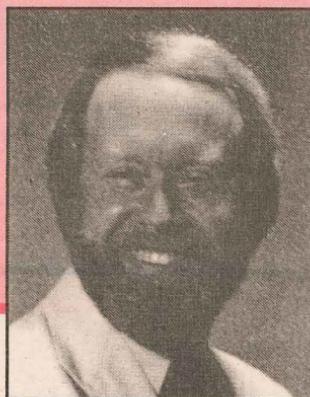
"The Eliza Broadus Offering enables us to preach and live the gospel in Pippa Passes, where we work with the students, faculty and staff at Alice Lloyd College, and with people who live in the community. Because of the giving of Baptists throughout the state, we touch the lives of hundreds of young people and adults every year."

■ *Lawrence Baldrige, missionary*



Kentucky Baptists are making a positive difference in our state, nation and world. We are doing more together to advance the Kingdom of God than any of us could do alone. We are touching the lives of children, youth and adults through churches, camps, retreats, schools, orphanages, hospitals, prisons, disaster relief, and home and foreign mission projects. Our vision is both local and global. The Eliza Broadus Offering is one way to sustain and strengthen all of this good work. The offering is another way Kentucky Baptists can directly participate in and have an active part in our Lord's work."

■ *Bob Browning, pastor of First Baptist Church in Somerset and current KBC president*



"Our church is small compared to the work we do with approximately 600 students at Oneida Baptist Institute. ... It is because of the Kentucky state missions program that we are able to touch the lives of these students, the staff and faculty—as well as the folks who live in the community. This is missions in action on such a grand scale that lives are changed, hope is given to the hopeless and in many years, as many as 100 students who have come from unchurched homes make their professions of faith in Jesus Christ. ... Because of the generosity of Kentucky Baptists, we are able to do what we believe is the most important ministry in God's beautiful world, right here in the majestic mountains of Clay County.

■ *Albert Griffin, pastor of Oneida Baptist Church*



State Missions Update

A Woman's Missionary Union supplement to the Western Recorder ■ Sept. 13, 1994

Where the Offering Money Will Go in 1994-95

Break it down

The \$775,000 goal for this year's Eliza Broadus Offering may seem overwhelming at one bite. But consider the fact that your individual contribution can fund all of these ministries at the rate of:
 \$1.48/minute ...
 \$88.71/hour ...
 \$2,129.12/day ...
 \$14,903.85/week.

How much time can you provide?

■ Allocations to the Kentucky Baptist Convention Missions Budget

Missionaries	
Salaries and Benefits (state missionaries)	230,000
Student Summer Missionaries	17,500
Camps/Assemblies	
Major Repairs and Replacements	35,000
Interracial Work	
Fellowship Center Workers	18,000
Language Missions	56,000
Special Ministries	
Christian Social Ministries	80,000
Rural Urban Ministries	30,000
Interfaith Witness	2,000
Student Work	
International Student Ministry	16,000
Reach Out Campus Revivals	6,000
Student Mission Action Projects	9,600
Special Projects	
Ministers' Wives Retreat	2,000
Disaster Relief	5,000
TOTAL	507,100

■ Allocations to Woman's Missionary Union Special Ministries Budget

Missionaries and Family Nurture	
Western Recorder to Foreign Missionaries	1,500
Foreign Missionaries Gifts	2,500
Furloughing Missionaries Dinner, KBC	800
Ministers' Wives Meeting during KBC	500
Scholarships	
Campus BYW Presidents	1,000
Ethnic/Language/Culture	400
Love in Action	600
Field Education (SBTS)	1,000
Simmons Bible College	1,500
Interracial Work	
Field Workers, B.W.M.C. of Kentucky	1,500
Simmons Missions Department	500

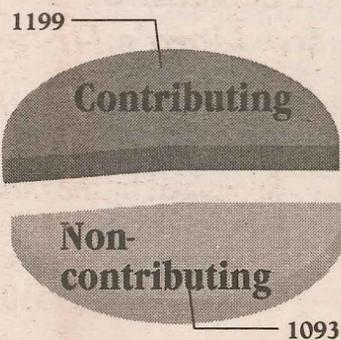
Friendship International Ministries	500
Walnut Street	2,500
Blood River/Murray	500
Lexington	1,500
West Union	500
Young Black Leaders Retreat	250
Ministries/Projects	
Clear Creek (Nursery)	2,500
Oneida Baptist Institute	3,500
Freeda Harris Center Van	5,000
Freeda Harris Center Bldg.	5,000
Luther Luckett Correctional Complex (Seminary Interns)	5,000
Race Track Ministry, Long Run	5,000
Resort Ministries, Land Between the Lakes	400
Infant Resource Projects	5,000
Deaf Ministries	
Enterprise	4,000
Pike	1,860
Migrant Ministries	
Henry	1,000
Calloway	800
Shelby	2,500
Simon House Extension Program	1,500
Jefferson St. Baptist Chapel	7,000
Baptist Fellowship Center	5,000

■ Allocations to Woman's Missionary Union Budget

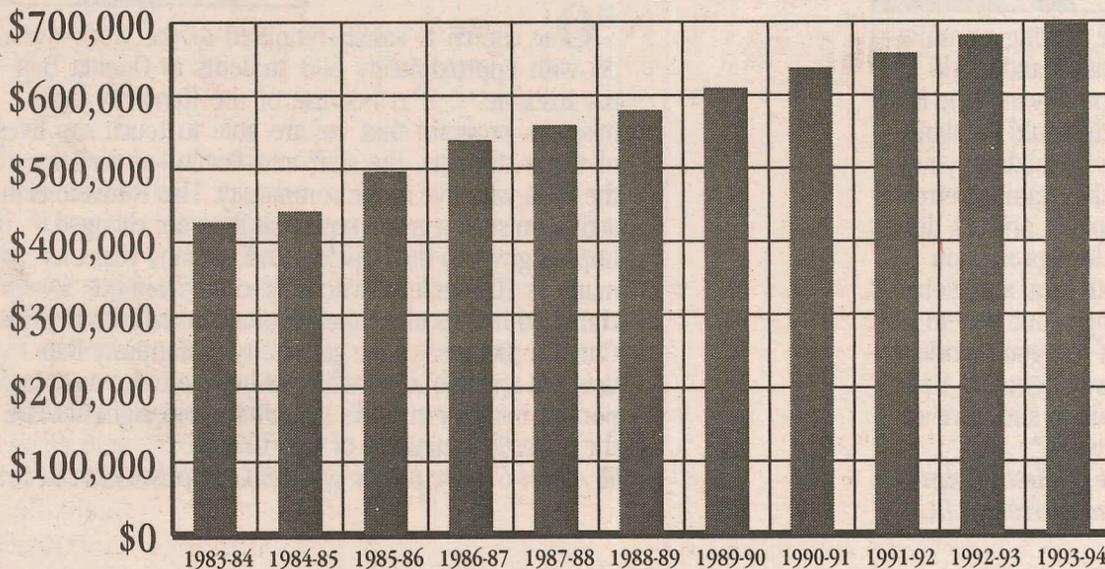
Activities	
State Missions Week of Prayer	19,600
WMU Activities	22,100
Age-Level Activities	15,015
Cedar Crest and Jonathan Creek Camps	67,235
Annual Meeting, Executive Board and committees	23,600
Partnership Program	2,000
Publications	
Western Recorder <i>EVENTS</i>	2,852
Ky Notes & Assoc NL (Pr. & Pst.)	20,000
Miscellaneous	
Endowments	2,000
Insurance	3,500
Undesignated	9,388
Hospitality Fund	500
International Events	7,500
TOTAL	\$267,900

For more information about the week of prayer or Eliza Broadus Offering or to receive promotional materials, contact Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union at (502) 245-4101.

