



PRACTICAL RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

# WESTERN RECORDER

September 20, 1994  
Vol. 168, No. 37

## CHURCH LEADERS

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### FOR THE RECORD

**Samford pulls out**  
Trustees of Samford University voted last week to become a self-perpetuating board, distancing themselves from the Alabama Baptist Convention. See page 2.

**KBC year ends well**  
The Kentucky Baptist Convention closed its fiscal year Aug. 31 with record contributions. See page 3.

**Editorial**  
Baptist Forum exists to express the views of our readers. See page 5.

**SBC influences split**  
A new church is forming in West Kentucky, in what appears to be the first church split with a direct link to the Southern Baptist Convention controversy. See page 8.

**Fellowship affiliates**  
The Kentucky Baptist Fellowship was among 14 organizations recently approved as state and regional affiliates of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. See page 10.

**Porn punished**  
The crime bill recently passed by Congress includes new penalties for child pornography and child prostitution. See page 11.



**10 YEARS OF MINISTRY** Farmer residents of Quest Farm near Georgetown prepare horses for trail rides during the 10th anniversary celebration there Oct. 11. About 500 people attended the event to celebrate the unique ministry to developmentally disabled adults, conceived by members of Trinity Baptist Church in Lexington. See story on page 3. (Photo by Dawn Richerson)

## 'Debt isn't sinful, but neither is it biblical'

By Terri Lackey  
SBC Sunday School Board

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Being up to your ears in debt "is not necessarily a sin," but it is a violation of biblical teaching, according to a Baptist financial planner.

"The Bible says that a person who pledges to pay for something in the future is a man lacking in sense," Terry Hendrixson said during a recent conference at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

"God admonishes us not to get in debt just as a mother would lovingly advise her child not to play in the street or touch a hot stove," said Hendrixson, a certified financial

planner and public accountant who works with Blankenship, Weaver and Associates, P.C., in Brentwood, Tenn.

"Two-thirds of the parables in the gospels talk about money," he said.

Being in debt "is not necessarily a sin. I mean, it's not the type of thing that causes eternal damnation of your soul, but it sure can make your life miserable," he warned.

Hendrixson said he believes a person could live debt-free with the exception of buying a home, if financial affairs were managed properly.

A Gallup poll of Christian families, including single adults, found 40 percent of church families over-

spend every month, Hendrixson said.

"That means they systematically spend more than they bring in. They either deplete their savings or increase their debt. And those are the 40 percent who admitted it," he said.

"I suggest that 40 percent more either lied or just don't know whether they overspend their budget," Hendrixson said.

Hendrixson said the Gallup poll also found that 90 percent of those who had divorced or were considering divorce cited financial difficulties as a primary reason.

Hendrixson said he understands what financial debt can do to a person.

□ See Adviser: Debt not ..., page 9

## Teen drugs: Is everybody really using?

DALLAS (BP)—When it comes to using drugs, some teenagers believe "everybody's doing it."

But statistics show they're not.

That's the good news. The bad news is that the number of teens using illegal drugs is growing.

A 1993 University of Michigan study revealed that illicit drug use among American teens is rising after an 11-year decline.

More young people are using LSD, marijuana, inhalants and stimulants. Cigarette use also is up, and use of alcohol—the most widely abused drug by teenagers—remains steady.

Christians may be appalled, but they shouldn't be shocked by the trend, according to Chris Liebrum, a youth consultant with the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

"Given the environment in which so many youth live, with broken homes and the absence of any moral value system being taught to them, it should come as no surprise that drug usage is up," he explained.

Just getting teens into church is not enough to solve the problem entirely, Liebrum said. But it can help.

He cited a study which found that young people who regularly attend evangelical churches are less likely to be involved in immoral or illegal activities such as drug use. But the difference between the churchgoing youth and the general teen population is less than 10 percent.

"A lot of the kids who are active in church and who seem to have their lives together are the same kids who are struggling with issues of drug use and addiction," Liebrum said.

Timely support from parents and churches can make a difference, though.

Kelly, a 14-year-old from Fort Worth, Texas, was among the churchgoing young people who started experimenting with LSD last year.

"At the end of the school year, it □ See Not all teens ..., page 9

## Baptists seeking alternatives for troubled tobacco farms

For generations, Kentucky preachers have joked that preaching against tobacco could be dangerous to their careers. After all, tobacco money has filtered through the offering plates of nearly every Baptist church in the state and has been the mainstay of many rural churches.

It doesn't take higher math to calculate the connection between Kentucky being a Baptist state and a tobacco state: Baptists comprise the largest single religious group in the state, and 57 percent of all crop income in the state is derived from tobacco. In fact, two-thirds of the entire U.S. tobacco crop comes from Kentucky and North Carolina.

But with the tobacco industry under assault for health and environmental reasons, a few Baptists have

begun to speak out about this moral issue—particularly the responsibility to help tobacco farmers find alternative ways of using their land and feeding their families.

"If we don't find something for farmers to make an income off of, all farmers are at risk," said Pam Clay, a member of Trinity Baptist Church in Lexington and director of Kentucky Organic Growers.

Her organization is promoting one unique way to help Kentucky's farmers kick the tobacco habit—selling organically grown produce through community-based buying clubs.

"This is an effort to diversify farms," she explained. "It's not an anti-tobacco project, but it is an effort to provide farmers with opportunities that make them less dependent on tobacco income."

"Like it or not, tobacco is part of our history and our heritage. I think our best persuasion is to show farmers they can make a bigger profit off this (organic) method."

But that's a tall order, considering tobacco is Kentucky's No. 1 cash crop, grossing from \$5,000 to \$6,000 per acre—more than most other crops.

"It's not so simple to say, 'Get rid of your tobacco,' Clay said. "That would be like saying, 'Quit your job.'"

Aside from the moral concerns about the tobacco industry, churches must help farmers face changing economic times and the continuing family farm crisis.

"1994 brought Kentucky tobacco farmers a step closer to a disastrous crisis," Hal Pogue said at a recent conference on tobacco farming alternatives. "This crisis threatens to have far-reaching economic, social, political, cultural and religious effects," said the associate minister for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Kentucky Appalachian Ministry.

"Our most important task is to □ See Baptists explore ..., page 6

Is there life after tobacco?

The family farm crisis

Moving? See page 4 (0920)

# BAPTISTS

## Samford University declares board's independence

**"It appears that political factors increasingly impact the Southern Baptist Convention, with obvious potential to disrupt the Alabama Convention."**

*From a statement by Samford University trustees on their vote to stop allowing the Alabama Baptist Convention to appoint some of the university's trustees*

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Samford University last week joined the procession of prominent Baptist universities breaking ties with their state Baptist conventions.

University trustees voted 31-2 Sept. 13 to elect their own successors—a prerogative granted to the Alabama Baptist State Convention since 1845—saying the move is necessary to protect the Birmingham, Ala., school from a fundamentalist takeover.

Samford now joins the ranks of Furman University in South Carolina, Wake Forest University in North Carolina, Baylor University in Texas and Stetson University in Florida—all Baptist schools that have distanced themselves from their respective state conventions in recent years, in some cases severing all legal ties.

The breakaways have been fueled by fears that the conservative power-brokers who captured control of the Southern Baptist Convention through trustee appointments since 1979 will duplicate that effort on the state level.

"It appears that political factors increasingly impact the Southern Bap-

tist Convention, with obvious potential to disrupt the Alabama Convention," the trustees said in a six-page statement mailed to Alabama pastors.

"These factors, along with proposals concerning denominational trustees here in Alabama, have raised the possibility that great harm could come to Samford," the statement says. "If the election of Samford trustees—who have ultimate responsibility for Samford University—is placed in doubt every year, and the threat of 'stacking' the board of trustees with persons of particular political loyalties is ever-present, and Samford is regularly harassed with minor charges only to be exploited for what appear to be political objectives, then the university's current operations and future progress are jeopardized."

The change takes effect immediately, leaving it up to the state convention to decide whether to retaliate, either by challenging the move in court or defunding the \$4 million it contributes annually to Samford's \$68 million budget.

The university's president said he hopes neither action will be neces-

sary, because the change is not intended to alter Samford's relationship with Alabama Baptists.

"This university does not want to change its mission or its relationship with Alabama Baptists," said President Thomas Corts, who marked his 10th anniversary at the school last year. "We did not take this action out of hostility, retribution, or in response to any particular event. This is a result of quiet, reflective thinking about the future and destiny of this institution."

The Samford board retained the requirement that trustees live in Alabama and be members of Alabama Baptist churches.

However, one of the two trustees who voted against the change, Calvin Kelly of Birmingham, said: "Samford University has effectively been stolen from the state convention. There is no way that the relationship between Samford and the state convention will not change. As I see it the ties have been severed."

Samford has an enrollment of 4,500 students, and the size of the university's endowment ranks among the top 5 percent in the nation.

The change also impacts Samford's new Beeson Divinity School, thus creating a delicate position for Timothy George, dean of the divinity school and a vocal supporter of Southern Baptist Convention conservatives.

George issued a statement noting "the record of history shows that, in the long term, most institutions that have broken ties with their founding constituency do not retain a lively commitment to the Christian faith but only a thin veneer of religiosity, if even that."

But the same is not destined to happen at Samford, George said. "I am a Calvinist, not a fatalist. I believe in God, and I do not think history must necessarily repeat itself."

George pledged the Beeson Divinity School "will continue to be theologically conservative. Every professor in our school publicly subscribes to a confession of faith agreeing to teach in accordance with and not contrary to the great doctrinal principles of historic Christian orthodoxy."

*Compiled from Associated Baptist Press and Baptist Press reports*

## Merritt: 'God not our mother'

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)—"God is not our heavenly mother," James Merritt declared in a recent chapel service at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Merritt, pastor of First Baptist Church of Snellville, Ga., said those who attempt to alter the Bible's male language for God have a problem with biblical inspiration.

"This whole matter of feminizing God, feminizing Jesus and scrubbing the Scriptures clean of so-called male bias is not an issue of feminism or chauvinism," he asserted.

"The real issue is inspiration and

revelation.

"There is an attempt today by radical feminists, pseudo-scholars and liberal theologians to neuter God," Merritt said.

"We don't tell God who he is; he tells us who he is. He has revealed himself as our Father."

Jesus did not say God was "like a father," Merritt explained, but that God "is our Father."

"The Bible refers to God as 'he.' It is in a personal way, not in a sexual way," Merritt said. But that does not mean that if God is male, then male is god, Merritt added.

## BAPTIST BITS

■ **Truett Seminary opens.** Baylor University's new George W. Truett Theological Seminary opened Aug. 28 with 50 students and six faculty members. The seminary, established by Baylor trustees in 1993, holds classes at First Baptist Church in Waco, Texas. At an Aug. 28 convocation, Truett dean Robert Sloan urged students to avoid "fuzzy-minded emotionalism" and to preach God's word with integrity. Members of the inaugural class hold degrees from 26 institutions. Nineteen are Baylor graduates.

■ **CLC affirms Land.** Trustees of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission unanimously affirmed CLC Executive Director Richard Land's signing of the controversial "Evangelicals and Catholics Together" document and affirmed "the desirability of pursuing efforts with like-minded groups" outside the denomination. Also during the CLC trustees' Sept. 13-14 meeting, they voted to give the CLC's Distinguished Service Award to U.S. Congressman Tony Hall, D-Ohio, for his work on behalf of world hunger and anti-abortion issues.

■ **Patterson wants paper power.** The 37 weekly and monthly newspapers affiliated with state Baptist conventions should be explicitly supportive of the Southern Baptist Convention's conservative leadership, Paige Patterson said in a recent interview with the Raleigh News & Observer. Patterson, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., and one of the architects of conservatives' rise to power, said national leaders controlling the state papers is in the best interest of all Baptists.

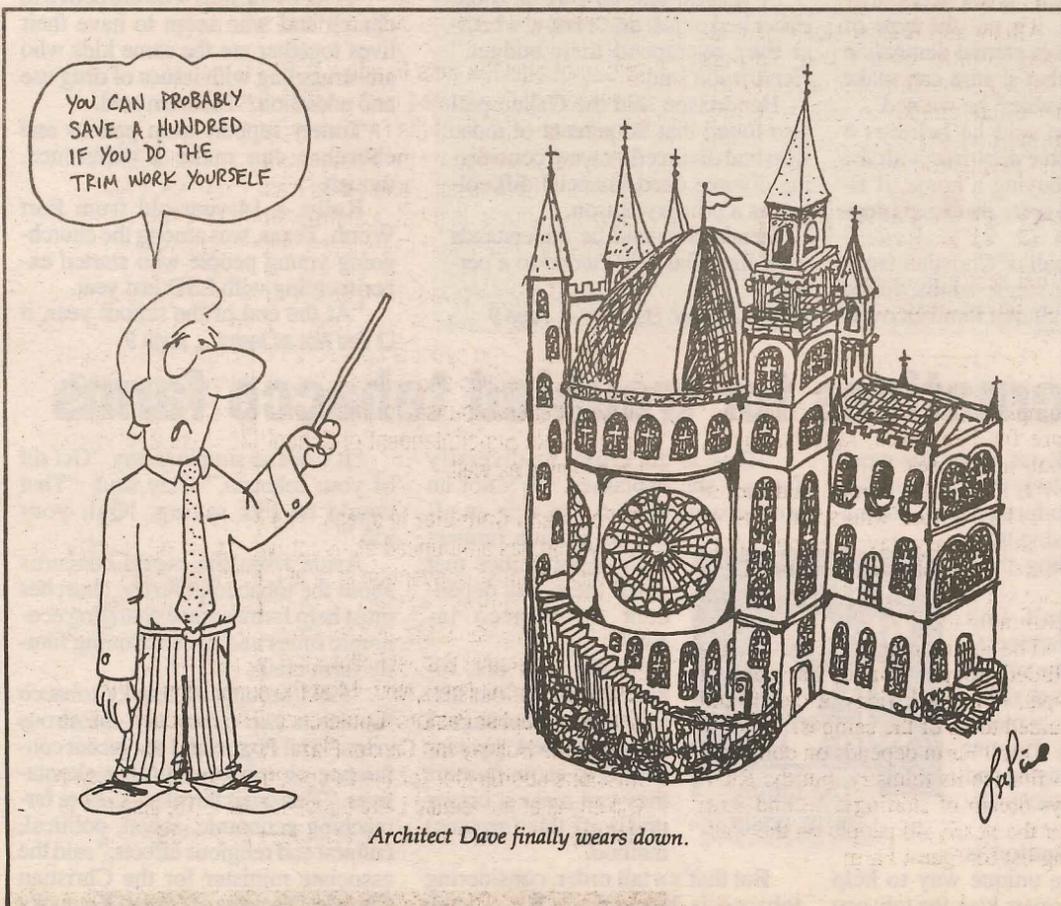
While Patterson and other con-

servative strategists have captured control of the SBC, they have not yet gained control of most of the largest state conventions, which fund the SBC but are governed independently. Nonetheless, Patterson said the state papers should support the national leadership.

"It is absolutely self-defeating to pay the bill for your own bad PR," he said. "General Motors doesn't employ its PR and press department to write bad stories about them."

■ **SBC housing requests due.** Requests for hotel reservations for the 1995 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Atlanta should be mailed Oct. 1. The June 20-22 meeting is slated for the new Georgia Dome and Georgia World Congress Center. Housing request forms were printed in the September SBC Life, a magazine published by the SBC Executive Committee. Additional copies of the form are available from the Kentucky Baptist Convention by calling (502) 245-4101, ext. 254. Reservations must be postmarked on Oct. 1 or later and will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

■ **Women in Ministry respond.** The executive board of Southern Baptist Women in Ministry issued a statement Sept. 7 saying its members were "deeply saddened and angered by the forced resignation" of Molly Marshall from the faculty of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. "Dr. Marshall has always been a model of exemplary Christian commitment and excellence in teaching, and has been an unapologetic advocate for women who seek to respond to God's call to ministry within the Southern Baptist Convention," it says.



Architect Dave finally wears down.

## KBC concludes record year of giving

By Marv Knox  
Editor

The Kentucky Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget received a record \$17,949,354 during the 1993-94 fiscal year, which ended Aug. 31.

The Kentucky CP posted a gain of \$733,477 (4.3 percent) over the previous year's total. The increase marked the budget's best gain in seven years, since the 1986-87 CP went almost \$1 million (6.7 percent) over a much smaller previous high.

Receipts also surpassed the CP's \$17.3 million goal by more than \$600,000 (3.5 percent). The budget surplus was the best in 11 years, since the 1982-83 budget topped its \$11.9 million goal by \$1 million.

The strong showing drew words of praise from Bill Marshall, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's executive secretary-treasurer.

"To meet and exceed budget has been a long time coming," Marshall noted. "Continued, sacrificial giving by Kentucky Baptist Convention churches and a very conservative approach to budgeting by the KBC Executive Board are the two most notable factors in seeing this hope come to fruition.

"A number of Baptist state con-

ventions currently are exceeding Kentucky's Cooperative Program growth. However, few, if any, are reporting they are on or over budget."

