

February 21, 1995  
Vol. 169, No. 8

**CHURCH LEADERS**  
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**FOR THE RECORD**

**Writer quits**  
Carey Newman, a New Testament professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has resigned from writing the Ephesians volume in the New American Commentary series, saying politics has overcome scholarship in the series.  
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**Year-round missions**  
Lyndon Baptist Church in Louisville has developed a year-round missions awareness and involvement. *See page 3.*

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**Super bowl believers**  
An outreach program during the Super Bowl helped 24 people find new faith in Jesus Christ at Springfield Baptist Church. *See page 9.*

**Contract talks**  
Ralph Reed, executive director of the Christian Coalition, has said all Christians should read the Republican "Contract with America."  
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## Religious broadcasters gaining grassroots influence

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

NASHVILLE—Ask people on the street to name a religious broadcaster and they're likely to say Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell, Jimmy Swaggart or Oral Roberts.

But walk through the halls of the National Religious Broadcasters convention, and you're not likely to bump into any of those top-dollar televangelists. They're all members, and they may be in attendance. But at this convention, the superstars in the secular market are overshadowed by thousands of other religious broadcasters who not only appeal to the grassroots; they are the grassroots.

While the secular marketplace has focused on the trials and tribulations of a few flamboyant televangelists, a broader movement has been sweeping the nation nearly unnoticed. Hundreds of small Christian radio and

television stations have cropped up from Miami to Anchorage—and they're drawing an intensely loyal following.

"Christian" radio today is the third most-common radio format in the United States, according to Mark

national and regional producers of Christian radio programming.

"Christian" television also has thrived, with 163 stations reported last year.

And the future of Christian influence through television looks even

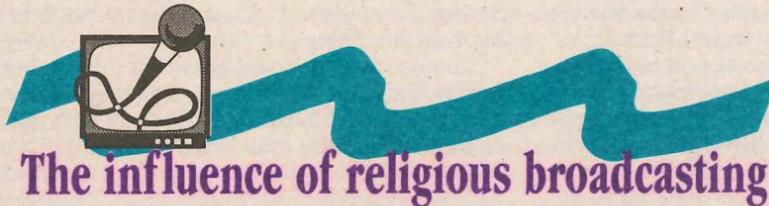
over 10 years ago, when Southern Baptists launched the ACTS satellite network, Johnson explained. "We did the network because we had to have a way to get programming on."

But today, more communications channels are available than are quality programs to fill them, he said.

Much of the religious programming broadcast on radio and television today is music and preaching. But a growing portion of it is talk-show and information-sharing.

One hundred seventeen of the Christian radio stations listed in this year's Directory of Religious Media carry a "news/talk" format. And most stations with other formats offer a variety of news and talk segments produced locally or syndicated nationally.

While these stations draw their content from a variety of sources, they share a common theme of commitment. *See Religious broadcasters ..., page 6*



### The influence of religious broadcasting

Ward Sr., editor of the 1995 Directory of Religious Media. One of every seven radio stations in America today has a "religious" or "gospel" format, he reported.

The directory lists 1,328 radio stations with a Christian format. These stations are served by more than 200

brighter as cable television systems expand to offer hundreds of channels rather than dozens, said Jack Johnson, president of the Southern Baptist Radio & Television Commission. "They will be desperately looking for quality programs."

This is a different day from just

## Be a missionary at home to influence missions overseas

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Think again next time you meet a foreigner at the neighborhood store or on a university campus.

That unassuming person could become a key to advancing the cause of Jesus Christ in foreign missions.

As the United States becomes an ever-more popular destination for foreigners to visit and get educations, Baptists have unique opportunities to befriend foreign guests who eventually return to their native lands as effective advocates for the gospel, foreign missions leaders explain.

In April, Emmanuel Anakwue will be released from a U.S. prison, where he's serving 33 months for drug running. In prison, he met Southern Baptist pastor Don Dennis and later accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior.

Anakwue completed MasterLife discipleship classes and began teaching them in prison. When he returns to his native Nigeria soon, he will teach a discipleship program under an agreement worked out between

Southern Baptist foreign missionaries and a Nigerian pastor.

Bill Wakefield, vice president for international outreach at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, helped broker that arrangement. He worked through Dennis, an ex-convicted pastor, who runs a ministry offering "aftercare" to converted prisoners. Dennis, who was preaching when Anakwue became a Christian, will introduce many foreign prisoners to Wakefield.

"The men we'll place in foreign countries—they're going to have fields of missions to people who've never been touched," said Dennis, who has numerous contacts within the federal penitentiary system.

Such potential missionaries don't just come out of U.S. prisons. Internationals come from everywhere to do a variety of things in the United States and play a variety of roles in their countries when they return.

"They are strategic because they *See Be a missionary ..., page 13*

## Millenium fever gaining speed

By Greg Garrison  
Birmingham News

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (RNS)—Charles Wheeling of Jemison, Ala., who travels the world speaking about biblical prophecy, remembers a public meeting several years ago in San Diego when a man got up and loudly claimed to be an angel of Revelation.