Participation in Eliza Broadus Offering Kentucky Baptist Churches Giving to Offering in 1992-93



Giving Trends Eliza Broadus Offering



MISSIONS

Money was no object for this mission's property hunt

By David Winfrey
SBC Home Mission Board

FRANKLIN, Mass. (BP)—When money's no object, churches can buy any building. Southern Baptist home missionaries Charles and Laura Lee Chamblee, however, have learned God also can provide a building when there's no money at all.

Money was literally no object this spring when the Chamblees started looking for a place their growing congregation could meet.

With an average attendance of 45, the mission had outgrown the Elks Lodge and was getting close to reaching the fire code limit of 49 people in the building it was renting.

In June, a local nondenominational church contacted Chamblee, offering to sell its building because the pastor, Walter Lanagan, was retiring and the church was disbanding.

The building appraised for \$225,000, said Chamblee, 27. "I told the Lanagans that there was no way a little mission church could afford \$225,000."

Nevertheless, the pastor and his wife asked Chamblee to meet with the church board of directors. Chamblee said he agreed, thinking they might "fix a payment plan over the next 650 years or something."

The day of the meeting, Chamblee said, the 92-year-old chairman of the church's board told him, "God called

us to begin this work back in 1932 and we now feel as though God is calling us to bring it to a close. We feel that God has placed the gauntlet for reaching Franklin on you and your church."

"And then he said, 'Just as God has been good to us, we feel we need to be good to you. We want to give you our building and property.'"

Chamblee said he was overwhelmed. "It was everything I could do not to bust out crying like a little baby," he said. "One of the first thoughts that went through my mind was the verse, 'To him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we could ever ask and imagine.'"

Built in the early 1960s, the building seats about 100 people, he said. In addition to the first floor sanctuary, it has a fellowship hall, baby grand piano and church office.

Located 26 miles southwest of Boston, Franklin is the fastest-growing town in Massachusetts, he said. "In the past 15 years it's gone from a population of 9,000 to a population of 26,000 and it's still growing."

The two churches will hold a joint worship service Sept. 17, to exchange the deed for the land and property.

"This is just one of a number of things that God has been doing in our midst recently," said Chamblee, a Birmingham, Ala., native. "Small miracles have been happening all over the place."

Kentuckian to recruit volunteers

Continued from page 1
influence Southern Baptist volunteers who go overseas through other channels to get involved in FMB volunteer projects.

In both health care and sports, many Southern Baptist volunteers have gone out on their own and not worked with FMB missionaries, Snowden said. "If we can channel them through the board, the missionaries can benefit from the volunteers' work."

Snowden said these specialized

areas of volunteerism provide a unique way to reach people for Jesus Christ overseas.

"If you don't go out where the people are, you're not going to reach the masses. Jesus spent very little time in the temple," he explained. "Most of his time was out on the boat, up on the hillsides, because he knew that's where the people were."

For information about current volunteer needs in sports evangelism and medical missions, call the FMB at (800) 888-8657.



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Christian Tours, Inc. CRUISES—Special Savings!

Bahamas—Nassau and Port Lucaya

May 1-5, 1995 • Cost: \$689*
Guests: Dr. Paul Meier, Rick Stanley, Dr. Ike Reighard, The Imperials & others
*Book by Oct. 15 with full payment and receive an outside suite for only \$599. Limited number of suites left so book early.

Adventurous Alaska

Aug. 7-14, 1995 • Cost: \$2,000-2,624*
Guests: Joni Eareckson Tada, Dino, Dr. Paul Meier, Steve Arterburn, Kay DeKalb Smith
*Book by Sept. 20 with full payment and receive an outside suite for only \$2,000 (regular: \$2,624). Limited number of suites left so book early.

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Christian Tours, Inc. • 1-800-505-8687
Celebrate the Son!

Sessions of Prayer for *Here's Hope '95.* *Share Jesus Now.*

for
All Kentucky Baptists

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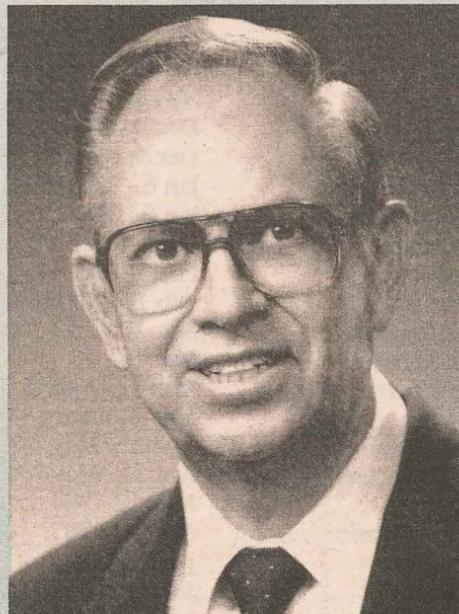
Severns Valley Baptist Church
401 West Poplar Street
Elizabethtown

Monday, September 19
7:00 p.m. (EDT)

or

Tuesday, September 20
1:00 p.m. (EDT)

Prayer Leader: T.W. Hunt



Baptist Sunday School Board
Nashville
Author of "Doctrine of Prayer"

*This call to prayer
for Kentucky
Baptists will offer:*

- A time of devotional music and worship
- A brief message on prayer by T.W. Hunt
- A session of prayer for *Here's Hope '95. Share Jesus Now.*

Sponsored by the Office
for Evangelism, KBC
Bill Jagers, Director
Phone (502) 245-4101

Train Strong Leaders in Russia

Dear Friends,

We have just received the list for our *second leadership development school* from the Russian Baptist Union. We will join the Foreign Mission Board in helping to provide professors and one half the cost of the new school in Ufa.

The school will begin October 15, 1994 with a Bible Book (elective) and Spiritual Formations class. We will need two professors to teach these classes.

As you know, the school is an off-campus program of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary located in Mill Valley, California. Southern Baptist Foreign Missionary Joe DeLeon is the director of the school.