The budget gain was fueled by confident goodwill on the part of a majority of Kentucky Baptists, Marshall noted.

"When 1,131 of the 2,060 contributing churches increase their Cooperative Program giving, as was the case this year, one would have to conclude that a lot of folks feel pretty good about our mission together," he said. "And that is a good word in tentative times.

"On the other hand, with 929 churches (45 percent) either recording no change or a decrease from the previous year, one must conclude the potential for stronger financial support still exists."

The Kentucky Cooperative Program is the state's portion of a larger Southern Baptist Convention unified budget. Kentucky CP receipts were divided, with 63 percent remaining in Kentucky and 37 percent sent to national and worldwide SBC causes.

In recent years, as theological/political tensions have divided the national convention, Kentucky's portion of the CP has been supplemented by designated gifts from some churches.

Most of these congregations have been disaffected by the rightward shift of the SBC. So, they have taken on responsibility for channeling the national portion of their missions money and have designated most of their KBC contributions to stay within the state convention.

These "Kentucky only" funds also posted an increase in the 1993-94 fiscal year. They totaled \$378,542, a \$25,460 (7.2 percent) increase over the previous year. That amount also was \$42,542 (12.7 percent) over the amount budgeted for use by the KBC.

When the "Kentucky only" contributions were combined with Kentucky's portion of the Cooperative Program, the KBC actually received \$11,423,653 to spend in Kentucky, reported Barry Allen, the state convention's business manager.

That amount reflects a gain of \$276,905 (2.5 percent) over the previous year, he said.

The overall budget story is good news for Kentucky Baptists, Marshall stressed. "For me, this is a moment of joy and celebration," he said. "Kentucky Baptist churches deserve our strong accolades. We have waited since 1987 to achieve this kind of year, and I hope everyone can enjoy it as much as I do."

## Baptist Healthcare announces partnership

LOUISVILLE—Baptist Healthcare System and Alliant Health System announced plans Sept. 15 to create a joint venture that will lead to a statewide network of health-care services, including everything from medical care to insurance coverage.

The network, called an integrated delivery system, will link physicians, hospitals, health insurance providers and others who will give patients a coordinated approach to healthcare.

This new approach is projected to deliver health-care services in a more cost-effective manner, said Ed Vaughn, president of Baptist Healthcare System.

The integrated delivery system will be group into four components, Vaughn said: Affiliated physician groups, hospital services, an ambula-

tory care network and a health plan division. The health plan division will develop managed care plans such as health maintenance organizations and preferred provider organizations.

Both the Baptist and Alliant systems—not-for-profit organizations—will remain independent and will operate their own facilities.

"Baptist and Alliant have a great deal in common in terms of religious heritage, a philosophy of health care as a Christ-centered ministry to the whole person and a vision to provide quality, value-driven care to the communities we serve," Vaughn said.

Alliant owns Norton Hospital, Kosair Children's Hospital and the Alliant Medical Pavilion in Louisville, with a total of 972 licensed hospital beds. Alliant also manages 24

hospitals in Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois, representing another 1,582 beds. Alliant has 4,500 employees and recorded \$283 million in net patient service revenues last year.

Baptist Healthcare System owns five hospitals in Kentucky—Baptist East in Louisville, Tri-County in La Grange, Central in Lexington, Western in Paducah and Baptist Regional in Corbin—with a total of 1,546 licensed hospital beds. The system has 6,400 employees and recorded new patient service revenues of \$416.9 million last year.

Alliant and Baptist Healthcare already jointly own Clear Springs Health Partnership, an organization that offers employee-assistance programs and serves insurance plans with psychiatric coverage.

## Quest Farm celebrates 10 years of caring

By Dawn Richerson  
State Correspondent

GEORGETOWN—About 500 people gathered in rural Scott County Sept. 11 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Quest Farm, a ministry to mentally challenged adults.

The vision for Quest Farm grew out of a Sunday school class at Trinity Baptist Church in Lexington 35 years ago. Joe and June Richey, teachers of the church's special education department, saw the need for helping mentally disabled individuals with a loving place to live and work.

Mrs. Richey, a vocational education teacher with special education students in Fayette County, saw students turn 21 and face an immediate lack of assistance. With help from fellow church members, the Richeys formed a non-profit corporation that

eventually evolved into Quest Farm.

The couple found a farm nestled on the backroads of Scott County and moved in 1985. They made the basement into private rooms, then added a home for men and a home for women.

Residents are mentally challenged adults age 18 or older who can provide basic care for themselves. The 18 residents who now live at Quest Farm range in age from 24 to 62. Once residents arrive, they usually stay the rest of their lives.

Quest Farm calls its residents "farmers," a term Mrs. Richey says instills a sense of pride and accomplishment. Farmers spend much of their days caring for animals, gardening and mowing the rolling hills and fields that make up the 26-acre campus.

"They plant something, and they see it grow," Mrs. Richey explained.

"That really is meaningful, because they haven't experienced much success."

The farmers regularly grow tomatoes, peppers, corn, canteloupe, pumpkins and asparagus. They also care for bee hives, rabbits, sheep, goats and horses.

"I like garden work," said farmer Ruthella Stewart, who spent most of the anniversary day bagging home-grown vegetables for visitors. "I can plant vegetables and go bowling and swimming too."

The anniversary celebration included gospel music, hayrides, a meal, horseback rides, a clown and guided tours of the campus.

Quest Farm depends on donations to finance its ministry, but the Richeys dream of starting a second farm for the nearly 40 people on the waiting list for Quest Farm.

## BLUEGRASS BURGOO

■ **Cumberland homecoming set.** "Harvesting Memories for Tomorrow" is the theme for Cumberland College's homecoming, slated for Oct. 14-15. Events include a golf scramble and departmental reunions Oct. 14, as well as tours of the new football stadium, a women's soccer game, alumni dinner, concerts and a dance. The next day's events will include a carnival, a 10K run, class reunions, a men's soccer game, a parade, a football game and a banquet. For information, call (606) 539-4241.

■ **40 new students at Clear Creek.** Clear Creek Baptist Bible College reports enrollment of 40 new students this fall from 17 states and one foreign country. The average age of the entering class is 27. Twenty-four married couples among the group have 50 children among them.

■ **Eastham gives scholarship.** Lou Towler Eastham of Cannonsburg has given \$5,000 to Clear Creek Baptist Bible College to establish a scholarship for students from Boyd County and Greenup Baptist associations. Eastham is a charter member of First Baptist Church in Cannonsburg and a retired school teacher.

■ **Prints donated.** Danny and Neva Trent of Breckinridge County have donated to Campbellsville College a collection of Kentucky art valued at \$32,475. The collection consists of prints by Kentucky artists such as Don Ensor, C.G. Morehead, Russell May and Paul Sawyer. The prints will be hung in several college buildings.

■ **Campbellsville grows again.** Fall enrollment at Campbellsville College increased 8 percent over last year, the 13th consecutive semester of enrollment growth. This fall's enrollment of 1,260 students marks a 91 percent increase during the past seven years. The college welcomed its largest freshman class ever, with 353 incoming students. Residence hall occupancy also is up 16 percent.

■ **Social work conference set.** An Oct. 25-26 conference at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will examine the theological basis for church social work. Speakers include Harvie Conn, director of urban missions at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, and John Perkins, president of the John Perkins Foundation for Reconciliation and Development. For information, call (502) 897-4315.

■ **Browning at Georgetown.** Kentucky Baptist Convention President Bob Browning will speak during Kentucky Baptist Convention Day at Georgetown College Sept. 27. Browning will speak at 11 a.m. in John L. Hill Chapel.

■ **Campbellsville gets FamilyNet.** TV-4, the low-power television station owned by Campbellsville College, will become an affiliate of the FamilyNet Cable system Sept. 23. FamilyNet is owned by the Southern Baptist Radio & Television Commission and offers classic movies, classic television shows, inspirational programming, contemporary Christian and gospel music videos, and sports shows.

■ **School prayer forum slated.** A forum on prayer in public schools is planned for 7 p.m. Nov. 7 at Trinity Baptist Church in Lexington. The event is sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship's ethics and public policy ministry group. Brent Walker, general counsel for the Baptist Joint Committee, will speak. State Superintendent of Schools Thomas Boysen has been invited as well.

■ **Parks and Crumpler to speak.** The Kentucky Baptist Fellowship has announced plans for two gatherings during the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting in Frankfort in November. Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler, former executive director of Woman's Missionary Union and current moderator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, will appear at a reception for ministers Nov. 14 at the conclusion of the Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference. The reception will be held at the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza. Also, Keith Parks, missions coordinator for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, will speak at the annual Laity Luncheon Nov. 16, also at the Holiday Inn. For information, call (502) 863-2329.

## WESTERN RECORDER

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

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

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

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## The true church

I have never written a letter such as this, but after reading a letter by Michael Barley (WR, Aug. 23), I had to speak out.

The Baptists stem directly from the 120. After the Lord's Ascension, false teachings entered the true church, so the true church withdrew, and there was left the Catholic church of today, from which so many came out.

I wonder if Mr. Barley ever knew about the true church in hiding and the lions' dens in Rome. Baptist belief and teaching are the same as our Lord Jesus taught.

*Dorothy Gerding  
Carrsville*

## Support Mohler

I applaud the courage and commitment of Dr. R. Albert Mohler Jr. as he endures the trials of these days with a calm and confident presence.

When Mohler assumed the presidency of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, he did so with the full awareness that his was the task of righting the course of an institution which was drifting in a theological direction toward that of a secular divinity school.

Mohler, brilliant scholar that he is, is fully capable of defending his position, but in this instance is honoring the legal agreement reached with Molly Marshall and her attorney.

I feel that Mohler is one of the most gifted biblical expositors and defenders of conservative theology in our midst today. He will attract intellectuals, both faculty and students, of like Christian beliefs to our seminary.

My prayer is that we will unite in support of this singularly endowed young man who, I believe, in the sovereignty of God, stands in this place "for such a time as this."

*Erle Byron Boyer  
Louisville*

## Boxed-in

The large corner window of my office frames a panorama of a sloping green field topped with a variety of trees, including some vintage sycamore already yellow-tinted, the first visual heralds that autumn has already tip-toed in.

A spider, grown fat by her fastidious work, enjoys the samplings of her feast of insects, whose only mistake proved fatal. She will soon find a winter place, and her web will tumble in time with the wind.

Another season passes; another appears. I now mark my life by seasons, rather than the calendar. Somehow life is more precious and real when I think of it that way; more poignant, when I wonder how many (or few) more autumns or springs may remain for me.

Born and raised in Kentucky, I missed the seasons during our Middle East years. Seasons are experienced there, but much less distinctly. For me there is a rhythm in the seasons of my old Kentucky home—a

## Priority check

Listed below are some thoughts I jotted down after reading "Was theology or gender Molly Marshall's undoing?" (WR, Aug. 30).

■ Most white, middle-class Baptist males do not prey on women or minorities (not even white, middle-class Southern Seminary trustees).

■ Being female or minority does not give one exclusive insight into the human condition or God's nature.

■ Bet you're a white, middle-class

Baptist male, aren't you?

■ You're doing to white, middle-class Baptist males exactly what you accuse them of doing to Ms. Marshall.

■ Isn't it about time that we Christians, Baptist or otherwise, have as our priority the spreading of the gospel of Jesus Christ instead of spreading doubts about each other?

*Linda Asbridge  
Rockfield*

## Slap in the face

I'm writing in response to "Was theology or gender Molly Marshall's undoing?" (WR, Aug. 30). The issue with Molly Marshall is certainly more than her trying to explain God or her being an ordained woman.

However, my issue is not with Molly Marshall but with the slant of the editorial. Mr. Knox gives the white, middle-class Baptist males a slap in the face. He gives the impression only white, middle-class Baptist males are uncomfortable with Marshall's search for God.

According to Knox, Marshall's unique search for God is outside the scope of the white, middle-class Baptist males' ability to think about God. Does this mean that the white, middle-class Baptist male is incapable of the deep things of God? Most Southern Baptists owe their Christian education and growth to the teachings and preaching of the white, middle-

rhythm of life; of dying and rebirth; of butterflies and burning leaves; of wood fires and a young bird's song.

So much of the life of men and women is built around work, career and "home management." So much of life takes place indoors, encapsulated chambers, which keep us warm in winter, cool in summer and "protected" from the friendly or hostile touches of the seasons. I always knew that the farmer-folk in my "seminary church" at Karn's Grove had something this city-boy envied, and it wasn't their hardened hands or leathery brow. It was, I think, their yieldedness to God's natural order. I often sensed that they were in rhythm, and I was out of step.

The touches of my seasons were early colored by a rural mail-carrier father and a granddad for whom the seasons meant hunting, fishing, blackberry picking and paw-paw hunting. Looking back on that, I understand why once in a while I pass a wide-open field and suddenly get the urge to park the car and head out across it.

## ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

class Baptist male.

The white, middle-class Baptist male is no less intelligent than the upper-class, white Baptist male or the Baptist woman, whether lower-, middle- or upper-class.

If we as a denomination are to have unity, we should not be labeled anything other than "Southern Baptist." Just for labeling information, I am a white, middle-class Baptist female, and I am uncomfortable with the editorial.

*Gayle Cole  
Florence*

## Fire the leaders

When will the leadership of the Kentucky Baptist Convention realize it no longer represents Southern Baptists of Kentucky?

When our top executive writes a "Dear Molly" letter to a seminary professor who began her classes with a prayer to "Mother God" and proceeded to teach things that 95 percent of Southern Baptists do not believe, enough is enough.

When the Western Recorder has become more of a public relations paper for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship than telling us the great things that God is doing in our denomination, enough is enough.

I applaud the efforts of Al Mohler to return Southern Seminary to a place that prepares preachers to preach the word of God and actually believe the book from which they teach. When I have personally known students at Southern who were laughed at in a class because they believed in the bodily resurrection of Christ, enough is enough.

I read in the Western Recorder there are those at the KBC that do not know what it is like to "be asked to resign or fired." Well, this is one Kentucky Baptist who believes the time is now and the day has come for them to find out.

*Bill McKibben  
Florence*

Booby-traps near marijuana patches make that kind of wandering inadvisable in our day, but walking inside a mall, admittedly healthy for many, offers me no remedy for my deeper need to stay in touch with the seasons.

In recent weeks, the remains of an elderly man, missing for several years, were discovered on a hillside in Eastern Kentucky. The only tell-tale signs were dozens of pennies and a few pocket knives he was known to carry. No foul play is suspected. But it is easy to suspect that he was out doing what he must have loved best—walking in the hills, looking for ginseng.

If we are honest, we would all like to die by going to sleep and not waking up. But that rarely happens. If I had my choice, I'd like to be out on the low hills of central Kentucky, in late October with leaves at peak, walking hand-in-hand with Alice.

In the meantime, autumn has announced her coming; another season of life to live. And I rejoice to be alive and promise God to make my moments more worthy of his precious gift of life.

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



## FAMILY FORUM: SINGLES

### Reaching singles

By Harry Rowland

How sensitive are churches to the needs of singles? Not very. According to Barna Research Group, only 16 percent of church members surveyed said that churches are sensitive to the needs of singles.

While 36 percent of Baptist adults are single, Baptist singles tend to be less active in church than Baptist adults in general. Moreover, while singles still are one of the fastest-growing segments of society, they are not being assimilated into the church at anywhere near the same rate. To arrest this trend, churches must develop appropriate strategies for reaching singles.

Churches should stretch their vision to include reaching singles. Too many church leaders subconsciously believe the church has little to offer singles. The reason often is a distorted view of singles. Churches can be guilty of buying into the lie that singles are party-going, relationship-seeking, irresponsible and sexually frustrated people who have little desire for things spiritual. Reality is that singleness, like marriage, is a day-by-day growth process, filled with ups and downs, challenges, tough times and good times. The church has much to offer singles as they address universal life issues.

Churches should develop an appropriate singles ministry style. Too many churches employ a "triangular-rectangular" philosophy of ministry. This philosophy tries to fit singles into the married adult program. This style states that whatever organization the church now has is adequate—any new person should fit into what already is there.

An "awareness-acceptance" philosophy is more appropriate for reaching singles. This style accepts singles as they come rather than the way the church may be more comfortable with them coming. Singles come to church in search of God's presence in their lives. They remain in church because of a caring spirit. A ministry that models humility, forgiveness, acceptance and the ability to listen will find itself enriched by the talents, energies and lives of dynamic singles.

*Harry Rowland is pastor of Fort Mitchell Baptist Church.*

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

# EDITORIALS

## Baptist Forum exists to represent our readers

"What are your letters really, really saying about Molly Marshall?" Questions like that crop up often. Many readers seem to think the Recorder only publishes letters the editor favors. Observant readers know that's not true. Letters often express opposite perspectives. No sane person agrees with all of them.

So, the Recorder provides Baptist Forum as the readers' place to express opinions. Whether the editor loves or hates a letter doesn't matter. It will get published if it meets a few basic guidelines:

- Letters must be no longer than 250 words.
- Letters must not include attacks on individuals.
- Facts must be documented. Writers are entitled to express their beliefs as opinion. But if a writer purports to disseminate facts, that information must be verified.
- Writers must address topics that are germane to Kentucky Baptists. These include issues of faith and denominational concerns, as well as responses to previous articles or letters in the Recorder. Baptist Forum is not the place to respond to articles published in daily newspapers across the state.