The self-proclaimed angel persisted in disruptively shouting his warnings of doom, so Wheeling had him ejected from the meeting.

Similar scenes are likely to increase as the year 2000 approaches, according to religion experts. Armageddon anxiety already is increasing, along with the number of doomsayers predicting the imminent demise

of the world.

Some religious believers expect apocalypse now. Others expect it later. Could the year 2000 be the long-awaited date Christians have been expecting for Jesus to return to judge the living and the dead?

"A lot of people are going to think it's important," said Ted Daniels, editor of the Millennial Prophecy Report newsletter in Philadelphia, who estimates there are about 350 groups expecting the end of the world by the year 2000.

But others allow a few extra decades, Daniels said. "The window extends from 2030 to 2040."

Wheeling, who founded Inspiration East Books in Jemison in 1980 *See Millenium fever ..., page 16*



**SYMBOL OF FAITH** An Indonesian woman publicly portrays her faith in Jesus Christ through believer's baptism. She was among more than 300,000 people led to profess faith in Jesus Christ last year through churches related to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board worldwide. This was the first year for FMB-related baptisms overseas to top the 300,000 mark. *See story on page 2. (BP photo)*

Moving? See page 4 (0221)

# BAPTISTS

## Southern professor quits commentary assignment

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

**"My commitment to the accuracy, the integrity, the truthfulness and reliability of holy Scripture has not changed. ... What has changed is the ever-growing politicizing of the series."**

Carey Newman, New Testament professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

A Kentucky professor has resigned his contract to write for the New American Commentary series, claiming politics has overtaken scholarship in production of the series.

Carey Newman, assistant professor of New Testament at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, was to write on Ephesians for the series, published by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

He is the second writer to back out of the series in as many months. Stephen Wyrick, a religion professor at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Texas, withdrew from the Joshua commentary in January, citing disputes with Sunday School Board editors over biblical dating.

The New American Commentary series was launched in 1987 to present an inerrantist view of Scripture. To date, 15 of the 42 planned volumes have been published. Newman's volume on Ephesians was to have been published next year.

Newman notified the publisher of his withdrawal Feb. 10. Newman explained the reasons for his decision in an interview last week.

The commentary series has become "caught in the undertow of the larger Southern Baptist Convention context," he said.

"As I understood it when I agreed to be a contributor, the series intended to be a rallying point for evangelical scholarship among Baptists,

something of a catalyst to get us beyond the ever-growing impasse in the SBC," he said. "I now fear the original intention of the series has changed."

Sunday School Board officials rebutted Newman's claims that the series has changed.

"We cannot control perception, but the reality is that the purpose of the New American Commentary has not changed," said Charles Wilson, Sunday School Board vice president for trade publishing.

Sunday School Board President Jimmy Draper said Newman's concerns "though not founded on fact are real to him, and we must accept his decision. We will continue to work within the guidelines we all accepted for the New American Commentary, and I am confident God will bless our efforts."

Newman said his action should not be construed as withdrawal from the SBC or from conservative biblical scholarship.

"My commitment to the accuracy, the integrity, the truthfulness and reliability of holy Scripture has not changed. The Bible is as faithful as God is—no more and no less," he said. "What has changed is the ever-growing politicizing of the series."

Writing for the commentary series is now perceived both inside and outside the SBC as submission to a particular political agenda within biblical conservatism, Newman suggested.

"Being a part of the series speaks volumes on where one stands within

the SBC. And thus, as a matter of conscience, I felt I must resign," he said.

Newman, 35, admitted resigning such a plum assignment could damage his career and label him among some of his peers. But he asserted he doesn't belong to "any political party" and is not "a lieutenant for anybody."

Rather, he finds himself in the "conflicted experience" of being neither a moderate nor political conservative in the SBC, he said.

David Dockery, Newman's dean at Southern Seminary and associate general editor of the commentary series, said he was saddened by Newman's withdrawal. Dockery previously served as general editor of the series and recruited Newman for the assignment before either of them had moved to Southern Seminary. He has agreed to write the Ephesians commentary in light of Newman's resignation.

Dockery said he admires Newman's abilities, scholarship and evangelical commitment to Scripture. But he disagrees with Newman that anything has changed about the series.

"I am convinced that the original vision, goals, purposes and editorial policies that have existed for the project since its inception are still in place," Dockery said. "I have the highest support for and confidence in the editorial leadership of Ray Clendenen."

Clendenen, the new general editor of the series, has been the target of previous criticisms. Robert Sloan

of Baylor University resigned his role as a consulting editor of the series in 1992 to protest Clendenen's election, calling it a "partisan choice."

Clendenen declined to comment on Newman's resignation, deferring to the statement issued by Wilson, his supervisor.

Dockery said he had read part of Newman's initial work on the Ephesians commentary and was pleased with what he saw.

Newman admitted in an interview that writing on Ephesians could have created tension between him and Southern Seminary's president, Al Mohler. But that was not a direct cause of his withdrawal, he said.

Ephesians contains key passages related to the doctrines of election and predestination, lynchpins in a theological system known as Calvinism which Mohler embraces.