Rev. Piotr Konovalchik, President/Executive Secretary of the Russian Baptist Union, and Bro. Joe DeLeon, Southern Baptist Missionary, have put this school together. They are requesting 27 pastors/professors to teach in this school at Ufa.

You would teach for nine days at approximately three hours per day. Once a week there will be an evening class on Thursday. The schedule will allow for 30 class hours and the students will be in class six hours per day. This means each professor would teach only three hours for nine days and one evening.

You would come into St. Petersburg and spend three days for orientation and fly to Ufa, which is about a two hour flight out of St. Petersburg.

You must prepare a short 5-6 page syllabus to be translated into the Russian language four weeks before you go. This would be the only text book you would use.

What a wonderful opportunity to teach these young pastors and leaders who will be the future of our Baptist work in Russia.

Qualifications: You must have a college degree and an M.Div. from seminary or the equivalent. Your experience in the pastorate, as a director of missions or minister would be required.

The cost of the trip is \$1,995 for two weeks of \$2,195 for four weeks. This includes your airfare from Louisville (all projects leave from Louisville), lodging, meals, VISA, FMB required insurance, in-country transportation and sightseeing.

You should get your passport immediately so you will have it when you get ready to go. Some of you who have been to Russia and taught in our Leadership Development School ought to go ahead and help us begin this new school!

Please call the Partnership Missions Office at 502/245-4101 and we will send you additional information and a new Kentucky/Russia Partnership video tape.

Pick out a time when you can go—God has a real blessing in store for you.

Yours in Christ,
Benton Williams, Director
Office for Partnership Missions

List of Classes for the Pastors' School in Ufa, Russia, for the 1994-95 year

No.	Course Description	Dates*
1. Elec.	Elective 1	Oct 14-30, 1994
2. MN 100	Spiritual Formation	Oct 14-30
3. CE 111	Christian Ethics	Nov 4 - 20
4. EV 111	Basic Evangelism	Nov 4 - 20
5. BH 115	Biblical Hermeneutics	Nov 25 - Dec 11
6. TH 111	Systematic Theology I	Nov 25 - Dec 11
7. TH 112	Systematic Theology II	Dec 9 - 24
8. RE 141	Principles of Church Growth	Dec 9 - 24
9. PR 111	Biblical Preaching Foundations	Jan 6 - 22, 1995
10. PC 111	Introduction to Pastoral Care	Jan 6 - 22
11. PC 112	Practicum in Pastoral Care	Jan 27 - Feb 12
12. OT 111	Old Testament Introduction I	Feb 17 - Mar 5
13. CH 166	History of the Baptists	Feb 17 - Mar 5
14. NT 111	New Testament Introduction I	Mar 10 - 26
15. MS 128	Leadership Princ. for Missions	Mar 10 - 26
16. NT 112	New Testament Introduction II	Mar 31 - Apr 15
17. MN 121	Introduction to Worship	Mar 31 - Apr 15
18. OT 112	Old Testament Introduction II	Apr 21 - May 7
19. RE 114	Princ. and Appro. To Bib. Teaching	Apr 21 - May 7
20. MS 130	Ethnic Missions	May 12 - 28
21. CM 100	Introduction to Church Music	May 12 - 28
22. CH 111	Early Church History	June 2 - 18
23. Elec	Elective 1	June 23 - July 9
24. RE 130	Church Administration	June 23 - July 9
25. Elec	Elective	Aug 4 - 20
26. MN 112	Supervised Ministry	Aug 15 - Sept 3
27. RE 143	Russian Baptist Programs of Ed.	Aug 25 - Sept 10

*These are dates for departure from Louisville and return from Russia

New Age influence cited in 'Celestine Prophecy'

By Karen Long
Cleveland Plain Dealer

CLEVELAND (RNS)—Before James Redfield starts his runaway best seller, "The Celestine Prophecy," he quotes the Old Testament, taking a couple of verses about leading "the many to righteousness" from the Book of Daniel.

Redfield then adds, as an author's note: "We know that life is really about a spiritual unfolding that is personal and enchanting—an unfolding that no science or philosophy or religion has yet fully clarified."

Plenty of people will tell you "The Celestine Prophecy" has clarified things for them. Some, like Sharon Jones of South Euclid, Ohio, will say it has changed their lives.

Others mock the book as the thinnest of spiritual gruel, ladled out to those who don't have the wit or training to know better. The Minneapolis Star Tribune dismissed it as a connect-the-dots approach to higher meaning.

Poor critical reviews have not stanchd word-of-mouth raves. Redfield, 44, wrote mainly sitting in a Waffle House on the outskirts of Birmingham, Ala. He put his entire life savings of \$13,000 into self-publishing the book, then hawked it out of the trunk of his Honda Accord, mostly to New Age bookstores.

His wares caught fire. Warner Books got wind of it and bought world rights in December for \$800,000, said publicist Diane Ekeblad.

"The Celestine," as aficionados call it, has sold more than 1 million copies for Warner at \$17.95 a pop. The publisher has translated it into 19 languages.

The book is the adventure story of an American man who dodges soldiers and church bad guys in the jungles of Peru as he searches for an ancient manuscript that explains human destiny. The reader receives nine "insights" into spiritual growth.

Redfield, who no longer gives interviews, grew up attending his local Methodist church.

"The dialogue there was that salvation comes by grace, that you open up and you get it," he told People Magazine. "But how? The details of that were not discussed."

His book's success fits into a larger web of surging interest in the spiritual, anxiety about the millennium and a big cohort of baby boomers starting to face their own mortality.

"The secular age is much more aware of its psyche than its soul," observed Phyllis Tickle, religion editor of Publisher's Weekly. "This thing got started 30 years ago with the Age of Aquarius. Organized and mainstream religion was very foolish not to look at the New Age phenomena earlier, because what's being redefined here is religion."

As evidence, Tickle points to the success of books about near-death experiences like "Embraced by the Light," nonfiction works that attempt to document UFO encounters, and the

spate of Nostradamus books expected this fall.

"In an age that has real and good reason for questioning the comforts of organized religion, an age that lacks ordained spiritual comfort, we are left free-floating," she said.

"But we have not lost any of the needs that created clergy for us in the first place. So where do we go?"

One place Ohioans go is Delphic Books in Cleveland Heights. After nine years specializing in New Age texts, "Celestine Prophecy" is the store's hands-down best seller, said co-owner Lori Brdar.

She and other enthusiasts describe it as a simple, non-threatening introduction to New Age concepts, a book that can be passed on to skeptical family and friends.

"I come in contact with a lot of people who come out of organized religions," Brdar said, "and there is a sense of being starved for something real. Real spiritual food is not readily available."

"I keep hearing stories about people who ask questions in their traditional religious structures, and they aren't given any answers. They are just asked to believe. I think there are things it is possible for us to know for ourselves. We don't have to just take the word of a preacher or rabbi or priest."