■ Writers must be Kentucky Baptists. This policy guarantees space

will be available to the paper's primary constituency. Exceptions are out-of-state writers who are the subjects of and respond to articles in the paper and writers expressing gratitude to Kentucky Baptists for denominational actions, such as disaster relief.

■ A reasonable number of letters will be published on any subject. Letters on a specific action or topic are published for about four issues before further letters on the subject are rejected. This option has been invoked only twice in four years: Two years ago, when the Southern Baptist Convention removed churches that affirm homosexual practices; and beginning next week, when we stop printing letters on the forced resignation of Molly Marshall at Southern Seminary.

Within this framework, the Recorder publishes all the letters to the editor it receives. If Baptist Forum has not expressed your perspective, you haven't mailed a letter. The Recorder welcomes Kentucky Baptists' views; they enrich our dialogue.

For the record: We received 11 letters supportive of Marshall and/or the paper's coverage, three opposed to the editorial on her ouster and one supporting seminary President Al Mohler. All have been published.

Marv Knox

## Spew out liberals

In the 1960s and '70s, religious liberalism severely threatened the Southern Baptist Convention. And to this day, it is causing destructive division in the convention, in some of the state conventions and in thousands of Southern Baptist churches.

Perhaps religious liberalism is best described as the liberals' mundane faith in their own thoughts and notions. This blinding faith allows liberals to invent self-pleasing idol gods in their own minds.

Liberals among Southern Baptists will not accept the fact that the Bible is the word of God, that God is sovereign and that "Thus saith the Lord" is the final word on a matter. Instead, they say, "The Bible contains the word of God." They accept what they want to accept, reject what they want to reject and change the Bible to make it comply with their own fickle thoughts and personal opinions.

Religious liberals are rebels against God. They excuse themselves of their sins while refusing to confess and repent to almighty God.

People who come into churches out of liberal American culture tend naturally toward religious liberalism.

Because of this, churches in the 1990s will need to be as certain as possible that prospective members are actually saved before admitting them to membership. And churches will need to more diligently teach all of the Bible to all members.

Southern Baptists should remember that in Revelation 3:16 Jesus told the liberal, lukewarm Laodicean church, "I will spew thee out of my mouth."

William R. Hagan  
Taylorsville

## BAPTIST FORUM

### What matters

How typical of our Baptist state paper to fill an entire page with the views of a professor with a low view of Holy Scripture (WR, Sept. 6).

The one valid point of such an article is its assertion that "most professors do not believe in biblical inerrancy and infallibility ... and are educating their students into the moderate position." This accredits what conservative Baptists have been saying for 15 years. At last, after years of so-called moderate protestations to the contrary, we have the truth from a bona fide liberal professor along with an approving nod from our state pa-

per. We have been trying to get this point across for years to correct the liberal battlecry that the conservative "takeover" was a political grab for power. We have been pointing to a theological drift to the liberal left in our schools as the catalyst for the conservative movement since 1979.

Professor Weir's attack upon the inerrancy and infallibility of the Bible is entirely subjective and untrue. He merely perpetuates the liberal line he was taught. Liberalism feeds upon liberalism. The liberal classroom incubates and hatches its own kind. It is the fountainhead of theological falsehood. Any thing in the Bible that stands in opposition to modern social ideas is "untrue"!

We need to understand, once and for all, that what matters is not what man says about the Bible, but what the Bible says about man!

Bill Hall  
Danville

### Sad, not amusing

The treatise of Mr. Jack Weir would almost be amusing if it were not such a sad commentary on lack of love and respect of Holy Scripture (WR, Sept. 6). His worn-out arguments have attempted to discredit the reliability of the Bible for centuries.

They are like the blows of little hammers that have struck against the mighty anvil of truth, the Bible; the hammers have failed and gone by the wayside of death and insignificance, yet the anvil, though dented, remains well intact.

One must make some observations about someone who seems to find errors. First, if we detect error in Scripture, we have most logically put ourselves as authorities over the veracity of Scripture. And if Weir believes that human writers erred in recording the inspired word, is he any less fallible in his human attempt to determine truth and error?

Why would God allow such an untrue account of himself and his revelation to remain in existence? Historically, the word of God was nearly eradicated many times. If it were full of errors, why did God not allow it to be destroyed? I believe it was miraculously preserved by God because it is true and reliable. Maybe Weir should peruse 2 Peter 1:19-21 to reaffirm who the author and inspirer of the Scripture is. God did use imperfect men to record his word, but the word is from God himself.

I will trust God's inspired word over man's intellectual pomposity.

Dennis A. Borden  
Corbin

## Wish for freedom

Inerrancy means "freedom from error." David Dockery (WR, Sept. 6), one of the better Southern Baptist Convention inerrancy scholars, has great difficulty accepting that definition. Inerrancy does not mean "free from error except ..." as his four-paragraph description implies.

Dockery, at least, seems to be struggling with the insights of scholarship. I could, however, wish him freedom from the unnecessary restraints of "inerrancy" and, for that matter, "plenary verbal."

Gerard Howell  
Lexington

## That driver's license photo looks just like the poor ol' birthday boy

According to conventional wisdom, the shock of enduring another birthday isn't nearly as traumatic as the only alternative.

Of course, nobody who ever missed a birthday hung around to be asked what skipping the occasion felt like. So, we don't really know, do we?

Since Mom, my daddy's mother, went on to heaven a few years ago, I've wondered if they have birthday parties Up There. Mom always loved birthday parties, and I just can't imagine she'd let St. Peter get by without throwing birthday bashes, whenever they occur. (By the way, I wonder what the devil dishes up for hellish birthdays. Probably ice cream cones that melt before the honoree gets the first bite. Cruel.)

If Mom's had her way, we know a few things about heaven. The Divine Grocery stocks angel food—what else?—cake, 7 Up and sherbet. That's what Mom fixed on our birthdays, and she made the cake frosting match the punch. Green if you chose lime sherbet; orange if you picked orange.

All this came to mind last Friday as I stumbled out of bed and realized I was —ta-da!—another year older. Birthdays take on new meaning as years pile up. Kids look for-

ward to parties, presents and new privileges. Adults dread tacky birthday cards but relish the chance to choose where to eat dinner.

The State of Kentucky added insult to injury to this year's birthday. No, Gov. Jones didn't send me a Far Side birthday card. But one of his minions sent me a letter saying I had to get a new driver's license.

Driver's licenses wouldn't be so bad if they didn't have The Picture, the postage-stamp-size image made to look like you belong on the FBI's Most Wanted list.

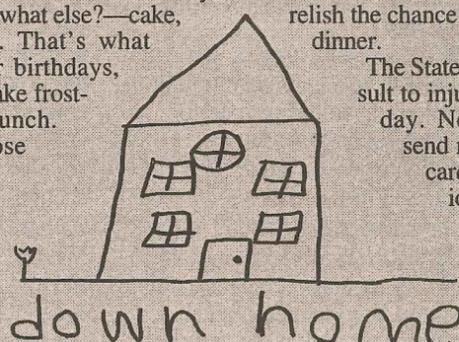
Trouble is, they don't re-touch driver's license photos. That's why most folks don't like them. What you get is what you are.

So, my latest version not only verifies that I have blond hair, blue eyes and wear glasses. It also reveals that I've already lost large quantities of the hair and my glasses don't quite offset the jowls that have begun to grow there on my chinline. I'd hate that picture, but I might as well not. It looks just like me, the birthday boy.

On the bright side, the picture does reveal I still know how to smile. I must've been thinking about Mom's 7 Up/sherbet punch.

I hope she knows how much I miss her birthday parties.

Marv Knox



## Lexington church pioneers buying club concept

**The innovative Kentucky First program is designed to increase the long-term economic security of Kentucky's family farmers and provide a profitable alternative to tobacco farming.**

Help for Kentucky's family farmers may be as close as your dinner table.

A pilot project of the Burley Tobacco Cooperative has spawned several buying clubs in Kentucky, generating new income for Kentucky farmers hit hard by decreasing tobacco quotas and offering consumers more control over the food they eat.

The innovative Kentucky First program is designed to increase the long-term economic security of Kentucky's family farmers and provide a profitable alternative to tobacco farming.

Trinity Baptist Church in Lexington sponsored the second buying club in the state, following on the heels of a club begun in Louisville.

It works like this: buying club members pick up half-bushels of fresh vegetables at drop-off points once a week every week during the growing season, which lasts from May to October. Along with their vegetables, members receive a newsletter and a recipe card that features information about one of the farmers in the program. Unclaimed baskets are donated to low-income families.

For a total cost of \$500, or about \$20 a week, members receive enough food to feed a family of four. Half of the membership fee is paid up front; two additional payments of \$125 each are due at later dates.

During the growing season, mem-

bers receive about 30 varieties of vegetables and a few fruits. Fruits are harder to grow organically, but at least one farmer raised strawberries this year, and others are interested in growing fruits in subsequent growing seasons.

The growing clubs are sponsored by Kentucky Organic Growers and Mothers & Others for a Livable Planet. And if first results are a reliable indicator, the program likely will be around for some time, according to Pam Clay, a Baptist layperson who directs Kentucky Organic Growers. The seedling operation established eight buying clubs with 17 farmers and 100 buying club members in the Louisville-Lexington corridor during the 1994 growing season.

Gov. Brereton Jones has signed on as a member, and letters of support continue to pour into the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative from interested parties.

"I thought this was something that churches—or at least our church—ought to look at doing," said Rick Landon, pastor of Trinity Baptist. "We hope to continue our participation."

Trinity Baptist formed its buying club after Kentucky author Wendell Berry, son of John Berry Sr., founder

and longtime president of the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative, spoke at the church.

Berry helped the congregation see the connection between what they eat for dinner and the complex problems of small family farmers.

The quality of the produce received through the buying clubs has been a pleasant surprise for many participants.

"We've definitely been pleased," said Janet Timberlake. "It's just incredible the difference in taste and flavor."

"People have been amazed this year at the difference in what they can get at the supermarket and what they get through us," Clay added.

Landon said he and his family also have appreciated the opportunity to take unused vegetables to church members and friends.

The Kentucky First project modeled its marketing scheme after a concept known as community-supported agriculture, first practiced in Japan and Switzerland and imported to the United States in 1985. In community-supported agriculture, a number of consumers invest in a farmer and a farm. They pay a fee up front and share the risk—and bounty—of the crops.

Is there life after tobacco?

The family farm crisis

## 'Tobacco churches' must adjust to changing times too

As Kentucky's tobacco farmers fight for their livelihood, the state's "tobacco churches" face new challenges as well, according to a Baptist expert on rural issues.

Churches situated in communities where life has revolved around the rhythms of tobacco farming must bring their identities into the information age if they are to survive, said Gary Farley, director of town and country missions with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Farley spoke at a recent conference on "The Tobacco Church" at Lexington Theological Seminary.

"While the tobacco church may not have a bright future, those who

are willing to become ex-tobacco churches may well experience a vital future," he said.

"As an intentional community of faith, hope and love, the resurrected rural church can be both a model and an oasis of life for the emerging region and peoples whom it serves," he added.

The "single rhythm pulsating through a community" in the old rural way of life has been supplanted by a more diverse community, Farley explained.

He outlined Thomas Jefferson's vision of early America, which resulted in the carving out of "six-mile worlds," in which communities spe-

cialized in one particular crop. The church serving each rural community became closely tied to the economy of that crop, he said.

Rural churches today must readjust their thinking to a more modern 30-mile world, Farley declared. In the era of the "Wal-Martization of rural America, churches must push toward new patterns of community," he added.

Making this transition requires several things, he said, including:

- "Coloring outside the lines," removing the bounds of tradition, denominational programs or old community boundaries.

- Finding a niche and serving it

well rather than trying to be all things to all people.

- Maintaining the basic functions of the church—worship, evangelism, nurture, ministry, fellowship and mission.

- Blending relationship, the strength of the rural church, with direction and purpose, the strength of the urban church.

- Expanding the church field from a six-mile radius to a 30-mile radius.

- Identifying a "signature" ministry for which the church can be known and which the church can do well.

Reported by State Correspondent Dawn Richerson

### Resources

- Kentucky Appalachian Ministry, Box 696, Richmond, Ky. 40475-0696.
- Kentucky Organic Growers and Kentucky First buying clubs, 620 S. Broadway, Lexington, Ky. 40508, (606) 252-3561.
- Community Farm Alliance, 200 Short St. #10, Berea, Ky. 40403, (606) 986-7400.
- Kentucky Tobacco Burley Cooperative, 620 S. Broadway, Lexington, Ky. 40508, (606) 252-3561.
- Town and country missions department, SBC Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring St. NW, Atlanta, Ga. 30367, (404) 898-7000.

### Tobacco tidbits

- Tobacco makes up 57 percent of crop income in Kentucky.
- Tobacco accounts for 27 percent of all farm income in Kentucky.
- The average tobacco farm is just 136 acres, compared to the national average farm size of almost 500 acres.
- Kentucky has about 50,000 tobacco-growing farms, compared to just 20,000 in North Carolina and Tennessee.
- U.S. tobacco companies now import from foreign markets about one-third of the tobacco used to make cigarettes.
- Two-thirds of the entire U.S. tobacco crop comes from North Carolina and Kentucky.
- Just a handful of counties, about 135 nationwide, produce the bulk of the nation's tobacco crop.
- Henry County is Kentucky's top producer of tobacco, with 37 percent of the county's income tied to tobacco. Four other counties with the heaviest economic relation to tobacco are Barren, Shelby, Harrison and Mason.
- For every \$10 spent by American consumers on tobacco products, the companies receive \$6.85, governments receive \$2.89 in taxes and farmers receive 26 cents.

## Baptists explore farm alternatives

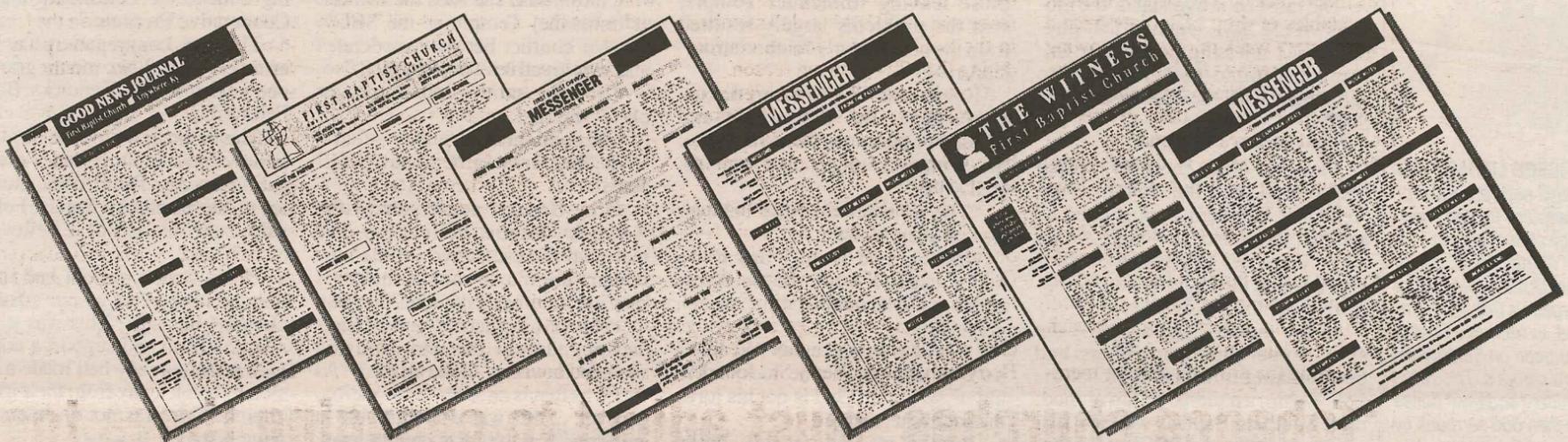
Continued from page 1

bring groups of farmers and their neighbors together, creating a safe space to work through the anger and despair people in rural Kentucky feel," added Hal Hamilton, executive director of the Community Farm Alliance. "Churches are one place where safe space can be created."

"When change occurs, conflict follows," added Loren Broadus Jr., professor of the practice of ministry at Lexington Theological Seminary. But this kind of conflict management may present "the greatest opportunity the church ever has to really help people experience what the gospel's all about," he said.

Written by News Director Mark Wingfield with reporting by State Correspondent Dawn Richerson

# New Designs for Fall



The Western Recorder has six church newsletter designs you're sure to fall for. And they'll still look fresh every week of the year.

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

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

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

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# BAPTISTS

## SBC controversy extends to Henderson church split

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

HENDERSON—A new church is forming in West Kentucky, in what appears to be the state's first church split with a direct link to the 15-year-old Southern Baptist Convention controversy.

About 70 members of Immanuel Temple Baptist Church in Henderson began meeting as Community Baptist Fellowship after a heated business meeting at Immanuel Temple May 25.