Sociologist Barry Kosmin at the City University of New York's Graduate Center has been tracking New Age trends.

The New Age, as Kosmin defines it, grew out of the Theosophy movement, mystical speculation about the origins of the universe derived from Hindu and Buddhist ideas and the counterculture of the 1960s.

It attracts mainly young, well-educated single adults who seek spiritual renewal in Third World, pre-enlightenment thought that takes seriously the supernatural and paranormal.

Kosmin describes New Age as "a creedless philosophy."

Roman Catholic theologian Eugene Kennedy of Loyola University in Chicago calls it a "pathetic symptom" of spiritual yearning, not a means of addressing it.

Hugh Burtner, professor of religion at Baldwin-Wallace College, sees it differently.

"I have an appreciation for the creativity of people in finding religious meaning wherever they can," he said. "I'm not scoffing, but I am turned off by conservative Christians who claim to know the future through the book of Revelation; by all the Nostradamus stuff; and books like 'The Celestine Prophecy.'"

"More needs to be done in the main forms of Christianity to help people with spirituality," Burtner said. "There ought to be more study groups, prayer gatherings and meditations in church."

In the meantime, Warner Books has been besieged by calls from groups asking for a companion study guide to "The Celestine Prophecy," Ekeblad said. Warner plans to issue an \$8.99 paperback in January.

ISSUES

CLC sides with Vatican on population woes

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Abortion politics dominated the first days of the United Nations conference on population and development in Cairo last week as delegates struggled to produce a 20-year, voluntary plan to reduce population growth.

Speakers at the Sept. 5-13 international conference explored multiple problems created by the population explosion, as well as empowering women in making family planning decisions.

The non-binding plan for curbing population growth was stalled by Vatican opposition. The Vatican, as well as Muslims and some evangelical Christians, opposed the plan because of concerns that it would promote abortion.

Among those voicing objections was the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

James Smith, CLC director of governmental relations, said at an Aug. 23 press conference that the media has given significant coverage of the Vatican and Muslim objections to the plan while largely ignoring evangelicals' concerns.

Smith said the CLC's concerns about the action plan to be presented in Cairo are broad: abortion, viewing children as a threat, procreation and

choice within marriage, sexual morality and marriage, adolescents, the family, male responsibility, poverty and population and the role of religion.

"The Draft Program seeks to promote the very policies of 'safe sex' and distribution of condoms to minors which have led to skyrocketing teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease rates in America," Smith said.

He declared the Clinton administration is leading the "charge for a 'safe sex' agenda" but that Southern Baptists' national "True Love Waits" campaign has proven there's a better way.

The program, begun by the SBC, has been endorsed by 27 other denominations and organizations and encourages sexual abstinence until marriage.

Smith added that "while Southern Baptists and others believe 'True Love Waits,' the Clinton administration believes true love wears a condom."

Smith said the U.N. document should focus more on development issues rather than just population growth, emphasizing that human beings are the most precious resources some nations have.

In Cairo, Vice President Al Gore

responded to critics by saying that the administration does not advocate abortion rights as international policy.

Meanwhile, a Baptist medical ethics specialist and former professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary said Baptists have a four-fold interest in the conference.

Paul Simmons, who teaches medical ethics and comparative Christian ethics at the University of Louisville, said Baptists are interested in freedoms, children, the welfare of the earth and how religion relates to politics.

Unfortunately, not every pregnancy is a happy event, and some women regardless of their religious background will choose to terminate their pregnancies, Simmons said.

"We must accept the reality of abortion" and then do everything possible to find better ways to prevent and deal with unwanted pregnancies, he said.

He offered four ways of curtailing the problem: education, development of better contraceptives, economic development and a moral atmosphere of acceptance and support.

While not advancing abortion, the U.N. members should "accept it as one of the difficult realities of family life," Simmons said.

11 HMB trustees offer dissent

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (ABP)—Eleven trustees of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board have signed a "statement of dissent," distancing themselves from a controversial pledge uniting Catholics and evangelicals signed by HMB President Larry Lewis last spring.

The 11 constitute about one-seventh of the mission agency's 80-member trustee board.

In August, HMB trustees voted 40-28 to endorse both a recent Southern Baptist Convention resolution and a "resolution of intent" passed earlier by the board's executive committee on the document titled, "Evangelicals and Catholics Together: The Christian Mission in the Third Millennium."

The document protesting Lewis' signing of "Evangelicals Together" was drafted by trustee William Streich, a member of First Baptist Church of Wichita Falls, Texas.

The statement "formally expresses the desire of individual directors of the Home Mission Board to disassociate themselves" from the August vote and "any tie" to the evangelical-Catholic document. Among criticisms leveled at the document are that it contains "heretical statements" and "claims Roman Catholicism as a legitimate form of discipleship."

While acknowledging they share convictions on anti-abortion and anti-pornography concerns highlighted in the document, the signers said "by subordinating doctrine to cause, this document leads to unacceptable compromise which has been endorsed by the Home Mission Board."

Seeing Visions and Dreaming Dreams

1994 Fall Gathering

Kentucky Baptist Fellowship

Immanuel Baptist Church, Frankfort, Kentucky

Take Frankfort exit #53B off of I-64—exit north toward Frankfort; right at second light onto East/West Connector (Rt. 676); left at second light onto Collins Lane; church is straight ahead on right.

DAYS INN—Rooms for KBF participants will be held until Sept. 23. For reservations, call (502) 875-2200 and ask for KBF block; \$40/double, \$36/single plus tax; includes coffee, juice and rolls. Call early for non-smoking rooms. Personal checks not accepted. Take Frankfort exit #53B off of I-64—exit north toward Frankfort; right at third light into hotel parking lot.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

8:00 p.m. PRE-GATHERING FELLOWSHIP AT IMMANUEL
Entertainment by The Swordsmen of Georgetown College
Displays by Friends of KBF/CBF

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

8:30 a.m. REGISTRATION - Coffee and donuts available
9:00 a.m. WORSHIP
Preaching: Dr. Sharyn Dowd, New Testament Professor, Lexington Seminary
Music: Trinity Baptist, Lexington
10:30 a.m. VISIONING SESSIONS
12:00 noon LUNCH - Reservations required (Reservation deadline: Sept. 28)
1:00 p.m. TOGETHER WE BUILD THE DREAM
Lee Coward, Long-Range Planning Specialist
2:00 p.m. WORSHIP
Preaching: Dr. Michael Bell, Greater St. Stephen's Baptist Church, Ft. Worth
Music: Immanuel Baptist, Frankfort

Childcare provided on Saturday (birth through kindergarten)

Registration and Lunch Reservation Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Church _____

_____ lunch reservations at
\$7 each = \$ _____. Enclose
check and names for all reservations;
mail to: KBF, P.O. Box 11160,
Lexington, KY 40574-1160. Questions?
Call (502) 863-2329.

PEOPLE

Reception honors Molly Marshall

LOUISVILLE—About 225 students, faculty and staff members gathered to speak words of affirmation to theology professor Molly Marshall during a reception held in her honor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Sept. 7.

The reception, sponsored by the Student Government Association, was planned after Marshall announced her forced resignation from the school's faculty Aug. 19. Although her resignation is not effective until Dec. 31, she has been removed from the master's-level courses she was to teach this fall.

"Many students returned from the summer expecting to be in her classes," explained SGA President Dixie Petrey. The reception was planned to offer them and the entire seminary community an opportunity to meet collectively with Marshall, Petrey said.

The reception was extended by 40 minutes to accommodate all those gathered to speak to Marshall, in-

cluding about 25 new students who never had the opportunity to sit in one of Marshall's classes, but had wanted to, Petrey said.

On behalf of the students, Petrey presented Marshall with an engraved desk clock.

After the presentation, Marshall spoke briefly. She expressed her thanks for the students, calling them "God's best grace-gifts in my life."

"I do not leave here with any sense of relief," she said. "I leave here with a great sadness. No one ever had a better time doing what God called her to do than I have had here."

Through tears, Marshall acknowledged her indebtedness to students and to Roy Honeycutt, former seminary president, for facilitating her election to the faculty 10 years ago.

Responding to a question concerning her future plans, Marshall said, "I'll continue to teach, preach and offer my gifts as best I can to the places that will receive them."



MARROWBONE DEDICATION After eight years, members of Marrowbone Baptist Church have moved one step closer to building a new sanctuary. This summer, they held a dedication service for this piece of land. The church, located in a needy area of eastern Pike County, was organized in 1943. The current building, located adjacent to the Freeda Harris Baptist Center, is more than 100 years old and well-worn.

A wet fourth of July

KENIEBA, Mali—Mission volunteers from Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro saw their most memorable Fourth of July program this summer in Africa.

The program didn't feature fireworks, but did pack plenty of excitement, said Jeannette Smith, press representative for the Mali Baptist Mission.

After a traditional American Fourth of July celebration, the Kentucky group accompanied missionaries Mike and Pat Krahwinkle to the village of Sitikoto, which is accessible only by a narrow, rocky path.

After seven years of preaching and teaching there, the Krahwinkles were to baptize the first converts in the small village on this day. A sudden rainstorm drove villagers in from their fields, and created a large audience for the baptism of 77 people.

The baptistry was a portable one the Kentuckians had built earlier in the week. The celebration ended with traditional African drum music and dancing.

CLASSIFIED ADS

NEEDED: Church custodian, 40 hours/week, with benefits. Contact Highland Baptist Church, Louisville, (502) 451-3735.

NEEDED: Puppet materials. Cardinal Creek Baptist Church desires to begin a puppet ministry—are there any puppets laying around your church that you would be interested in donating or selling to them? If so, please contact Pastor Bob Gray at (502) 737-1866.

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.

NEEDED: Minister of music and youth, part-time position. Send resumé to Music/Youth Committee, Island Baptist Church, P.O. Box 279, Island, KY 42350.

AVAILABLE: Ordained Southern Baptist minister George M. Bryant is available for revivals, evangelistic meetings and youth ministries. For information call the following number and leave a message: (606) 272-7156, or write to: 390 Nottingham Rd. Lexington, KY 40517.

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

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.

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

Central lauded for Habitat work

WINCHESTER—Members of Central Baptist Church in Winchester have set a good example for others to follow, according to Jerry Catlett, president of Clark County Habitat for Humanity.

The Winchester church worked through Habitat this summer to construct a three-bedroom home for a low-income family.

Catlett challenged other churches

"to follow in Central's footsteps" by helping build more Habitat homes in the future. More than 60 Central Baptist volunteers worked on the house, under the direction of William Blakeman, Brotherhood director.

During a dedication ceremony Aug. 20, the church presented the home's new occupants the keys to the house, a Bible and lots of encouragement.

**Come
Join
The
Fun!**



Saturday, Sept. 17

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children is celebrating 125 years of caring for children and you're invited to the birthday party! The Glen Dale celebration will embrace an "old country fair" theme with buckboard rides, farm life exhibits, a petting zoo, a midway of games for all ages, and live entertainment. There'll be plenty of food and fun for the entire family!

**Glen Dale Children's Home
"Old Country Fair"**

Glendale, Kentucky
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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



Life Action Ministries presents
"Bring Back the Glory"

A live multimedia presentation calling
America to a spiritual awakening

September 22 • 7 p.m.

First Southern Baptist Church of Greater Louisville
2627 Crums Lane • (502) 447-9544

Free Admission

Nursery provided through 3 years of age

PEOPLE

Clear Creek dedicates, begins construction

PINEVILLE—Clear Creek Baptist Bible College recently dedicated two facilities and announced plans to construct a new Health Service Center.

Hemlock Heights Student Apartments and the Asher Building were dedicated during the Alumni Conference Aug. 1.

Hemlock Heights provides 12 one-bedroom apartments for couples without children. Nearly 40,000 feet of hemlock from the campus was used in construction of the new units. Labor was provided mainly by volunteers and a prison work crew from Bell County Forestry Camp.

The Asher Building previously served as the campus preschool center. It was renovated to provide two faculty offices, a piano lab, organ and piano practice rooms and a large multi-purpose classroom.

Major donors to the Hemlock Heights project included Robert and Mavis Thomas of Knoxville, Tenn.; Robert and Ruth Milby of London; Brooks Furniture Manufacturing of Tazewell, Tenn.; James Lambert of Mount Vernon; Alva Richardson of Campbellsville; the Cralle Founda-

tion of Louisville; the Houchens Foundation of Bowling Green; and the late Eva Arnold of Louisville. Asher Building renovation donors included South Bevins of Pineville; Tom and Peggy Prather of Louisville; Dan and Ruby Prather of Pigeon Forge, Tenn., and their mother, Sally Prather.

Meanwhile, the college has broken ground for construction of a new Health Service Center. This program currently is housed in an aging mobile home and small cottage.

Construction of the new facility is projected to cost \$110,000, with a portion of the work performed by students under campus employment.

The new facility will include a reception area, records room, laborato-

ry, offices for both a medical and dental practice and offices for the Crossroads Counseling Center.

Bill Snowden, a Winchester dentist, comes to campus regularly and treats 20 to 40 students and their family members on each visit. Truman Mays, a Somerset physician, performs minor outpatient surgery and other preventive care treatments. Sam Massey, an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist from Texas, also serves at the clinic.

In addition, a campus nurse employed through the student "workshop" program sees 20-25 patients daily and provides allergy shots, school physicals, diabetic testing and breathing treatments for asthma patients.



NEW TRUSTEE Bob Haile (left), a dentist from Hopkinsville, greets Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis during his first meeting as an HMB trustee. Haile is a member of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Hopkinsville. He was elected to the HMB post by messengers to this summer's Southern Baptist Convention.