At that business meeting, three motions were presented in an apparent attempt to link the church to the SBC's conservative swing and disallow moderate dissent.

The most controversial of the motions would have required that anyone in a leadership position at Immanuel Temple pledge complete agreement with the direction of the SBC.

The motion was tabled.

The two other motions, which both passed, said the church would "remain a Southern Baptist church" and that the church no longer would allow members to designate offerings through the church to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

In the months leading up to the split, some church members had been seeking information about the Fellowship, a national group of moderate Southern Baptists who feel disenfranchised by the SBC's new conservative leaders.

Some had begun designating their missions offerings to support the Fellowship.

At the same time, the church called a new pastor, Harry Hunter, who apparently wanted to move the church in a more conservative direction.

Last October, Jica Crafton, a lay leader among those who now have left Immanuel Temple, planned an informational meeting for women at which Carolyn Hale, communications coordinator for the Kentucky

Baptist Fellowship, spoke.

The meeting was held in a private home after Hunter prohibited Crafton from holding it at the church, she said.

Details of both sides of the church's internal conflict are scarce, in part because both Hunter and Russell Wood, the church moderator, refused to be interviewed for this article.

But other issues reportedly were involved in the growing rift, including a dispute over the church's day care center, concerns about the way Hunter was called as pastor after having been interim pastor and a fight over how to handle nomination of several women as deacons.

Tim Hall, a lay leader among those leaving Immanuel Temple, said the problems largely resulted from the new pastor's "authoritarian" leadership.

Hunter was "closed to any discussion" about the Fellowship and would not allow anyone to question his pronouncements and actions, Hall said.

"The priesthood of the believer was an alien thought."

Crafton said Hunter brought a major change from the openness which had characterized the church previously.

"For him to make me feel like I have to believe (what he does) or I'm out of sync with God is not his jurisdiction," she charged.

Hunter refused to talk about Hall's and Crafton's charges or the reasons why his church had split. "That's not something to be discussed," he said.

Hunter reportedly did not attend the controversial May 25 business meeting, but had the session videotaped. Two other controversial church meetings also had been videotaped, Hall and Crafton said.

Even though the most controversial motion at the May business meeting did not pass, Hall and Crafton said it sent a signal that they and others like them no longer were

wanted at Immanuel Temple.

"It was not our first choice to leave," Crafton said. "And they didn't kick us out. But it was so 'all but' in that motion. It was the intention and the result."

Hall said the motion was vague enough to be interpreted wildly. "We asked, 'Who's going to interpret who agrees with the SBC?' and they couldn't say. Apparently it would be up to the pastor to decide what the interpretation was or if you agreed or didn't agree."

Paul Nord, a relatively new member of Immanuel Temple who made the motion about allegiance to the SBC, also refused to be interviewed. "It's just best not talked about," he said.

Crafton said she sees the conflict at Immanuel Temple as the SBC's 15-year conflict between moderates and conservatives "in a nutshell."

"It's the same kind of power play," she said.

"Denominational purity—that's what they want to be about," Hall added.

Greg Brooks, moderator of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship, has met with representatives of the new congregation and said he believes they are victims of the SBC conflict.

"Part of it centered, to my understanding, around the idea of giving to the Fellowship," he explained. "As much as that is an issue at the national level, ... this was a similar vote in microcosm at the local church level."

"The gist of those two motions coming in tandem was that support of the Fellowship equated with non-support of the Southern Baptist Convention. That's an improper equation. There are a lot of churches out there supporting a lot of causes ... and no one has ever questioned their loyalty to the Southern Baptist Convention."

Most of those who have left Immanuel Temple are longtime members, Hall said. Both he and Crafton had been in the church all their lives.

The new mission currently is

meeting in the office building of Green Valley Baptist Association and will move to a storefront in downtown Henderson the first week in October, Hall said.

The congregation has been served by a series of guest preachers, but David Nelson, retired pastor of First Baptist Church in Owensboro, began serving as interim pastor Sept. 14.

Community Baptist Fellowship plans to seek affiliation with the Kentucky Baptist Convention and will cooperate with both the SBC and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Hall said.

"Our heritage is Southern Baptist, but we feel the Fellowship is traditional Southern Baptists. We want to be connected with both. We are giving both to the Fellowship and the Cooperative Program."

The new congregation has been awarded a \$100-per-month grant for one year from the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship.

This is the first time the Kentucky Fellowship has supported a congregation directly. But Brooks, moderator of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship, said this is not a Fellowship church start.

"This action should not in any way be interpreted as our starting a church," he said. "This was a decision to affirm and support a congregation that already had made a decision to break away from their mother church. This was not an intentional church start."

While Hunter wouldn't discuss the issues of the church split, he simply said he is praying for those who left.

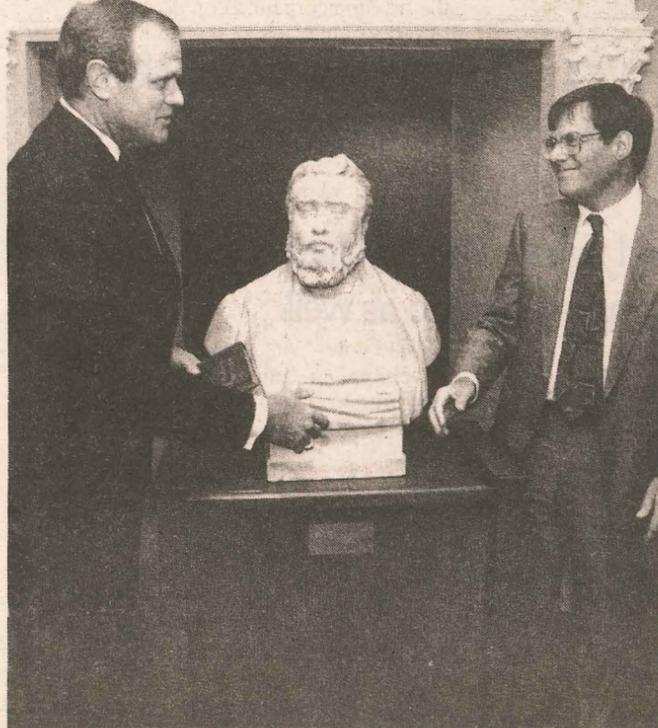
"I'm glad they're doing a work," he said.

For their part, members of the new congregation envision a bright future.

"It has been great the last few months," Hall said. "I haven't felt this way about church for years. We know what we're doing is right, and we know the Lord is in it. There are big things to come."

**SPURGEON LIBRARY** Ken Hemphill (left) president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, greets Michael Quicke, principal of Spurgeon's College in England, in front of a bust of Spurgeon on Southwestern's campus. The Texas seminary soon will house more than 500 sermons by the famed British preacher. The manuscripts were discovered about two years ago by a Spurgeon's College student who was cleaning out a storage room. They had been untouched for 100 years. The collection includes long-hand scripts, edited versions with Spurgeon's handwriting in the margins, and galley proofs with further handwritten corrections by Spurgeon. (BP photo by Morris Abernathy)

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# EVENTS

## FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE WESTERN RECORDER ■ SEPTEMBER 1994

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## Brotherhood Has Mission Action and Adventure

#### INSIDE

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**Foundation:** Make the most of the time. **Annuity:** Financial support for ministers.

If you're looking for action and adventure, look to Kentucky Baptist Brotherhood, urges state Director Bob Simpkins.

"We've got a mission-action project for just about every Kentucky Baptist," claims Simpkins.

"We've sent Kentucky Baptists to feed hurricane victims in Florida and to clean the mud out of flood-ravaged homes in Georgia. Our volunteers have cleaned up the debris when tornadoes ripped through Illinois and when ice tore down trees in south central Kentucky.

"We've re-roofed and repaired homes in Hopkinsville and helped build churches all over the place. And by early next month, at least one of our volunteers will be feeding starving people in Rwanda."

Mission action, especially disaster relief, has been Kentucky Brotherhood's stock-in-trade for several years, Simpkins notes. But the action is multiplying, as more Kentucky Baptists develop more ideas for meeting needs, he adds.

For example, Kentucky Baptist Builders travel far and wide to construct or renovate church buildings. Through Kentucky Changers, a new program for teenagers, Baptist young people roofed, painted and otherwise repaired 15 homes in Hopkinsville last summer; plans call for similar projects in two communities next year. And in a unique coalition of forces, Kentucky Brotherhood is teaming up with Habitat for Humanity, the international home-builder, to construct houses for poor people in Kentucky.

Along the way, Kentucky Broth-

erhood is breaking several stereotypes. Its ministry is not just for men, and it's not just for adults.

Every year, almost half the Kentucky Baptist disaster relief workers are women, and women also play key roles in other mission action projects, Simpkins says. The first Kentucky Brotherhood volunteer to Rwanda will be Elaine Cook, a member of Lowell Avenue Baptist Church in Campbellsville.

And through Kentucky Changers, the state's youth have a direct avenue to mission action.

The new initiatives complement the work and ministry of Kentucky Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, Simpkins believes. For example, he and Kentucky WMU Director Dee Gilliland both spoke at each other's annual meetings during the past year, encouraging men and women to support both groups.

That's because the end result is the same—helping other people in the name of Christ.

For more information about Kentucky Brotherhood, order its new quarterly magazine, *The Untitled*, for \$8 per year, or contact the Brotherhood office at Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433. Or call (502) 245-4101.

**MISSIONS IN ACTION** *Kentucky Changers, a ministry conducted by Kentucky Baptist teenagers and sponsored by Kentucky Baptist Brotherhood, roofed, painted and repaired 15 homes in Hopkinsville this summer. The ministry is part of Kentucky Brotherhood's expanding focus on meeting people's spiritual and physical needs.*



## Kentucky WMU Thanks Office Volunteers for Service



Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union last week honored 11 individuals who have volunteered their time to help the missions organization do a variety of tasks in the Louisville headquarters.

The 11 pictured here attended a thank-you luncheon at the Kentucky Baptist Building Sept. 15.

Two of this group—Joyce Allison and Marilyn Lamkin—already have logged more than 100 hours each as WMU office volunteers.

"I would rather work here with WMU than any place I know," Allison said. "It makes me feel like I am a real part of missions and ministry."

The volunteers primarily help stuff envelopes and send out seven regular mailings each year, as well as three mailings for the weeks of prayer and four mailings with WMU's quarterly newsletter. In addition, they help fill orders from churches for material related to the Eliza Broadus Week of Prayer for State Missions.

Volunteers shown here are Jane Kent, Betty Clark, Peggy Clayton, Joyce Allison, Dottie Wiggins, Marilyn Lamkin, Wanda Turpin, Bonnie Leist, Elnora Maupin, Bill Gilbaugh and Becky Gilbaugh.

For information about volunteer opportunities in the Kentucky WMU office, call (502) 245-4101.

# EVENTS

## FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

### DIRECT MISSIONS

## Observe World Hunger Day October 9

### Some facts you should know

- 37 million persons are "poor" in the richest nation in the world.
- 5.5 million U. S. children go regularly without food. That's 1 1/3 times the entire Kentucky population!
- 9 out of 10 food stamp recipients are "powerless" persons—children, disadvantaged women, the helpless disabled, and senior adults. The average award for a meal on food stamps is only 50 cents.
- 40% of the U. S. poverty population are children, even though children comprise only 26% of the general U. S. population.

### How can you help alleviate hunger in the U.S. and abroad?

For more information on World Hunger Day, contact: Christian Life Commission, SBC, 901 Commerce Street, Suite 350, Nashville, Tennessee, 37203-3696, (615) 244-2495.

Materials include preaching suggestions, play scripts, practical suggestions for making and gathering contributions, and promotional publications.



World Hunger Day • October 9

### MINISTER/CHURCH SUPPORT

## Putting the pieces back together

Involuntary Termination Conference • October 17-19 • Louisville

In Kentucky, termination of Baptist ministers occurs at the rate of 25-35 each year. This includes pastors, church staff ministers and institutional staff ministers. The Kentucky Baptist Convention's Minister/Church Support Division is hosting an Involuntary Termination Conference October 17-19 at Louisville's Hurstbourne Hotel and Conference Center to discuss strategies for these needs.

"Involuntary" termination is a broad term that includes "forced" termination. This may be by a vote of the church or a vote of the deacon body which results in a resignation. It also includes a resignation brought about by conflict or pressured by one or more leaders. Some resign because they want to avoid a confrontation or avoid the vote of the congregation.

This disruption of relationships comes about for a variety of reasons, but always leaves hurt and damaged lives scattered about. Churches need healing and resolution of the conflict. Ministers and their families need the same and more. The loss of a job threatens

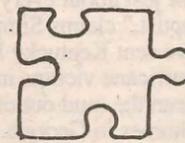
financial security, family stability and may mean assessing the direction of one's career.

The KBC Minister/Church Support Division offers help. For the church, there is assistance available through experienced consultants who will work with the church to help restore it to wholeness and vitality. For the

minister there is financial assistance to help with emergency needs for those who meet certain criteria; some individuals are interested in counseling and referral to a qualified counselor can be made; along with some assistance with the fee.

A retreat for ministers and their spouses is another support ministry offered in this crisis experience. Three days are given to help those who have gone through termination and those who are experiencing some severe conflict and pressure. The purpose is to aid in self-understanding and to give support for their continuing ministry.

If interested in attending the October 17-19 retreat, call Guy Futral at (502) 245-4101, extension 243.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL

## 200,000 in Sunday School

Super Sunday 3 is October 30. Can a church have a High Attendance Day that same day? Yes! That's what Super Sunday is about!

1994 State Goal: 200,000

**Super Sunday 3**

### Reporting Procedure:

Call your Associational Sunday School Director and they, in turn, will call the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday School Department on Sunday afternoon, October 30, between 4:30-6:00 EST.

If you need a last minute "How-to-Packet," please call the KBC Sunday School Department at (502) 245-4101, extensions 300 or 301.

## Not ordinary by any means

FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM offers a variety of choices for children 6-12

FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM offers an alternative to typical children's literature. Each unit is in a loose leaf packet form. Each unit is built around a Bible character. The teaching ideas are practical and have been taken from the writers' teaching experiences. The following are possible applications teachers can place for each unit:

"Joseph" can be helpful in teaching about the bullies in life and building self-esteem.

"Paul and Barnabas" lends itself to teaching about missions and working together.

"Timothy" is effective in helping children learn about intergenerational relationships, and single parenting.

"David" teaches how God can use each person when that person is dedicated to God's purpose.

"Mary and Martha" teach hospitality, what is important, and that sibling rivalry was alive and well even in Bible times.

"Joshua" teaches qualities of a good leader.

"Ruth and Boaz" teaches about family roots, hard work and faithfulness to the family.

"Lydia" gives credit to a business woman and her ministry as a lay person.

FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM has many choices of activities. The activities may be extended or reduced to meet the needs of children being taught.

Each unit has a variety of creative activities from cooking to woodworking. Each unit may be used over and over. Each unit may be used with one or many children. There are suggestions for recycling and a two page listing of no cost, or low cost, supplies in FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM.

Call the KBC Sunday School Department's Jewell Nelson at (502) 245-4101, extension 305, for more information concerning FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM.

# EVENTS

## FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

### CHURCH MEDIA LIBRARY

## Experience the Church Media Library Workshop

October 22 • Erlanger Baptist Church, 127 Erlanger Road, Erlanger

Anyone interested in media ministry should plan to attend the October 22 Church Media Library Workshop. Kentucky Baptist Media Library Association officers will conduct a business meeting during lunch.

#### TOPICS

##### • Great Commission Evangelism:

###### Touching Lives with Media

Floyd Simpson

Presents the dynamics of using print and audiovisual media to effectively fulfill the Great Commission.

##### • Ministry through Media/

###### Administration and Promotion

Norma Benton

Focuses on how to organize the library staff, operate effectively, select media and equipment, and promote the media library.

##### • How to Classify and Catalog Media

###### Margie Bowling

Explains how to classify books and catalog media library materials. (Bring Dewey Decimal Classification, Sears List of Subject Headings and 200 Religion Class books for this class.)

##### • Instructional Media for Churches

###### Keith Freeman

Basic guides for using instructional media in the teaching/training role of the church. Includes preparing and using audiovisuals to improve the quality of learning and motivation.

##### • Preparing Media for Circulation

###### Nancy Hasting

Shows how to prepare media information for cataloging, labeling, storing and circulating.

##### • How to Repair Books

###### Paul Bowling

Technical information about caring for and repairing books to prolong their life. (Bring both hard and paperback books to repair in this class.)

#### LEADERS

•Floyd Simpson - Editor, Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Media Library Department.

•Norma Benton - President of the KBMLA; CML Director in the Northern Kentucky Association's Banklick Baptist Church.

##### •Margie Bowling -

CML Director at Lyndon Baptist Church, Louisville, for 32 years; has taught at Ridgecrest; has started libraries in the United States and foreign mission fields.

•Keith Freeman - Videographer producing training videos involving computer graphics, editing, lighting, taping and scripting.