Little Flock Baptist Church 2nd Annual Shepherding Seminars Theme: "Effective Ministry in Changing Times"

Saturday, October 15, 1994 • 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Cost: \$8 per person (includes breaks and materials)
Keynote Speaker: Rev. Don Short, Evangelist

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POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will seek to fill the following positions for Fall, 1995: Old Testament; Church History; Preaching; Historical Theology; Systematic Theology; Youth Ministry; Leadership; Church Music-Voice (Soprano). Applicants should have a research doctorate and should be able to affirm the seminary's statement of faith. All candidates must be members of a Baptist congregation and emphasize conservative-evangelical theology.

These persons will have opportunity to teach in professional and doctoral programs and must have a strong commitment to prepare people for Christian ministry. Rank and tenure are negotiable on the basis of experience. Send biographical information to: Search Committee Dean, Office of Vice President for Academic Administration, 2825 Lexington Road, Box 319, Louisville, KY 40280. Application deadline October 31, 1994.

Discovering Church Membership*
(C.L.A.S.S. 101)
Leader: Pastor Ronald Shaver, Little Flock
Discover salvation, the strategy, structure and statements of Little Flock.

Discovering Spiritual Maturity*
(C.L.A.S.S. 201)
Leader: Pastor Ken Lupton, Little Flock
Discovering the Four Habits of growing disciples of Christ.

Discovering My Ministry*
(C.L.A.S.S. 301)
Leader: Pastor Kevin Hamm, Little Flock
Discover your spiritual gifts and spiritual S.H.A.P.E. in the body of Christ.

Discovering My Mission*
(C.L.A.S.S. 401)
Leader: Vivian Coffman, Little Flock
Discover the philosophy and strategy for outreach, growth, evangelism and missions at Little Flock.

Discovering Magnification through Worship*
(C.L.A.S.S. 501)
Leader: Pastor Mark Swadley, Little Flock
Discover the strategy to involve people in the worship and music ministries of Little Flock.

Ideas for Reaching Adults*
Leader: Alonaha Cravens, Outreach Director, Little Flock
How to organize your Sunday school to reach adults. For adult teachers, outreach, inreach, care group leaders.

Becoming an Enthusiastic Greeter*
(Greeter Ministry)
Leader: Jerri Herring, Growth Section, Baptist Sunday School Board
How to make a winning welcome to guests and members.

What God Does When You Pray*
(Intercessory Prayer)
Leader: Rev. Rolfe Dorsey, Long Run Baptist Association, The Third Day Ministry
How to break through barriers and impact your world through prayer.

Handling Conflict, Criticism and Difficult People in the Church*
Leader: Chip Miller, Kentucky Baptist Convention
Who touches your "hot button?" How to cope with confrontation and troublesome personalities within your church.

Reaching Children through Exciting Bible Study*
Leader: Kathy Routt, Eastern Gate Baptist Church
Ideas for making lessons more exciting as well as ideas for reaching children and their parents.

Life Support/Recovery Group Leader Training*
Leader: Rev. Wayne Wilson, Pastoral Counselor, Methodist Evangelical Counseling Center
What makes a support/recovery group work? Establishing cohesiveness, asking good questions, dealing with group problems.

Reaching New Homeowners through First Impressions*
Leader: Raymond Hornbeck, Little Flock
How to make visits to newcomers in your community and organize a First Impressions Ministry.

Electrify Your Church*
(Through Sound and Lighting)
Leader: Pastor Tog Goodson, Little Flock
How to provide effective sound and lighting for meaningful worship. A live demonstration will be presented.

Reaching Preschoolers and Their Parents*
Leader: Shirley Bearce, State Convention of Baptists in Indiana
Ideas to reach preschoolers and parents through your Sunday school.

Directions for Youth Ministry in the 90s*
Leader: Pastor Mike Rhodes, Little Flock
A look at the goals of youth ministry at Little Flock and strategies for attaining these goals.

Introduction to Stephen Ministry*
Leader: Alice Newton, Stephen Ministry Coordinator, Little Flock
Learn how to begin this lay caregiving ministry in your church.

The Church Orchestra
(Every church has one hidden somewhere)
(1st session only)
Leader: Pastor David Watts, Little Flock
The ABCs of church orchestra ministry.

Developing a Praise Team and Rhythm Section (2nd session only)
Leader: Pastor David Watts, Little Flock
What is it? Why use it? How to use it.

Lifestyle Evangelism (1st session only)
Leader: Rev. Don Short, Evangelist
Learn how to live your faith and share it at the same time.

*Continuous *Repeat

Seminary student tuition will be paid by Little Flock

Little Flock Baptist Church
5500 Preston Highway
(4 miles south of the Gene Snyder Freeway)
(502) 955-8760

To register, send your name, address, phone number and \$8 per person to:
Little Flock Baptist Church Office
c/o Ken Lupton,
160 Zoneton Road
Shepherdsville, KY 40165

PEOPLE

KENTUCKY KERNELS

Seven Kentucky counties are among the nation's 25 poorest. They are McCreary, Elliott, Edmonson, Menifee, Jackson, Owsley and Clay.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **BOWLING GREEN**—Burton Memorial Church called **Barry Shelton** as interim music director.
■ **COVINGTON**—**Joe Boone** resigned as minister of education and youth at Latonia Church to become pastor at Butler Church in Butler.
■ **HAWESVILLE**—Hawesville Church called **Miriam Brown** as youth minister. She is a graduate of Southern Seminary.
■ **KEVIL**—**Clarence Steiner** resigned as pastor of Spring Bayou Church to become director of missions at Henry Association in McDonough, Ga.
■ **LEXINGTON**—Broadway Church ordained Youth Minister **Jeff Prosser** to the gospel ministry Aug. 28.
■ **PADUCAH**—**Don Presley** resigned as pastor of Trinity Church.
■ **PENDLETON**—Sligo Church called **James Teafatiller** as minister of children and youth.
■ **PRESTONSBURG**—First Church called **Tommy Valentine** as pastor. He previously was pastor at Mill Creek Church in Bardstown. Valentine will begin his new ministry Oct. 9.
■ **SPRINGFIELD**—**Wesley Powers**, three times pastor over a 30-year period of Thompsonville Church, retired Aug. 28. He also was pastor of several other churches in Kentucky. Powers will be available for supply and revivals. Call (606) 887-3115.

■ **WICKLIFFE**—**Rodney Cude** resigned as pastor of Faith Missionary Church.
■ **WILMORE**—Mount Freedom Church ordained **Alexander Farc** to the ministry Aug. 28.

MISSIONARY UPDATE

■ **Charles and Carolyn Dixon**, missionaries to Tanzania, have completed language study in Kenya and arrived on their field of service at P.O. Box 896, Morogoro, Tanzania. They consider White Plains their hometown.