•Nancy Hasting - CML director at Little Flock Baptist Church, Shepherdsville; KBMLA officer for 10 years.

•Paul Bowling - Earned book repair credit at Ridgecrest; has taught in state and local churches and in overseas seminars.

#### WORKSHOP SCHEDULE (all times EDT)

8:00-8:30 a.m.	Registration
8:30-8:45	General Session
8:45-10:15	Conferences
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-12:00 noon	Conferences
12:00-12:45 p.m.	Lunch and KBMLA business meeting
12:45-3:15	Conferences



#### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Pre-register before October 15 for \$8 and receive a \$2 coupon toward on-site bookstore purchases. Registration on day of workshop will be \$10, which includes a \$2 coupon. Fee includes lunch and informational materials. Make checks payable to: Media Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

For more information or to pre-register, write or call Ruby Morgan, Media Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 266.

#### Watch for...

A newsletter designed especially for media librarians is coming soon.

### WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

## Coming together to pray

Baptist Women's Day of Prayer • November 7

"Together in Christ We Worship and Serve"

November 7 is the date of the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer. Around the world women will be praying for one another and for our global ministries for

Christ during the days leading up to and after this date. Most prayer groups will meet on that day. Others will discover that another date is best for them. The important thing is for women in your church or association to come together to pray for women and their needs.

Central to the prayer observance is the offering. This provides monies to pay for projects that benefit women and children, for programs for leadership development and evangelization of women. The North American Baptist Women's Union (of which we are a part) gives over 50% of the total offering.



"Together in Christ We Worship and Serve"

## BAPTIST WOMEN'S DAY OF PRAYER

One-half of the offering is forwarded to the Baptist World Alliance Women's Department for use in worldwide ministries and in maintaining the work of the international office. The 50% retained by NABWU is used for ministries within our continental union. For more information on the budget or to send an offering, contact: North American Baptist Women's Union, P. O. Box 6630, McLean, Virginia 22106-6630.

Program material and Day of Prayer items are found in October/November/December *Dimension*.

### JONATHAN CREEK ASSEMBLY

## Memorable meetings

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

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

#### Shoemake Building

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

#### Lassiter Conference Center

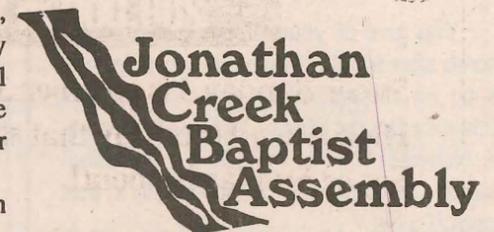
This building consists of seminar rooms, multi-purpose large meeting areas, with beautiful views of the surrounding campus. Its multi-faceted design makes it perfect for creative use of space.

#### Stewart Dining Hall

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

#### Gray Motel

One of the newest buildings on campus is the Gray Motel. The facility accommodates 132 persons. Breathtaking



views of Kentucky Lake and surrounding areas are available from the balcony and porches of each room. Each room contains two beds, modern furnishings, a full bath and air conditioning.

#### Other features

Swimming pool and lake access

A special discount rate is available between February and April, 1995.

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

For more information, contact:

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

## KBC ANNUAL MEETING

### So you're going to Frankfort for the KBC annual meeting

Pastor's Conference, November 14 • 157th KBC annual meeting, November 15-16 • Frankfort, Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center

Whether you're a veteran KBC annual meeting attendee or a rookie, it's nice to know some preliminary details prior to going to the state convention. So, get your checklist out and note the following:

#### Site

Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center, Frankfort. Both the Pastor's Conference and the KBC annual meeting sessions are scheduled there.

#### Dates

November 14 - Pastor's Conference  
November 15-16 - KBC annual meeting

#### Registration

East lobby, Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center. As messengers register, they pick up a KBC Program, Book of Reports and a packet bag. The packet bag will include a Frankfort map and restaurant guide, along with other promotional items.

#### Accommodations

See ad in this week's Western Recorder issue or in the October 11 issue. The ad features blocked rooms in Frankfort, Georgetown and Lexington facilities. Note:

Holiday Inn Capital Plaza, Frankfort, is now full. For additional information, call Denise Withers, KBC Communications Office, at (502) 245-4101, extension 211.

#### Messenger cards

Messenger cards are mailed on request after October 1. Enclosed with your messenger cards will be a Frankfort map, a restaurant guide and a KBC accommodations listing. Call Pat Beverly, KBC Executive Office, at (502) 245-4101, extension 254, to make your request.

#### Parking

**Pay parking** - Holiday Inn Capital Plaza  
Expect few vacancies due to full hotel capacity

#### Free parking:

- At Broadway and Wilkinson streets, close to the Kentucky River
- Between Wilkinson and the Kentucky River across from Holiday Inn Capital Plaza
- Adjacent lots off Mero Street during evening hours

#### KBC week agenda

The Western Recorder will publish a convention week agenda a few weeks prior to the annual meeting.

The KBC Program, which includes convention session and activity schedules, will be given to messengers as they register.

#### You can expect the biggest crowds...

Tuesday, November 15. That's the first day of the KBC annual meeting as well as KBC officer elections.

#### Chow time

A Frankfort restaurant guide is included with mailed messenger cards and in messenger packet bags.

If you prefer not losing your parking space during lunch and eating close to the Civic Center, then take note—The Holiday Inn Capital Plaza, within walking distance from the Civic Center, has the following:

- Gabrielle's - Can accommodate 150 people for a hot lunch buffet

• Checkers and the Landfall lobby - Up to 160 for a sandwich buffet during convention week

**In Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center for Tuesday, November 15 lunch only:**

• 350 boxed lunches at \$7 per meal. The Holiday Inn Capital Plaza catered meal includes chicken salad on a croissant roll, chips, an apple, brownie and a beverage. Tickets for boxed lunches will be sold during registration on Monday, November 14.

#### A holiday treat

(for those in town not attending the Pastor's Conference)

#### Candlelight Tour

Monday evening, November 14

An evening tour throughout historic downtown Frankfort, which features Old Capital Shoppes, food, music and shopping to kickoff the Christmas season.

For further information, call Denise Withers, KBC Communications, at (502) 245-4101, extension 212.



## CHURCH MUSIC

### A special treat for music ministers

You give of yourself week after week, month after month. Maybe it's time for you to be on the receiving end. This year's Kentucky Baptist Music Conference meeting on November 14 at Frankfort's Memorial Baptist Church promises an opportunity to treat yourself well!

In addition to plenty of warm fellowship with other ministers, an excellent evening meal, a concert by the Good News musicians from Russia and a brief business session are included on the agenda.

The KBMC special interest conferences are shown in the box to your right. An added bonus this year will be an "Early Bird" conference, a choral music reading session.

Serving as officers for the KBMC this year are: Patricia Cole, Louisville, president; Bill Tiemann, Owensboro, vice president (president-elect); and Steve Fegenbush, Danville, secretary/treasurer.

#### Need additional information?

Contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Church Music Department (502) 245-4101 for more information regarding KBMC membership or banquet information.

#### Special Interest Conferences

Highlighting the KBMC are these afternoon special interest conferences:

- **Planning for Your Future**  
Don Spencer  
Director  
Annuity Department, KBC
- **Music Ministry with Persons Experiencing Loss and Grief**  
Dr. Joy Berger
- **Dealing with Change**  
Dr. Vernon Cole  
Director  
Church Growth and Administration, KBC
- **The Russian Culture and Language**  
Richard Dwyer
- **Orchestrating for Worship**  
Don Schlosser
- **Using Music with Special Needs Persons**  
Dr. Gerald Chafin



KBMC Conference  
A great gift for you!

## PARTNERSHIP MISSIONS

### Russian ensemble to perform in state

The Russian folk instruments ensemble, "Blagovestie," will be performing at 25 Kentucky sites this fall, as well as at the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting. The group is touring Kentucky in conjunction with the Kentucky/Russia Baptist Partnership.

Blagovestie, which means "good news," ministers through music and gospel preaching in the Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists of Russia. The ensemble was

founded in Moscow's Church of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in 1988 under the leadership of B. Berezhnoi. The ensemble's motto is "prayer and preaching."

Blagovestie has participated in several crusades, including the Billy Graham Moscow Crusade.

For more information, contact Jim Cordell, director, Church Music Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, (502) 245-4101, extension 326.



Blagovestie, a Russian ensemble, is touring Kentucky this fall.

EVANGELISM

# Some answers to your Here's Hope questions

## Other info

"Step One Pastor's Guide" is an informative 29 page booklet which instructs local churches in the following:

- Getting your church involved
- Electing and training the church steering committee
- Doing evangelistic prospect discovery and cultivation
- Enlisting soul-winners
- Organizing soul-winning teams

An associational guide for Here's Hope is also available. Call the KBC Office for Evangelism at (502) 245-4101, extension 330 for more details.

*Share to Start*--March 18-25, 1995-- is a special week for launching hundreds of Southern Baptist congregations across America. It comes at the end of 60 days of soul-winning in conjunction with Here's Hope, Share Jesus Now.

Here's Hope, Share Jesus Now is the theme of the 157th Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting.

## What is Here's Hope '95?

The 1995 Here's Hope national evangelism emphasis has two key parts:

### 1. Here's Hope Share Jesus Now.

This part of the emphasis is to involve members of Southern Baptist churches in soul-winning. January 9-March 9, 1995 are the 60 days of Soul-Winning. Using marked New Testaments and Roman Road booklets, 600,000 Southern Baptists will share the gospel each day for 60 days.

*I understand that when the Lord Jesus said, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me" (Acts 1:8),*

He made it clear that every Christian has the responsibility to continually share the good news about Him with lost people everywhere. Because I love Him and desire to be an obedient Christian, I make the following commitment: **With His Help, I will attempt to share the gospel each day for 60 days, January 9-March 9.**

### 2. Here's Hope Jesus cares for you.

This part of the emphasis is to deliver the message of hope to every person in the United States.

Harvest Revivals will be held March 12 through September 30, 1995. Revivals will be conducted association-wide. There is a goal of 75% of churches conducting these revivals.

## What should a church do ASAP?

- Step 1** Pastors should read and study "Step One Pastor's Guide" in Pastor's Preparation Packet.
- Step 2** Order materials listed from the Here's Hope '95 order form found in the Pastor's Preparation Packet, such as Commitment Cards (212-95CFP); Roman Road Witnessing Booklet (212-167P or 212-191P) or other materials as needed.
- Step 3** Plan the events listed in "What are the important dates?"

For more information, contact your associational director of missions or director of evangelism or call the KBC Office for Evangelism at (502) 245-4101, extension 330.

## What are the important Here's Hope '95 dates?

September 25, 1994	Sunday School Launch Day
October 2	Evangelize-the-Lost-Day
October 9	Here's Hope Commitment Sunday
October 15 or 16 (or as soon as possible)	Witness Training I
January 8, 1995	Soul Winning Commitment Sunday II and Witness Training II
January 9-March 9	60 Days of Soul-Winning Visitation
March 12-September 30	Harvest Revivals



Here's Hope.  
Share Jesus Now.

# EVENTS

## FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

### DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

## "M" Night rallies offers assortment of ministry opportunities

*What does the "M" in "M" Night stand for? Mobilization. This event draws more combined attendance than the annual SBC and state meetings.*

The theme of the "M" Night: Discipleship Training Rally '94 is DiscipleALL: Evangelize the Lost. Christians should be challenged to share the gospel with the lost and then to disciple new converts.

Your associational Discipleship Training Rally can be scheduled on any date but most are set in November.

Plan now to bring a large group from your church to hear an inspiring speaker, exciting music and learn about such resources as:

- **Bible Drills** (available in KJV and NIV for youth in '95)
- **TeamKID** - An exciting new weekday program to help you to reach the children in your community
- **FirstPlace** - An outreach tool that has been used in over 5,000 churches and which help church members to be healthy and lead more productive lives.
- **Baptist Adults** - New and in multi-color

# M N I G H T

Theme:  
DiscipleAll...  
Evangelize The Lost

## DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING Rally

- **Fresh Encounter** - Offers revival to your people
- **Mind of Christ** - Presents a scriptural process by which believers can conform their thoughts and character to be more like Jesus.

- **Witnessing through Your Relationships** - A new LIFE course which seeks to lead your adults to recognize and utilize witnessing opportunities.

- **Learning to Share My Faith** - Revised as an easy-to-use six session course.
- **KidShare** - A 12-week support group for children whose parents are divorced.
- Many other possibilities

More persons attend "M" Night: Discipleship Training Rally than the Southern Baptist Convention and all of the state conventions combined. Make plans now to attend an "M" Night: Discipleship Training Rally in your association.

For more information, contact your associational office or Jim Clontz, KBC Discipleship Training Department, at (502) 245-4101, extension 337.

### STEWARDSHIP

## Be wise...be Budget Wise.

**Budget Wise** is an emphasis, not a program, that lifts up the importance of church budgeting. The emphasis is designed to:

Encourage all churches to prepare a written, unified budget.

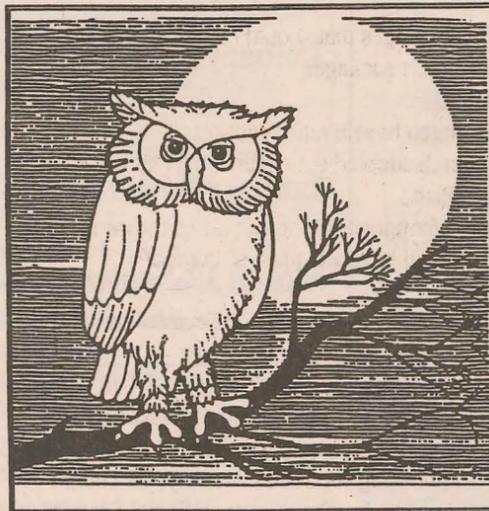
Challenge churches to develop a plan for budget promotion and administration.

Lead churches to strengthen budget promotion/administration.

Budget Wise supports the 1994 stewardship theme: "Give - That All May Know." The church budget is a major factor toward helping the church support its stewardship of the gospel to all peoples of the world.

A church budget has become a vital part of stewardship. It is one of the best measures of commitment of the church to carry out its mission. A church expresses its stewardship through its budget. Every church has a budget (a plan for spending), but not all churches have one in written form.

According to recent statistics, nearly three-fourths of Southern Baptist churches have a written budget and only 40 percent do budget promotion.



**Budget Wise is a plan to help churches be more aware and responsive to all aspects of budgeting.**

A Budget Wise church will:

- Help members to grow spiritually
- Lead members to grow in Christian giving
- Develop church members' mission/ministry awareness and involvement

- Generate a positive, winsome spirit of Christian fellowship that is vital to a good witness for Christians in the community.

If interested in additional information, contact:

Doug Strader  
Stewardship Office  
Kentucky Baptist Convention  
(502) 245-4101, extension 335

FOUNDATION

## Now is the best of all earthly times

Today is assured time. It is a gift from God to be used for His benefit, that all the world may know Him.

Your Kentucky Baptist Foundation can help you make fullest use of this time by guiding in making estate plans for your future, for your family's future and for your everlasting contribution to our Father's work.

A Christian's estate plan begins with a Will. The plan may also include trusts or other financial devices for the care of self and/or family. It can also include endowment of the Christian causes and ministries to which you now give your heart and effort.

The Foundation has been serving Kentucky Baptists since 1945. Our purpose is twofold:

- (1) To meet the needs of those Christian stewards who have the desire and the means to contribute to Baptist causes and the ongoing ministry of Baptist work in Kentucky and throughout the world.
- (2) To serve the Kentucky and Southern Baptist institutions and agencies by managing endowment funds established by them or for their benefit.

### YOUR GIFTS THROUGH YOUR BAPTIST FOUNDATION



**Work Around the Clock Until the End of Time**

If you are just beginning to plan, and you need a Will, or you need to name a guardian for minor children...

If you have an estate plan, but it needs completion or adaptation with charitable trusts...

If your estate is very small or very large or in-between...

*It needs your planning, now, for its future use.*

There just can't be a better time to make worthy estate plans.

Ask your Kentucky Baptist Foundation for assistance by calling (502) 245-4101, extension 356.

It will be time wisely used.

ANNUITY

## How to structure financial support for ministers, other church employees

### 1. Determine how ministry-related expenses will be covered

- Ministry-related expenses should be paid by the church as employer.
- All expenses should be paid on a reimbursement basis. (Expenses paid as an allowance increase an employee's tax liability.)
- Ministry-related expenses should not be treated as part of the "pay package."
- Expense items frequently covered by the church:
  - Car expense*
  - Convention expense*
  - Conferencel/Continuing Education expense*
  - Book Expense*
  - Hospitality expense*
- Car expense should be on a per business mile basis, using the current IRS mileage rate.

### 2. Determine protection coverages to be provided and On What Basis

- Providing adequate protection coverages assists in protection for both the employee and the church
- Decide as a matter of policy what coverages will be provided. Will the church/employer pay for these or will the minister employee be required to reduce actual compensation to provide necessary protection.

- Protection coverages that should be included in a financial support package:

#### Retirement

- Does the church have a retirement plan?
- Has the church adopted the expanded Church Annuity Plan?
- Is the church/employer doing its part so the minister/employee will have adequate retirement?

#### Social Security

- Ordained ministers are, by law, self-employed for Social Security
- For other employees, the church pays 7.65% in addition to 7.65% withheld from employee's pay.
- Since ordained ministers pay in excess of 13% of salary and housing for Social Security, the church is encouraged to pay the minister a Social Security equivalent equal to 7.65% of salary and housing.

- Because this equivalent is considered taxable income, a minister will still pay a slightly higher effective rate than employees on regular FICA.

#### Life, Medical & Disability Insurance

- The minister/employee and their family need all three for adequate protection.
- This also protects the church in event of serious illness, death or disability.

### 3. Determine the amount of compensation to be paid

- Compensation for minister=salary + housing
- Is the amount adequate?

- Consider a biblical base for adequate financial support: I Corinthians 9:14; Galatians 6:6; 1 Timothy 5:17
- Consider family needs (1 Timothy 5:8)
- Consider cost of living factors
- Compare to jobs requiring similar skills and training
- If the minister is buying/renting, minister estimates total annual housing expense. Designate that portion of the compensation as housing allowance. If a house is provided, a housing allowance should still be designated to cover other items such as utilities/insurance not paid by church, furnishings, incidentals, etc.

### 4. Based on policies set in #2, determine costs for protection coverages

- Based on previously determined percentage, compute dollar amount for retirement.
- Compute 7.65% for Social Security equivalent if that is to be included in the "pay package."
- Life and disability insurance coverage is often based on compensation, therefore, insurance amounts may need to be adjusted to allow for higher premiums.

### 5. Total and re-examine entire package

- With the entire financial support package in mind, check for areas needing additional discussion and adjustment.

For more information, contact Don Spencer, Annuity Department, KBC, at (502) 245-4101, extension 253.

# FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

## EVENTS

### OTHER EVENTS

#### Direct Missions

World Hunger Day is  
October 9.

Order theme materials:  
Christian Life Commission  
901 Commerce  
Suite 550  
Nashville, TN 37203

#### Sunday School

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

#### Small Church Growth

**Tour Dates/Sites:**  
January 16  
Hardin Church, Hardin  
January 17  
Wing Avenue, Owensboro  
January 19  
Eastwood, Bowling Green  
January 20  
Northside, Elizabethtown  
January 21  
Woodland, Middletown

#### KBC

A 1994 KBC  
accommodations listing is in this  
Western Recorder issue.  
Make your reservations EAR-  
LY!  
The KBC annual meeting  
is November 15-16  
at Frankfort's Farnham Dudgeon  
Civic Center.  
Additional KBC details are on  
EVENTS page 4a.

## Upcoming Events

### SEPTEMBER

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

#### Church Music

•September 25-26  
*Chorale Retreat*  
Louisville  
Site TBA

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

#### Church Growth and Administration

•September 24  
Super Saturday Conference  
Somerset  
First Baptist Church

#### Direct Missions

•September 23-24  
*Language Leadership*  
*Conference*  
Middletown, KBB

#### Family Ministry

•September 23-25  
*Fall Festival of Marriage*  
Louisville  
Southern Seminary

#### Student

September 30-  
October 2  
*State Student*

### OCTOBER

**Emphasis:**  
**Cooperative Program**  
**Month; Church Budget**  
**Development; Outreach**  
**Month**

#### Brotherhood

•October 6-8  
*State Brotherhood*  
*Convention*  
Shepherdsville  
First Baptist Church

#### Church Media Library

•October 22  
*Church Media Library*  
*Workshop*  
Erlanger  
Erlanger Baptist Church

#### Direct Missions

•October 9  
*Observe World Hunger*  
*Day*

#### Evangelism

*Here's Hope '95*  
**emphasis:**  
•October 2  
*Evangelize-the-Lost-Day*  
•October 15 or 16  
*Witness Training I*

#### Student

•October 9  
*World Hunger Day*  
•October 17-21  
*Student Missions*  
*Emphasis Week*  
Local campuses  
•October 17-21  
*Campus auditions for*  
*in-state teams*

#### Sunday School

•October 30  
*Super Sunday III*  
High attendance emphasis

#### WMU

•October 7-8  
*Baptist Women/Baptist*  
*Young Women*  
*Retreat*  
Cedarmore

•October 14-15  
*Baptist Women/Baptist*  
*Nursing Fellowship*  
*Retreat*  
Cedarmore

•October 22-23  
*Baptist Women/Baptist*  
*Young Women Retreat*  
Jonathan Creek

### NOVEMBER

**Emphasis:**  
**Stewardship and Budget**  
**Promotion**

#### Brotherhood

•November 6-12  
*Royal Ambassador Week*

#### Church Music

•November 14  
*Kentucky Baptist Music*  
*Conference*  
Frankfort  
Memorial Baptist Church

#### Discipleship Training

•November 28  
*Associational "M" Night*  
*Rallies*

#### KBC

•November 14  
*Pastor's Conference*  
Frankfort  
Farnham Dudgeon Civic  
Center  
•November 15-16  
157th KBC annual  
meeting  
Frankfort  
Farnham Dudgeon Civic  
Center

#### Student

•November 4-6  
*International Student*  
*Conference*  
Cave City  
Cave City Convention  
Center  
•November 18-20  
*African American*  
*Leadership Conference*  
Eastern Kentucky  
University

#### WMU

•November 5  
*Mission Six, 6th grade*  
*GAs*  
•November 7  
*Baptist Women's Day of*  
*Prayer*  
•November 11-12  
*Acteens Leaders Retreat*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

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

### To Receive More Information

- Cedarmore Baptist Assembly (info only)  
 Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly (info only)  
WMU  
 Fall Retreats for Women

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Office \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_

Leadership Position \_\_\_\_\_

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

### RUSSIAN HOME MISSIONARY SUPPORT AGREEMENT

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

1. Name of your church \_\_\_\_\_

2. Address \_\_\_\_\_

3. Telephone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Pastor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

5. Your Name and Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

# ISSUES

## Adviser: Debt not sinful, but it isn't biblical either

Continued from page 1

"I almost had a nervous breakdown at age 28. I had bought a home. I had started a business of my own when I was 25. And by the time I was 28 years old, I was so incredibly, miserably in debt that I was literally ready to commit suicide," he said.

"It just about ruined my marriage and my walk with the Lord. So this debt business is serious, serious stuff."

If being in debt is so detrimental to marriage, peace of mind, and spiritual stability, why do people continue to plunge themselves deeper into its rut?

"Because it is the American way," Hendrixson explained. "We just follow the example of our leaders."

But he said Christians should be able to alter destructive financial habits by changing their attitudes about accruing debt.

"The first attitude we must understand is debt is a form of slavery or bondage."

Many people associate accruing material items with wealth. They see ownership as having control, he said.

"As Christians, wealth should be more than money. It should be salvation. Seventy-five years from now, what are you going to be able to take with you? The most you can hope to take is your soul and the souls of your family and children," he said.

Christians must strive to act as

stewards of their financial stockpiles, not owners, Hendrixson said.

"An owner puts himself first. He owns the possession. He is accountable to himself. He does what he or she pleases. He depends on himself, makes independent decisions, and is oftentimes anxious about his or her life," he said.

In contrast, Hendrixson said, a steward "puts God first, manages possessions for God. He is accountable to God for how he spends that money. He follows God's word on making the decisions about how to spend that money. He waits on the Lord in the decision-making procession."

While the owner emphasizes himself, the steward emphasizes God, Hendrixson said. "I believe the sooner you develop the attitude you are a steward of all your money, the quicker you are going to find financial freedom."

He suggested several steps to finding financial freedom:

- Study God's word.
- Transfer ownership of possessions to God and get away from the American attitude that "everything is mine."
- Pray about how to spend God's money.
- Obey God's direction.
- Have a clear conscience in personal and business dealings.
- Avoid indulgences.
- Accept God's provisions.

## Not all teens are doing drugs

Continued from page 1

was like everybody was doing it," she said. "It was a really big thing."

Eventually, her parents realized what she was doing. Demonstrating what Kelly now sees as "tough love," her parents called school officials who searched her locker and discovered LSD. She was suspended from school for three months, arrested and released into her parent's custody.

"They turned me in because they wanted me to get better," Kelly said. "I never was mad at them. I needed a way out. I was scared, and I didn't know where to go."

Kelly went into rehabilitation. And she went to church.

"My church was what helped me," she said. "Everybody was so accepting and forgiving. I was even asked to serve on a senior high planning team. I couldn't believe they were willing to put their trust in me."

That kind of self-esteem-building is essential for keeping kids off drugs, said Glenda Bailey, who for 25 years tried "every kind of drug you can think of."

After a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ, she not only quit using drugs, but also devoted her life to giving young people the self-esteem and moral foundation to resist the lure of drugs.

The mother of four and grandmother of 13 now helps Drug Prevention Resources and the Dallas Housing Authority establish resident student councils in low-income housing projects.

"I want to let the children know that they are somebody. I want to let the youth know that they have a voice, and any dream they have can be fulfilled," she said. "I want to let them know they are loved, because it takes a whole community to raise one child. And I want them to get to know Jesus, because there's nothing they're going to accomplish without him."

But drug use is not limited to youth from low-income housing.

Sandi Black, an adolescent crisis counselor who works with two Texas schools, sees plenty of drug use among teens from upper-income homes.

"These are highly programmed, very busy kids who are involved in all kinds of activities. Some are under a lot of stress. Many are from single-parent homes," said Black, a Baptist layperson.

Black suggests churches could respond to the problem of youth and drugs by providing a more welcome environment to teens who have struggled with substance abuse, offering them adult role models who have conquered drugs or alcohol dependencies. And churches should provide opportunities to discuss "real life, everyday issues" in Sunday school, she added.

"Maybe what we're discussing in Sunday school aren't the real problems they are facing every day," Black said. "We need to meet their real needs. As churches, we need to be helping the hurting. After all, that's what Christ did."

## Plan now to attend the fourth annual ... Cooperative Ministries Worship/Evangelism Clinic

October 3-4, 1994

Jenny Wiley State Park Conference Center, Prestonsburg, Kentucky

Lodging at Holiday Inn, Prestonsburg • For reservations call (800) 465-4329



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Bible College



Larry Poyntz  
Pastor  
Louisville



Ralph West  
Guest Speaker



Rick Ousley  
Guest Speaker



Bill Jagers  
Director  
Office for Evangelism

### HERE'S HOPE - LET'S SHARE JESUS TOGETHER

Monday, October 3

12:00 Lunch Fellowship at Jenny Wiley Lodge

Stephen C. Rice, Presiding

- |      |                                                                   |                 |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1:30 | Opening Hymn .....                                                | Dee White       |
|      | Scripture/Prayer .....                                            | Carl Boyd       |
|      | Welcome .....                                                     | French Harmon   |
|      | Purpose .....                                                     | Bill Whittaker  |
|      | Special Music .....                                               | Larry Poyntz    |
|      | Seminar I "Exploring New Paradigms for Church Growth Today" ..... | Robert Wilson   |
|      | Seminar II "Here's Hope for the Deaf" .....                       | Tina McFarland  |
|      | Break                                                             |                 |
|      | Special Music .....                                               | Larry Poyntz    |
|      | Theme Interpretation .....                                        | Lincoln Bingham |
| 4:30 | Benediction .....                                                 | Mark Tackett    |

Thurmond Coleman, Presiding

- |      |                           |                      |
|------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 6:30 | Congregational Hymn ..... | Dee White            |
|      | Purpose .....             | Norma Fletcher       |
|      | Introduction of Speaker   |                      |
|      | Special Music .....       | Afro-American Choir  |
|      | Message .....             | Rick Ousley          |
|      | Congregational Hymn       |                      |
|      | Introduction of Speaker   |                      |
|      | Special Music .....       | Anglo-American Choir |
|      | Message .....             | Ralph West           |
| 9:00 | Benediction .....         | H. B. Harris         |

Tuesday, October 4

Richard Easterling, Presiding

- |        |                                                   |                |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 9 a.m. | Congregational Hymn .....                         | Dee White      |
|        | Devotional .....                                  | Drew Martin    |
|        | Seminar III "Principles of Church Planting" ..... | D. M. Aldridge |
|        | Theme Interpretation .....                        | Bill Jagers    |
|        | Break                                             |                |
|        | Message .....                                     | Ralph West     |
|        | Special Music .....                               | Ron Wright     |
|        | Message .....                                     | Rick Ousley    |
|        | Closing Statement/Benediction .....               | James Smith    |

# BAPTISTS

## Fellowship formalizes ties to 14 state affiliates

ATLANTA (ABP)—The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship appointed eight new missionaries, gave official recognition to 14 state-level affiliates, and moved its 1995 annual meeting from May in Austin, Texas, to July in Fort Worth, Texas.

Those were among actions taken during the Sept. 8-10 meeting of the Coordinating Council, the 78-member committee that administers much of the Fellowship's business. The council also heard from a committee trying to define the Fellowship's identity and future course. And the group began work on two new initiatives—to increase the representation and participation of ethnic and racial groups and to help ministers and congregations in conflict.

The missionary appointments—bringing the Fellowship's worldwide total to 52—were celebrated in a ceremony Sept. 8 at Wieuca Road Baptist Church in Atlanta, which hosted the council meeting. The four couples will serve in Atlanta, the Czech Republic, Eastern Europe and an undisclosed Asian country.

Among the new appointees are Kentuckians Kerry and Russell Brock, recent graduates of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. They will serve a two-year assignment with

Quest, an interreligious ministry to the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

The council abandoned plans to conduct its 1995 general assembly in Austin because of logistical problems. The meeting now is set for July 20-22 at the Tarrant County Convention Center. The move also will give the Fellowship its first summer assembly, which organizers hope will attract families with school-age children.

Louisville previously had been selected as the site of the Fellowship's 1999 meeting, but that could be changed as a new site-selection process is implemented.

The Kentucky Baptist Fellowship was among 14 state and regional affiliates formally recognized by the Fellowship for the first time. The council adopted a new criteria for recognizing state groups and a process for handling requests for recognition.

In addition to the 14 already approved, four other groups are in various stages of development that likely will lead to recognition.

The council heard a preliminary report from a task force trying to write a vision and mission statement for the three-year-old organization. No action was taken on the statement, which will be revised and resubmitted at the council's February meeting.

"The mission of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship," according to the draft document, "is to revitalize the Baptist vision by offering creative and innovative ways for Baptist individuals and churches to cooperate freely, faithfully and joyfully in sharing the gospel in their communities and throughout the world."

Rather than offering churches programs, products and services like a traditional denomination, the Fellowship should serve as a "resource center" for churches, suggested David Wilkinson, the Fellowship's communications coordinator.

John Tyler, chairman of the vision task force, said the word "denomination" was not even considered.

Fellowship Coordinator Cecil Sherman gave his own description of the Fellowship—a three-pronged functional definition that he said harmonizes with the vision statement and gives shape to the group's budget and organizational structure.

Sherman said the Fellowship is three things: a missions-delivery system, a caretaker of Baptist principles, and a resource for congregational health and growth. "This is the first conceptual arrangement of this house that I have halfway liked," he said.

While global missions occupies

most of the Fellowship's attention and budget, the organization also supports theological schools and other entities because of its commitment to Baptist principles, Sherman said.

But little has been done in the third area, help for churches, he said. "We take from churches now but give very little back."

Also during its meeting, the council adopted a budget "target" for 1995-96 of \$9.15 million. That projection is less than the current \$12.5 million budget because the Fellowship no longer will fund Southern Baptist Convention agencies.

Sherman reported the Fellowship is holding \$200,000 in church contributions earmarked for SBC agencies but now undeliverable because of the new SBC policy prohibiting acceptance of money from the Fellowship. Unless those churches give instructions on how to distribute the money, the Fellowship will apply the funds to its global missions program.

Keith Parks, global missions coordinator, said the Fellowship is "beginning to turn a corner" with the latest missionary appointments. Three of the newly appointed couples will be assigned to ethno-linguistic groups unreached by the gospel—a priority in the missions program.

# MINDS ON MISSIONS

**Baptist Men's Conclave And Mission Rallies**  
**October 7-8 • First Baptist Church, Shepherdsville**

### You Won't Want to Miss:

#### Friday Morning Session

■ Experiencing God Weekends are new on the Brotherhood Calendar. All over the state Baptists have been yearning for a renewal of God's Spirit. Why not come and learn from personal testimonies and overview of how your church can experience God through these weekends?

■ The new National Disaster Relief Director for Southern Baptists, Mickey Caison, will be updating us on the global importance of Disaster Relief. Mickey is on staff with the Brotherhood Commission in Memphis, Tennessee and served as National Coordinator in Hurricane Andrew and the Georgia floods.

#### Friday Afternoon Session

■ We are looking forward to going to Russia again to give out Christmas gifts for children. This year Kentucky Baptists have put together 15,000 gifts. Come hear Charles Burgett's personal testimony of how God touched his heart on the first trip to Russia and how you can be a part of this year's trip.