40-YEAR RECORD George Mink (left) has just completed his 40th year of perfect attendance in Sunday school. He and his wife, Beatrice, are members of Central Avenue Baptist Church in Elizabethtown. Mrs. Mink had completed 38 years of perfect attendance until she became ill, but has missed very few Sundays since.

Mount Vernon's members recall resourceful past for 175th year

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

JAMESTOWN—In 175 years of ministry, members of Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Jamestown have learned to be resourceful.

"The ladies at times have kept the church going," acknowledged Pastor Louis Shepherd, noting Mount Vernon went through some periods where women and children were in abundance, but men were scarce.

"Old minutes tell how the ladies met at the church with their hammers and nails to do whatever needed to be done."

However, men and women alike "packed the house" for the church's 175th anniversary celebration July 3, Shepherd reported.

The celebration—an all-day gathering at the church—included a fellowship meal, celebration service and visits to the heritage room. Some members chose to dress in the attire of the early 1800s.

Bob Jones of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and Bob Browning, pastor of First Baptist Church in Somerset and current KBC president, were guest speakers during the day's events.

Nine charter members established Mount Vernon Baptist Church in July of 1819. The church met in homes for several years before acquiring permanent facilities.

Today, the church remains in a rural setting, about five miles south of Jamestown, Shepherd said. About 40 people regularly attend Sunday school and morning worship.

"The church has always been ... strong in Cooperative Program giving," the pastor added. Currently, 15 percent of the church budget goes to the Cooperative Program, and 5 percent is designated for the local association.

Celebrating the church's 175th anniversary "really encouraged the whole church," Shepherd said. "They seem more alive and ready to move forward in the Lord's work."

The church hopes to develop a ministry to tourists at Lake Cumberland in the future, Shepherd said.



SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES Dressed in historical attire, the 175th anniversary committee of Mount Vernon Baptist Church led this summer's celebration. They are Betty Wheat, Lane Holt and Lois Shepherd.

Volunteers: Wonderful people

We have just completed one of the busiest summers I can remember. One of the wonderful blessings of summer is the number of volunteers who come to our campus every year. These dedicated people come from all over Kentucky and many other states. There is no way to measure the time and money we save through their efforts. These skilled people help us in every facet of our work.

Volunteers spent hundreds of hours finishing the construction of our new, state-of-the-art swine facility. Without their help we would be months away from completion. The savings in labor costs is in the thousands of dollars.

One of our Campers on Mission groups worked for over a week installing drywall in one of our new buildings. It was very hard work installing the 4'x12'x5/8" sheets. Most of these men were retired or semi-retired, but insisted on doing the work that needed to be done.

Some of them worked on a new campground that will have 24 hook-ups—each one with water and electricity. Many hours were spent installing water lines, electrical boxes and underground cable.

This campground will be put to further use in October. The Kentucky chapter of Campers on Mission will have their state rally here the first week of the month. During that time we are going to make some major repairs in the shower/restrooms of the girls' dormitory. While the men are making these repairs, the ladies will be painting, cleaning and sewing.

During this past year, more than a hundred campers spent part of their summer with us. Groups from Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, Alabama and Indiana, as well as from

Kentucky, made use of the temporary campground. These fine folks bring their campers, saving us much-needed dormitory space. Some weeks the dorm that we use to house volunteers is completely full.

This summer we were blessed with volunteers from these churches or associations: Blood River; Third Baptist in Owensboro; Severns Valley; Turner Ridge; Baptist Builders from First Baptist, Paducah; Hampton Heights; Hazel; Temple; Ten Mile; Yellow Creek; Ballardsville; and

Downtown Baptist of Orlando, Fla. These wonderful folks helped us to do many projects that never would have gotten done this year without them.

In addition to the projects already mentioned, here are some other things that have been done with their help: Paneling; roofing; electrical wiring; plumbing; installing sinks and cabinets in the science lab; making a storage area for track mats; building a new trash compound; installing showers for the campground; work at Oneida Church; pouring concrete at the site of the monument in honor of Barkley

Moore; erecting stairs for our new building; and much, much more.

While the men were busy with many of these projects, the women helped in other areas: cleaning; shampooing carpets; clerical work; painting; crafts; helping in the kitchen; sewing dozens of curtains; staining; organizing supplies; and many other projects.

Oneida has always been a ministry that depended on others sharing their time and talents. When we give Jesus something to bless, he will.

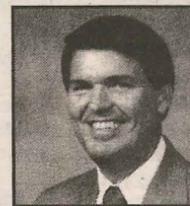
W.F. "Bud" Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. 40972

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Alumni affirmation

In recent days we've heard from several hundred alumni who responded to a survey mailed by our faculty. I thought you would enjoy some of their comments.

"Clear Creek is a unique school because it offers academic training with practical, everyday training. People who are called into the ministry late can go there and feel at home. I think it is the best college of this type in the country because of the quality of professors and staff." Class of 1994.

"My three years at Clear Creek were the best years of our lives. It is a great experience for the children of students." Class of '66.

"I would not hesitate to recommend Clear Creek to any person who is serious about a good, conservative, biblical education. To me it is the premium Bible college." Class of '91.

"It has been 38 years since I graduated, and there have been many changes. I received my high school diploma there in 1958 as well as my certificate for two years' study. Clear Creek has been very influential and effective in my life and also my family. We praise God and thank him for the school." Class of '58.

"You relate to the needs of adults who never thought they

could get a college education. It gives one encouragement and self-esteem as nothing else can. The school is essential to those whom God calls to his service." Class of '92.

"I would not trade, barter or exchange anything for the time spent while a student. They were wonderful days and were foundational for the ministry that I've come to in this juncture of my pilgrimage." Class of '83.

"I have much love and appreciation for professors and staff that taught me. If I had to do it over again, I would hope and pray I could be educated by the exact same educators." Class of '93.

"The school and teachers taught the Bible as the very word of God. When I was a student, I was prepared to preach the gospel unashamedly to a lost and dying world. Above all else, I pray the school will remain true to the word of God." Class of '52.

"The professors were good and very helpful people. When you leave Clear Creek, if you're not prepared to pastor, it is because you did not study or listen very well." Class of '71.

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

Vietnam vet returns with new mission

By Mike Creswell
SBC Foreign Mission Board

THAI NGUYEN CITY, Vietnam (BP)—Bob Bell fought in Vietnam in the 1960s to win a war, dodging sniper bullets while he and other U.S. Navy Seabees constructed landing strips, buildings and roads.

Now, more than 20 years later, he's one of the first Southern Baptists back in postwar Vietnam to help rebuild the country.

Bell and his wife, Suzanne, teach English under the sponsorship of Cooperative Services International, an aid organization affiliated with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Communist Vietnam still bans missionaries, but it welcomes English teachers and development workers. Bell left a promising career in prison chaplaincy in Missouri to return to a land where he once spent some of the most harrowing moments of his life. Mrs. Bell, an attorney, left a career in insurance law.