■ Rev. Wyman Copass will be on hand to tell us how Brotherhood has created new life in Yellow Creek Baptist Church where he serves as pastor. His church is responsible for many building projects that have been completed by his Baptist Men all over the state of Kentucky in the name of Jesus Christ.

#### Friday Evening Session

■ Kentucky Changers was a tremendous success in Hopkinsville this year. So much so that we will offer two Kentucky Changer projects next year, one in Covington and the other in Hopkinsville. Come hear how your high school students can be on Mission for Christ through repairing homes for the indigent.

■ The National Disaster Relief Director for American Red Cross will be our keynote speaker. His name is Don Jones and he is a graduate of Campbellsville College. This Baptist layman is Elizabeth Dole's leader for the American Red Cross when it comes to Disaster Relief. Don is headquartered in Washington D.C.

#### Saturday Morning Session

■ The State Brotherhood Director of Tennessee Baptists, Camron Byler, will be our speaker for the Prayer Breakfast. Camron has held many positions with the Brotherhood Commission and Texas Brotherhood. He will be challenging us to follow God even into strange places.

■ Rusty Griffin, the new overseas missions liaison with the Brotherhood Commission to the Foreign Mission Board, will be explaining the new doors that are open to us around the world to do missions. Come hear all the opportunities around the globe that are available for you to serve.

For more information call: Brotherhood Department (502) 245-4101



# BAPTISTS

## Southwestern begins new year with mixed feelings

By Ken Camp  
Texas Baptist convention

FORT WORTH, Texas (ABP)—Picking up the pieces is the priority this fall at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, which is still rocking from the most turbulent event in the school's 86-year history—the March firing of President Russell Dilday.

Building bridges, trust and a climate for spiritual renewal on campus are among the top agenda items for Kenneth Hemphill, who was elected in July to succeed Dilday as president of Southwestern, considered the largest seminary in the world.

But while many students, faculty and seminary supporters seem to be embracing his initiatives enthusiastically, others are adopting a more cautious "wait and see" posture, and some say they are anxious to "bail out."

Hemphill, a former Norfolk, Va., pastor and most recently director of the Southern Baptist Center for Church Growth, was elected unanimously by seminary trustees July 28, marking a major victory for conservatives who now dominate the Southern Baptist Convention.

Four months earlier, by a 27-7 vote, trustees of the Fort Worth, Texas, school fired Dilday, charging he failed to bring Southwestern in line with the SBC's "conservative resurgence."

Total enrollment at Southwestern this semester is 3,254, a decrease of about 6 percent from last year's enrollment of 3,458. The decline comes after a 3 percent rise in enrollment last fall. The 204-student drop in enrollment breaks down to 156 fewer new students and 48 fewer returning students.

Hemphill, however, points to a "fairly predictable and steady decline" in seminary enrollments over most of the last 10 years. He termed a drop of only 6 percent "a small miracle" in light of Dilday's dismissal and the controversy that followed.

"Over the summer, there were predictions of a 10 percent to 30 percent loss in enrollment," Hemphill said. "We are very thrilled and appreciative to the Lord for the students he has entrusted to us." Within five years, Hemphill said he hopes to see enrollment figures topping 5,000.

Increased enrollment would translate into more money for the seminary, both from student matriculation fees and—more significantly—from SBC's Cooperative Program funds.

The money appears crucial. The seminary reportedly is \$600,000 behind in its contingency budget set up last spring. The bulk of that deficit is due to the loss in enrollment, according to a seminary source. Another \$180,000 loss is attributable to lost revenue from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, which in June was prevented by the SBC from funding the seminary.

The seminary also reportedly has faced a challenge in fund-raising since Dilday's firing.

Several members of the Southwestern Council, a group of leading benefactors, resigned after the firing. A leader of that group estimated in March that the firing could cost the seminary as much as \$15 million in lost gifts and pledges.

Hemphill said he plans to pursue endowment dollars aggressively.

To expand that income base, he announced his intentions for Southwestern to endow three new chairs in its school of theology. One would honor missionary Rebekah Naylor; another Jimmy Draper, president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board; and the third W.A. Criswell, legendary pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas.

According to Dilday, Hemphill's great challenge among personnel at Southwestern is to build trust. But there is considerable anxiety and uncertainty about the new administration, said Dilday, now a homiletics professor at rival Truett Seminary.

Bill Tolar, vice president for academic affairs and provost at Southwestern, said most faculty and staff seem to be "coming with an open, wait-and-see attitude" toward the new president.

Seminary students should not be seeing many drastic changes in their classes, he said, pointing out that only four teachers had left since Dilday's dismissal.

There is a "pretty good overall spirit" on campus, Tolar concluded.

But some other faculty members, who asked not to be named for fear of reprisal, spoke of apprehension and uncertainty.

"There is as low a morale among the faculty as I have ever seen," one professor said, noting he and several others are at varying stages in seeking other employment.

To date, there have been no major administrative realignments. But John Seelig—brought in by the seminary trustees immediately after Dilday's firing to handle public relations—has been named assistant to the president for special projects.

One public relations move that has generated considerable discussion concerned making "The Scroll"—the seminary's newsletter for students which long had been published on the front and back covers of the Baptist Standard—into free-standing publication. Copies of the weekly Texas Baptist newspaper no longer are made available to students.

Discontinuing the Baptist Standard and printing "The Scroll" separately was termed by Seelig to be an "economic measure."

But some on campus consider the move an attempt to control information to students and retaliation for news coverage of Dilday's firing.

Hemphill, who said he did not know about the change until he received a note from Standard Editor Presnell Wood, acknowledged the Standard may have been discontinued, at least in part, out of fear that its reporting would "cause unrest on the campus." But the move might be reconsidered, he added.

## 1994 KBC Accommodations

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

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

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

### Frankfort - Add 10.24% tax

#### Best Western Parkside Inn

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

#### Bluegrass Inn

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

#### Days Inn

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

#### Holiday Inn Capital Plaza **FULL**

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

#### Knights Inn

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

### Other Frankfort facilities

#### (non-blocked rooms)

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

#### Super 8 Motel

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

### GEORGETOWN - Add 9.18% tax

#### Days Inn of Georgetown

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

#### Ramada LTD

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

#### Shoney's Inn of Georgetown

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

### LEXINGTON - Add 11.3% tax

#### Quality Inn Northwest

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

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

 **Here's Hope.**  
**Share Jesus Now.**

## Crime bill adds punishments for child prostitution & porn

WASHINGTON (BP)—The crime bill signed into law Sept. 13 by President Clinton includes measures targeting overseas child prostitution and the importation of child pornography into this country.

The new law penalizes Americans who travel in foreign lands for the purpose of having sexual relations with children under the age of 18. The measure seeks to limit sex tourism, a practice in which citizens of the United States and other Western countries travel to foreign sites where children are available for purchase as sex partners.

Some villages serve as child brothels, where many minors are forced into such activities, according to the National Law Center for Children and Families.

The law also prohibits the production, possession and distribution of any visual material depicting a minor involved in a sexually explicit act, when such material is intended for importation into the United States. Because the United States is the most lucrative market for commercial child pornography, American money fosters the victimization of hundreds of thousands of children world-wide, according to the National Law Center for Children and Families.

"I am delighted that the bill includes provisions to punish Americans who go overseas through sex

tourism for the specific purpose of having sex with children and to punish those who abuse children in pornographic materials intended for importation into this country," said Richard Land, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

"There are many of us who have been working very hard for several years to pass legislation that would put the force of the federal government behind attempts to punish those who engage in such disgusting and reprehensible activity."

Land is a member of a coalition working to end child prostitution and pornography. He also is a member of the Religious Alliance Against Pornography's executive committee.

The penalty for an American found guilty of having sex with a minor overseas is a maximum of 10 years imprisonment and/or a fine. The penalty for a first offense of trafficking in child pornography to be imported into the United States also is a maximum prison term of 10 years and/or a fine.

**HOMECOMING**  
**October 9, 1994**  
 Celebrating 35 years  
**North View**  
**Baptist Church**  
 1742 Bryan Station Rd.  
 Lexington, Ky 40505  
 (606) 299-1596

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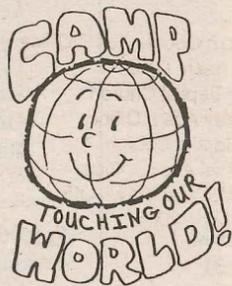


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## Minority of Christians denies key tenets, such as the virgin birth, Satan and hell

NEW YORK (ABP)—A significant minority of American Christians do not hold to tenets of their faith such as the virgin birth, the devil or hell, according to results of a Harris Poll released Sept. 12.

The poll found that almost all American adults subscribe to basic religious beliefs including the existence of God (95 percent) and heaven (90 percent).

Four in five Americans describe themselves as Christians, the poll said.

Almost all Christians say they believe in God (99 percent), heaven (96 percent) and the resurrection of Christ (96 percent).

However, those percentages drop off when they relate to other tenets, said Humphrey Taylor of Louis Harris and Associates in New York.

Only 77 percent of all who call themselves Christians believe in hell, compared to 71 percent of all Americans.

Among Christians, 78 percent profess belief in the devil, 85 percent in the virgin birth of Jesus, 87 percent in the miracles and 89 percent in the soul's survival after

death, the survey found.

More surprising, said Taylor, is that 49 percent of non-Christians accept Jesus' virgin birth and 52 percent believe Christ rose from the dead.

Belief in other supernatural phenomena is less widespread, the study found. Only 37 percent of Americans say they believe in astrology and 36 percent in ghosts. Among Christians, belief in astrology is 35 percent and in ghosts 36 percent.

Seventy-nine percent of adults describe themselves as Christians. But while the United States statistically is a Christian nation, it apparently is becoming less so, said Taylor.

Ninety percent of Americans over 50 say they are Christians, compared to only 70 percent of those 25-29 and 59 percent of those age 18-24. Taylor predicts that as large numbers of non-Christian immigrants continue to pour into the country, the percentage of Christian citizens will fall.

The poll of 1,249 adults was conducted by telephone in July. The sample's margin of error is 3 percent, Taylor said.

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## Panel debates role of faith & politics

WASHINGTON (ABP)—People of faith should engage in public-policy debates but stop short of claiming to have the only moral solution to America's problems, according to participants on a Sept. 14 panel sponsored by the Interfaith Alliance.

The Washington-based alliance is a coalition founded to combat religious extremism.

Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, said religious people should participate in the political arena as long as they don't abuse religion and politics in the process. Lynn said he takes exception to Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition defining itself as having "the only Christian position" in the community.

Robertson ultimately wants to make America "a theocratic state, rather than a democratic one," Lynn charged, adding that would "make us look more like Iran."

Knighton Stanley, senior minister of Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ in Washington, said any time people state a position as "the only one" they are demonstrating the "epitome of arrogance."

Rep. Jim Leach, R-Iowa, said he did not always agree with the religious right or Christian Coalition but

cautioned against accusing them of attempting to establish a theocracy. The religious right, Leach said, is correct when it says that lack of moral values is one of America's greatest problems.

Leach said he did not agree with the religious right on several issues but he never has heard one of their leaders espouse that a religious figure ought to rule the state—his definition of theocracy.

Religious people have every right to reflect whatever perspective they want to on the political process, Leach said, noting that many people on the religious right believe their views have been left out of American society and are now demanding attention.

Ann Lewis, president of Politics Inc., said politics should be value-based and respect the individual conscience of each citizen. The problem with the Christian Coalition, she said, is that it uses a religious name and symbols to advance a political agenda.

The American people have a good idea how to balance faith and public policy, Lewis said. They don't want to see politics leave their morals behind, and at the same time, they don't want to see religion used inappropriately to advance politics, she said.

Leon Hooper, a senior research fellow at Woodstock Theological Center of Georgetown University, said the real danger of the religious right is that it polarizes the public discourse—it reduces America to a confrontational society in which only power dominates.

Citing a recent Newsweek poll finding that 76 percent of Americans believe the nation is in moral and spiritual decline, panel moderator Barbara Reynolds asked if it was time to admit America had made a mistake and should let state-sponsored prayer back in public schools.

Other panelists disagreed with the suggestion.

Prayer in public schools would be a big mistake, Lewis said, because it would fail to take seriously the First Amendment and would not begin to address the real issues confronting America's schools. Instituting prayer would be a quick, easy fix that would not begin to get at the heart of the problem, she said.

Stanley agreed, citing the rights of religious minorities.

Sixty seconds of religious language—much of which is increasingly intolerant and hateful—will not solve the problems facing America's children, he said.

### NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Clinton speaks on family.** In a message sprinkled with references to Scripture, President Bill Clinton touted strengthening families as a national priority in a message to the nation's largest black Baptist denomination in New Orleans Sept. 9. Speaking at a convention of the 8 million-member National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Clinton urged Americans to combat social ills through strong families which value children and instill in them a sense of hope for the future. "I know that not everybody is going to be in a stable, traditional family like you see in one of those 1950s sitcoms, but we'd be better off if more people were," Clinton said.

■ **NBC leader calls for action.** An activist pastor elected to lead the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., vowed to lead the 8 million-member denomination into increased social involvement. Henry Lyons, 52, pastor of Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church in St. Petersburg, Fla., won a five-man race Sept. 8 for a five-year term as president of the convention, which claims to be the world's largest black organization. Lyons pledged to lead the convention to address economic and social problems and to be a force to be reckoned with.

■ **Jesus' picture removed.** A picture of Jesus that has hung in a public school hallway for three decades must be removed, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit ruled Sept. 6. A panel of judges ruled that display of the print at Bloomington High School in Michigan creates an unconstitutional entanglement between the state and religion. An attorney for the school board had argued the portrait was appropriate because it was displayed among a dozen other pieces of art and therefore was not inherently a religious display. Jesus is a historical figure respected by Christians, Muslims, Jews and others, said David Melton of the Rutherford Institute.

# IT'S ROUND-UP TIME!

All donated food items for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children's Food Round-Up must be delivered to pick-up points no later than October 1. Thanks from all of the children for your help this year!

#### Central Region

Glendale - Glen Dale Children's Home  
Middletown - Spring Meadows Children's Home

#### North Central Region

Erlanger - Erlanger Baptist Church  
Lexington - Porter Memorial Baptist Church  
Morehead - First Baptist Church

#### Northeastern Region

Ashland - Unity Baptist Church  
Campton - Campton Baptist Church  
Pikeville - Pike Assn. Office  
Prestonsburg - First Baptist Church

#### South Central Region

Berea - Bates Creek Assn. Office  
Columbia - Columbia Baptist Church  
Danville - First Baptist Church  
Greensburg - Greensburg Baptist Church  
Richmond - First Baptist Church  
Somerset - First Baptist Church

#### Southeastern Region

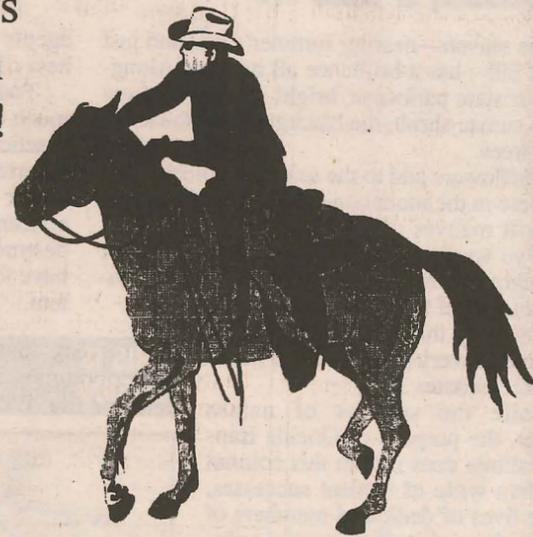
Hazard - First Baptist Church  
Manchester - Island Creek Baptist Church  
Pineville - First Baptist Church  
Williamsburg - Main Street Baptist Church

#### Southern Region

Bowling Green - Eastwood Baptist Church  
Burkesville - Burkesville Baptist Church  
Glasgow - Calvary Baptist Church  
Morgantown - Casper River Assn. Office  
Russellville - Bethel/Logan Assn. Office

#### Southwestern Region

Cadiz - Little River Assn. Office  
Hopkinsville - Christian County Assn. Office  
Mayfield - First Baptist Church  
Murray - First Baptist Church  
Paducah - West Union Assn. Office  
Princeton - Caldwell/Lyon Assn. Office



#### Western Region

Central City - Muhlenberg County Assn. Office  
Hartford - Ohio County Assn. Office  
Hawesville - Hawesville Baptist Church  
Henderson - Green Valley Assn. Office  
Lewisport - Lewisport Baptist Church  
Madisonville - Little Bethel Assn. Office  
Owensboro - Daviess-McClean Assn. Office  
Sturgis - Ohio Valley Assn. Office



For more information call:  
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# PEOPLE

## KENTUCKY KERNELS

Twenty-eight percent of the personal income in rural Kentucky communities is tobacco-related.

Source: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **CARROLLTON**—First Church will host a concert with contemporary music artist **Dan Henning** Sept. 24. The concert will begin at 6 p.m. with a pizza blast, and music at 7 p.m. Call (502) 732-4396 for more information.

■ **COVINGTON**—Oak Ridge Church will celebrate its 150th anniversary homecoming Oct. 2. An all-day service is planned. A revival ser-

vice will be held Monday-Wednesday at 7 p.m., with guest Evangelist **Don Short**. Call (606) 356-7732 for information.

■ **FISHERVILLE**—First Church called **Orion Bell** as pastor Sept. 14.

■ **HICKORY**—Hickory Church ordained **Ron Gleaves** to the gospel ministry. He was called as pastor of First Church in Bertrand, Mo.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR SALE:** 1988 Eldorado 28-passenger bus w/air/tag-air front and rear, low mileage; \$28,000. Call (502) 269-2504.

**AVAILABLE:** Experienced Baptist minister (B.Th., M.Div.) for supply, revivals, Bible conferences, interim. Also available for pastorate in eastern Kentucky. Contact Mike York, 300 Clear Creek Rd., Pineville, KY 40977 (606) 337-9792.

**WANTED:** Pianist, approx. 6hrs/week. Send resumé to Valley Station Baptist Church, 5415 Valley Station Rd., Louisville, KY 40272. Phone (502) 937-1730.

**WANTED:** All trades needed for remodeling. Steady work, competitive pay, full benefits available. Insured subcontractors also needed. Call (502) 267-4222.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Pollard Baptist Church. Send resumé by Nov. 15 to: Pollard Baptist

Church, 444 Blackburn Ave., Ashland, KY 41101-3478. Attn: Search Committee. Phone (606) 324-3626.

**AVAILABLE:** Full- and part-time sales positions with Christian radio stations. Experience not necessary. Central and northern Kentucky areas immediately available. Send resumé to Hammond Broadcasting, Inc., 13297 Green Rd., Walton, KY 41094.

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

**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.

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

## Parkland youth serve in west Kentucky

LOUISVILLE—Youth from Parkland Baptist Church in Louisville made a significant difference in Daviess-McLean Baptist Association this summer, according to David Marlow, the association's Christian education director.

"This group of young people modeled how well-trained and disciplined youth can help reach others for Jesus," he said. "They were marvelous."

The Parkland youth performed three primary ministries every day for the week of their trip. They conducted vacation Bible schools and backyard Bible clubs at Apollo Heights

Baptist Church and the Baptist Center, and they surveyed the neighborhood around the Baptist Center.

They also presented a musical for a joint meeting of Apollo Heights and Pleasant Memorial Baptist Church.

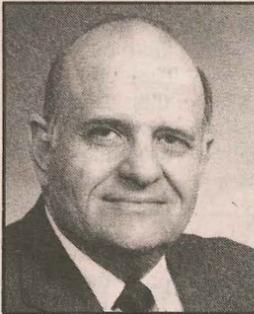
A new Bible study currently is being formed out of the 58 positive contacts the youth group found in their door-to-door survey.

The youth also participated in a variety of outreach projects each night of their stay in West Kentucky. The Sunday after the Parkland youth had done their work, Apollo Heights Church recorded its highest attendance for the year, Marlow said.

## You are cordially invited to Revival Services at Buechel Park Baptist Church with ... Keith Parks & Craig Loscalzo

(Oct. 9, 10:45 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.)

(Oct. 10-12, 7:00 p.m.)



Also ... Reception for Parks Oct. 9, 5:00 p.m. In Fellowship Hall

Buechel Park is located at 2403 Hikes Lane Louisville, Ky. (2 blocks east of Bardstown Road)



## A season, a time ...

This season—nearing summer's end and just before fall—has a brilliance all its own. Alongside our state parkways, bright red leaves show on the sumac shrub, the blackgum and the sourwood trees.

Wildflowers add to the season's colorful display here in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky. The soft mauves of the queen-of-the-meadow (Joe-Pye weed) provide muted background for the bright yellow of the goldenrods and the vibrant purple of the tall ironweeds.

"To every thing there is a season, ... a time to every purpose under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

While the seasons of nature change, the purpose of Oneida Baptist Institute does not. In this column we often write of student successes, of the lives of dedicated members of our faculty and staff, of special occasions on our campus. We believe these are the sorts of things you want to read about.

The reason we can write about these topics is because of our purpose. Our purpose is what leads to the outcomes. Our purpose has produced the rich heritage of OBI. It is our purpose which serves as a road map for the daily task. It is our purpose, our mission, which shapes our vision of what this school can become.

The purpose, the mission, of OBI is both simply and profoundly that of Christian education—knowing, understanding, being, doing and promoting truth. Never has there been a better time for such a purpose.

The current devastating erosion of America's culture is a blatant reality to us. Many of our students bring the effects of this with them. Due to its deceptive subtlety, one of the most damaging

agents of erosion is the godless, man-centeredness of humanism.

Today's landscape of educational reform has much that is good. Numerous valid educational practices which succeeded in the past have been resurrected and given new names. Viewed at closer range however, a needful and growing concern among parents is the low-key yet sure destructive direction some reform components have for changing the students' basic belief system.

## THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Yes, this—as much as any period in the history of our school—is the vital time for Christian education, the central purpose of Oneida. Today is a vital time for godly education, based on the sure foundation of God's word, reaching young people for Christ, training Christian young people to be true servants of God.

To accomplish this purpose, our focus must be on the students, but we also must focus on our fellow faculty and staff, on those in the local community, on the students' parents and families and our many other guests

who come to the campus, on those of you who support us with your prayers and variety of abundant gifts.

By our example of genuine Christian sensitivity to each one who comes our way, we teach some of the most valuable lessons to our students.

Oneida's purpose has never been more timely!

Written by Dr. JoAnn Seymour, high school principal

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

## Thanks, Campers on Mission

With resumption of a new school term, a busy summer season with volunteers has ended. A special thanks goes to Campers on Mission from Indiana, Alabama and Kentucky. During a five-day period this summer, they were involved in several areas, helping us complete new buildings and put the finishing touches on remodeling projects. The group put in 880 hours of labor. Some of them painted the inside of the new classroom building. Another contingent installed the ceiling.

For the last several years we have had a goal of complete renovation of at least two of the older stone student cottages. On these the campers built porch banisters and stairs, installed vinyl siding on a new addition, placed the drip strip and installed vinyl covers on fascia boards and soffits.

These hard workers did exterior trim work on four new duplexes in Hemlock Heights village. The duplexes were dedicated at alumni meeting.

Thirty-six hours of labor went into a library room. Paneling was removed, soundproofing installed, and the paneling put back into place. This room will be used as a student study room.

The coordinator of the group was Charles L. Mitchell with Indiana Campers on Mission. His calling card has the theme, "Sharing Christ as we go." These Campers on Mission have certainly demonstrated their Christian love and commitment. They like to come to Clear Creek because they can have fellowship in the Family Life Center, enjoy walks through our beautiful valley and relax on the porch of Kelly Hall.

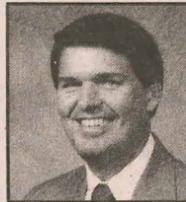
We have one area where mobile homes were formerly located; it has been ideal for the campers since all services are available. With this group it was a modern version of a covered wagon circle. Each day they gathered under a huge shade tree for a devotional time, and each evening they set out

their folding chairs and had fellowship with each other. This would be a great way to spend retirement!

Some of these campers returned for the third summer to work with us. Next year we will remodel two more houses and Campers on Mission will probably be back. We are thankful for every volunteer who came at their own expense and enabled us to complete projects.

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

## CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

# PEOPLE

## Church members storm drug addicts on their turf

By Bob Warren  
New Orleans Times-Picayune

KENNER, La. (BP)—At two o'clock on a dreary Saturday afternoon, the drug dealers and users have begun their ritual, buying and selling little white rocks of cocaine outside what looks like an abandoned apartment in Kenner, La.

It's slow death in a package the size of a piece of gravel. But the pushers don't care, and their commerce booms—until the crew from New Hope Community Church busts up the place.

Bibles in hand, they descend, bold as lions, gentle as lambs, confronting dealers and showering them with the kind of care that's bad for trade.

New Hope's isn't the only drug ministry around, but its members are perhaps the most aggressive. There is tough talk, soothing talk, verses from the Good Book.

"Please stop selling, man," Pam Winston implores one young trader inside the apartment. "This isn't a life, man. This is a death. You're dead out here."

The brutal and obscene graffiti scribbled on the walls. The piles of trash. The overpowering smell of urine. None of it is lost on Winston, a New Hope member who likens the place to the "gates of hell."

"I know, sister, I know," the young man finally replies, climbing into the front seat of a friend's car to get away from her urgings to find Jesus. Winston is undaunted by his flight.

"At least he knows we're here if he wants help," she says. "God says love everybody—and that means love the addict and the crack man too."

Winston spent enough time on the other side to know. She was a junkie, a loser, a zombie. She finally found a solace in God she couldn't find in a string of detox centers.

For Winston, and several others in north Kenner's New Hope Community Church, a foray into the netherworld of crack cocaine is powerful medicine. They lived this life once, loved it, almost let it consume them body, then soul.

To talk to the addict, to the dealer, to stare them in the eye, not blinking—they say this is an affirmation of a sober life committed to Christ.

"It won't ever be easy," New Hope Pastor Mark Mitchell says of the 30 or so recovering addicts in the church's flock of 300. "That rock of crack is powerful. It destroys people like the devil, and like the devil it doesn't want to let you go."

The 3-year-old church occupies a renovated three-plex, ironically a former crack house. The church's sponsor, Williams Boulevard Baptist Church, created New Hope as a way to reach a community in need. The drug ministry is an outgrowth of the church.

Bars protect the windows, and a cage protects the air conditioning unit out back because the thieves will steal anything, even cool air from the house of the Lord. A beat-up van sits in the driveway—its odometer past

the 100,000-mile mark a few times over—and on Sundays it delivers the flock on countless trips into the neighborhood.

Inside, wooden pews occupy the bottom floor, bathed in the colored light from the stained glass windows on sunny days. Crosses of blue against a backdrop of yellow make the place feel like a church.

"It's humble," Mitchell says.

But New Hope has big dreams.

Its flock dreams of a new building on the open lot next door. They dream of building a drug rehabilitation center, staffing it with professionals and giving addicts a place to stay while they try to clean up their acts. They dream of streets without pushers and users, where people don't steal and turn tricks for their next blast of the crack pipe.

"Kenner needs a place where people can go and get treatment," Mitchell says. "The people need hope."

In the two years New Hope has sought to reach the user, only a handful of the former addicts it has brought into the fold have backslid, Mitchell says.

Several professionals from local drug rehab centers say it's hard to gauge the success of programs such as New Hope's. Attacking addiction as a spiritual problem is fine, but for many it must be treated as a medical problem as well, they say.

Mitchell says the church doesn't seek to replace medical rehabilitation. Indeed it often refers addicts in need to detox centers. But Mitchell and other members say the healing spirit is vital to rescuing the individual.

New Hope's program is based on the Bible, informal group therapy sessions and a support network of church members. Upstairs, in one of the church's converted bedrooms, recovering users meet three times a week to discuss their triumphs and tribulations, to tell God their pain.

Theirs are stories of frustration, despair, anger and hope. They are people like Frank Wells, a dealer who became his own best customer. Or Elizabeth Dedeaux, once so weary of street life that she pleaded with a judge not to let her out of prison.

Jeff is attending his first session. It is a Wednesday night, a hot and sticky mess of a night that forces the windows open, bringing into the meeting the sounds of the streets below. He's tired and nervous and isn't sure he wants his last name in print.

"I don't want to live my 39th year like I lived my 38th," he says. "I been shot, stabbed, locked up. I don't want to pick up again. But I'm scared I will."

Across the table, tears stream down Nora Oliver's face.

"I just feel like I'm up against everything," she says, her voice a pained whisper. "Sometimes I find myself losing hope. That's all. I'm just depressed."

Dedeaux understands.

"You just got to hang on, baby," she says. "Like we always say, 'Don't call me after you get loaded. Call me before you get loaded and let's talk.'"



## Jazz vespers offers bluesy alternative in Birmingham

By Mark Baggett  
Alabama Baptist

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—Strains of "It Is Well with My Soul" curled through the windows of Southside Baptist Church and out into the Five Points South section of Birmingham, Ala., on a recent Sunday night.

The song was a hymn, but the notes, played on Frank Adams's silky saxophone and sung by Rickey Powell, were decidedly blue.

The saxophone-vocal duo was part of Southside's jazz vespers, held the first Sunday of the month at 5:30 p.m., performed by an ensemble of professional jazz musicians from Birmingham and organized by Pastor Dale Chambliss and church member Cheryl Simonetti.

"Since our Sunday morning worship comes out of the classical, traditional background," says Chambliss, "Jazz vespers is a more appropriate contemporary approach for us than, say, contemporary Christian music. As an inner-city church that emphasizes a community spirit and an inter-racial spirit, it's more in keeping with who we are."

Simonetti works with Chambliss and vocalist Powell, a member and soloist at Sixth Avenue Baptist Church, in planning the monthly program.

They include spirituals and hymn arrangements and an original, unpublished or experimental arrangement each month. The informal, one-hour service features solos by local and guest musicians, a short devotional by Chambliss and even literary readings.

There is no invitation, and the offering plates sit by the door for contributions to pay the players.

"We're a group that got together as a result of a few miracles, that's all," laughs Simonetti, 42, a lawyer with the Alabama Department of Human Resources when she's not massaging the keyboard.

One by one, the group of musicians came aboard—saxophonist Neil MacLean, drummer Sonny Har-

ris, bassist Robert Dickson, trumpeter Tommy Stewart and Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame member Frank Adams, who also is music supervisor of Birmingham City Schools. As they looked for a singer, Simonetti heard Rickey Powell at a jazz festival. He proved the perfect fit.

"Most of them have been playing for years," she says, "and they will show up 30 minutes before the show, while I've been practicing for a month. We're strictly improvisational, and they keep me guessing. But they have been sweet and patient with me."

The jazz vespers services began in November 1993, drawing good reviews from both church and community.

The average crowd has numbered about 100, and the musicians and audiences now know more of what to expect.

Church families with children and senior adults show up in force, and the service has become an entry point for people coming back to church after a long absence.

"I wouldn't be surprised if the idea took off," says Adams. "The atmosphere is so relaxed and informal, like you'd have years ago when you'd sit at someone's house and just play."

"The one thing I like about it is that jazz has often been associated with smoke-filled rooms. But the beauty of it shows up here in the church. It's a beautiful setting. People are here to listen, not to indulge themselves."

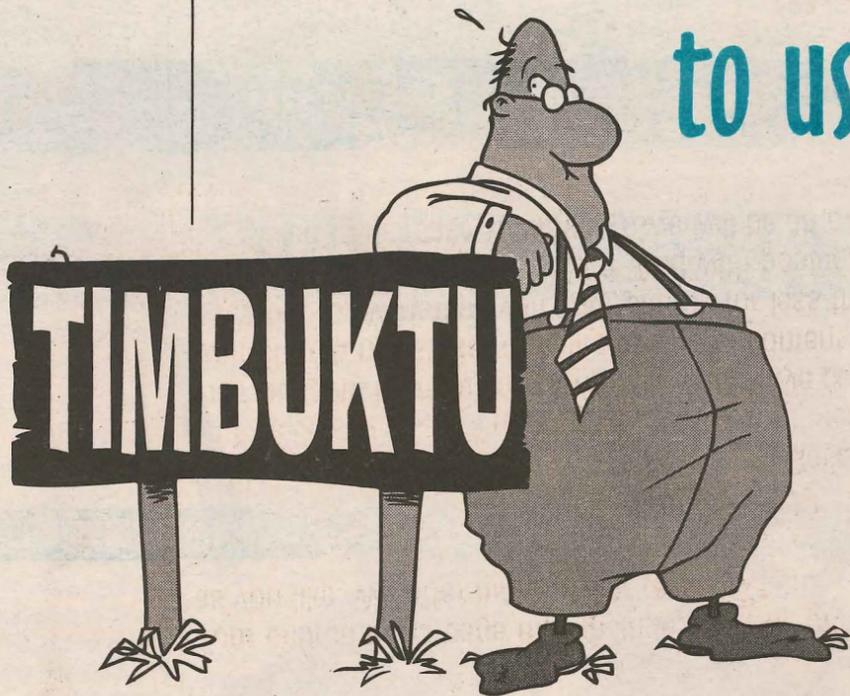
"You can look out there and know they appreciate what you're about, and that's not true in other settings," he notes.

Powell agrees, seeing jazz vespers as an outlet to express an important side of his musical experience. "I don't want the music to be contrived or rehearsed, but our music has gotten stronger and tighter the more we played."

"At first, we had a jam session attitude; now it's more an ensemble. The audience seems to respond to the improvisations."

**SPIRITUAL HELP** Southern Baptist home missionaries Julia and Thomas Diaz (left and right) pray with a Cuban refugee in Miami. The Home Mission Board-supported ministers meet with every rafter who comes through the Transit House in Miami, no matter what time of day or night. In 15 months of operation, the refugee ministry has recorded 2,000 professions of faith in Jesus Christ. (BP photo by Ken Touchton)

# 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