The Bells and their two young sons live in a modest four-room apartment on the campus of Agricultural University No. 3, located outside Thai Nguyen City in Bac Thai Province north of Hanoi.

Like all of Vietnam, the university struggles to upgrade itself. Visitors reach the campus—a collection of buildings grouped around fish ponds—via a rough road that runs atop a dike holding back waters for surrounding rice fields.

New buildings are rising, and university leaders are excited about their increasing ability to improve farming and forestry techniques.

English instruction plays a key role in their plans for the future. It's the main language of business and agriculture throughout Asia and the rest of the world. About eight of every 10 students in the country study English, university leaders say. About 130,000 reportedly study English in Ho Chi Minh City alone.

Four times a week, Bell teaches English to as many as three dozen students. Equipped with a wide range of books, he emphasizes conversation. On a typical morning he may discuss an article in one of Vietnam's new English-language newspapers or play a board game that emphasizes English words.

Bell is obviously an American but says he has found no bitterness toward him left over from the war.

"I was invited to a village about six miles from here and went out there with one of my students," he said. "A woman was giving a party for her younger brother who was going off to school. The woman's father mentioned they were fortunate. They had lost only one of their 10 children and that one had been killed by an American. But there was no hostility in the room."

Bell carefully avoids "missionary work" but shares his faith as any Christian should.

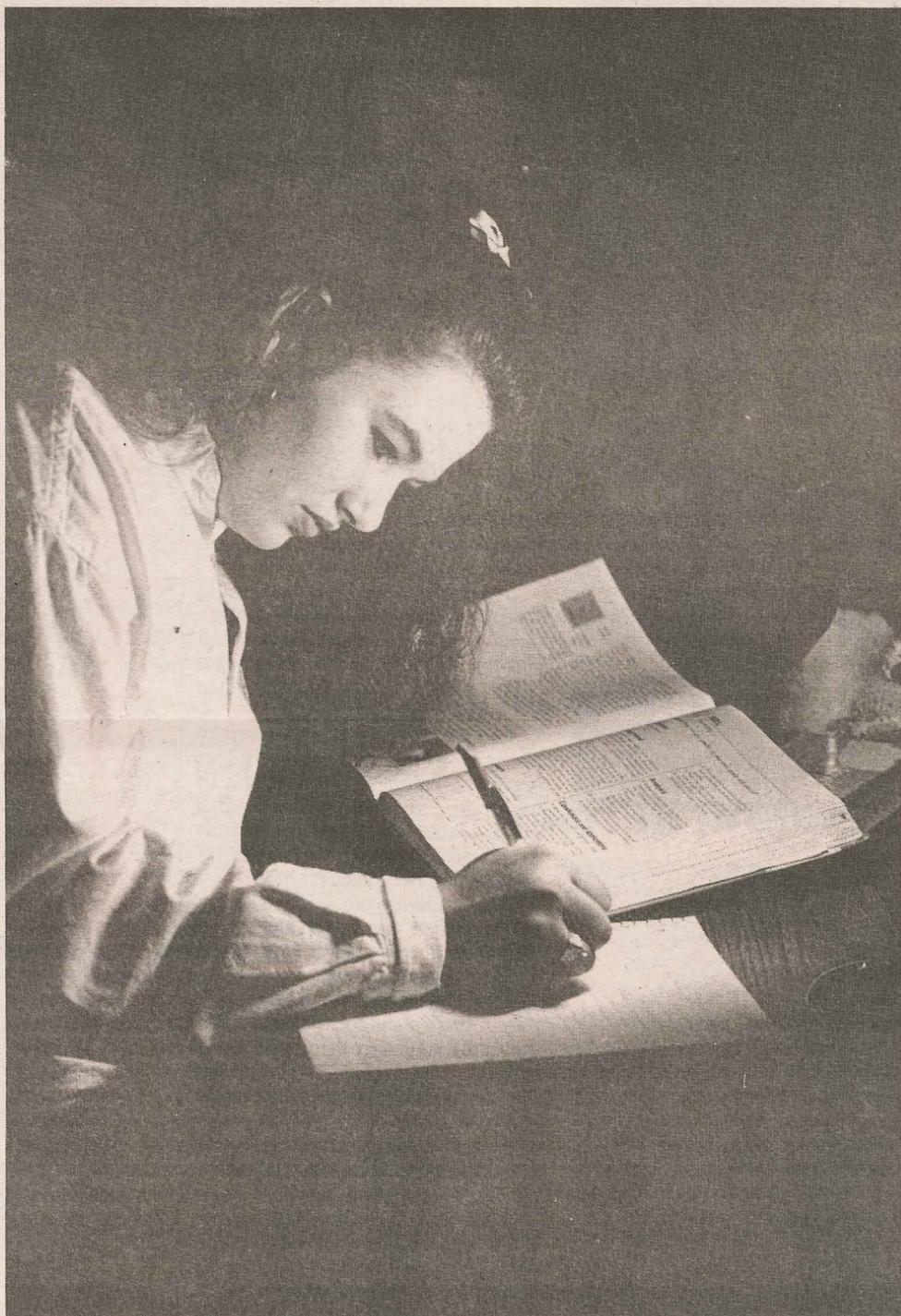
Communist Vietnam still bans missionaries, but it welcomes English teachers and development workers.



BAPTISTS IN VIETNAM ■ **Top:** Women use bags attached to long poles to collect the offering during a Sunday morning service at Grace Baptist Church in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Church leaders are breathing a bit easier these days, since the government has loosened restrictions on organized religion in a bid to boost its economy through better international relations. The church baptized 297 new believers in 1993. Many churches have operated underground for years, and not all Vietnamese are convinced the new liberties will last. ■ **Middle left:** Southern Baptist worker Bob Bell (right) says goodbye to government and hospital leaders after visiting a hospital in northern Vietnam. Bell and his wife now teach English in the country. ■ **Middle right:** Although the teacher-pupil ratio is good, it's still school for Andrew and John Bell, children of Southern Baptist workers Suzanne and Bob Bell. Mrs. Bell teaches the two children in their apartment in Vietnam. ■ **Above:** Southern Baptist worker Jeff Palmer (left) and Vietnamese tea farmer Nguyen Van Rau (center) survey Nguyen's hillside tea farm in Bac Thai Province, Vietnam. Palmer is among Baptist workers teaching Vietnamese farmers improved agricultural techniques for farming on sloped land. (BP photos by Warren Johnson)

As school begins...

...please pray for all your children!



As another school year begins, children in your care through Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children are beginning classes in ten different school districts, two campus schools, and ten colleges. Please pray for these students as they seek to put pasts of abuse and neglect behind them and approach the beginning of a new school year with the hope of a brighter tomorrow.

For information about other ways you can get involved, dial 1-800-456-1386!

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children

Celebrating 125 Years of Love