"Calvinism has become an issue of great debate at Southern Seminary," Newman said. "That the president embraces five-point Calvinism is a matter of public record."

"Although we never have held a formal conversation on the matter, my only informal discussion with him of my views on Ephesians 1:4-5 made it clear the position I was going to take in the commentary was irreconcilable with his position."

"So while it is not accurate to say that the issue of Calvinism led me to this decision, it is true this decision was made in this larger context," Newman said.

## FMB trustees adopt 7 basic guidelines

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)—Seven basic principles have been adopted by trustees to undergird the work of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Trustees adopted the principles during their Feb. 13-15 meeting on the campus of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. Also during the meeting, the FMB appointed 44 new missionaries in the first FMB appointment service ever held on the campus of a Southern Baptist seminary.

The seven principles declare:

■ "Our basic commitment is obedience to the lordship of Jesus Christ and God's infallible word."

■ "Our basic belief is that Jesus Christ is God's only provision for salvation and that people without personal faith in him are lost and will spend eternity in hell."

■ "Our basic means of understanding and fulfilling God's mission is prayer."

■ "Our basic purpose is to provide

all people an opportunity to hear, understand and respond to the gospel in their own cultural context."

■ "Our basic task is evangelism through proclamation, discipling, equipping and ministry that results in indigenous Baptist churches."

■ "Our basic strategy is to send and support gifted, God-called missionaries who, with mutual respect, accountability and cooperation, carry out the Great Commission in an incarnational witness."

■ "Our basic role is to lead and facilitate the international missionary involvement of Southern Baptists in partnership with overseas Baptists and other Christians who are fulfilling the Great Commission."

Responding to a motion from the floor after approval of the principles, trustees voted unanimously that they be given the opportunity to sign the principles to signify agreement.

Trustees also pondered, without any action, whether missionaries and top-level FMB staff should be asked

to sign the document.

In other business, trustees passed actions to safeguard against conflict of interest by trustees, staff and their relatives and to outline wording to be used in reporting termination or resignation of missionaries who depart under less-than-satisfactory conditions.

The conflict of interest policy declares that the board "shall refrain from conducting business with any business enterprise in which a trustee, employee or relative of either has direct or substantial interest."

Exceptions would be granted only with the full knowledge of the trustees under specific circumstances.

Missionaries who are terminated or resign for severe problems related to performance or lifestyle will have the notation in their records: "failure to perform duties in keeping with the expectations for missionaries" or "failure to maintain a lifestyle in keeping with the expectations for missionaries."

## Overseas baptisms top 300,000 for first time

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Baptisms related to Southern Baptist foreign mission work worldwide totaled 302,132 in 1994—the first time annual baptisms ever have topped 300,000.

That total also marks a tripling of the annual baptism report since 1980, the first year baptisms surpassed

100,000 in churches related to Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board missionaries. Baptisms topped 200,000 for the first time in 1987.

FMB President Jerry Rankin said the 300,000 baptisms probably represent 1 million professions of faith in Jesus Christ. "Only a portion (of new converts) follow through immediate-

ly in baptism. We don't report professions of faith or try to compile them officially, but it indicates the level of evangelism being done and the level of response."

The 1994 baptism total is the fourth record year in a row, and shows a 15 percent increase over 1993's count.

"Actually the Greek word for tithe means 25%



Dr. Sheldon Stanwick takes advantage of his congregation's lack of knowledge of the Greek language.

## Lyndon Baptist Church stays on mission year-round

By Joyce Sweeney Martin  
Staff Writer

LOUISVILLE—A young adult Sunday school class cooks and serves Sunday lunch once a month to the homeless at Jefferson Street Mission.

Several women spend one day each week volunteering as Pink Ladies in local hospitals.

Quilters keep three frames going. Proceeds from the sale of the quilts go to a mission offering or to the church's benevolence or building funds.

A church member serves on the board of Eastern Area Community Ministries, an interdenominational social service agency.

Such hands-on missions involvement is the norm at Lyndon Baptist Church. Including the entire church in discovering and meeting needs is "nothing new for us," said Woman's

Missionary Union director Kay Jordan. "We've done this for all the 33 years I've been a member."

Through bite-sized projects such as weekly collections of used clothing for Jefferson Street Mission and grocery receipts and soup labels for spending money for children at Kentucky Baptist children's homes or through more time-intensive projects such as those mentioned above, Lyndon members seek to serve and love Christ by serving and loving others, said Pastor Raymond Bailey.

"We are a lay-oriented church," Bailey said. "Many of our members minister quietly and silently with no grand show. In fact, it's not unusual for me to hear for the first time from someone in the community about a ministry in which a member is involved."

Keeping ministry projects before the people is one of the roles of

WMU, Jordan said.

Many WMU-sponsored projects become all-church projects as Sunday school classes and church members hear about needs and get involved.

For example, last fall Sunday school members joined WMU in providing lunch for 200 University of Louisville Medical and Dental School students.

"Many of these students are doctors from other countries getting their licenses to practice in the States. This is fertile missions territory," Jordan explained.

At Christmastime, church members donated 300 bags of jewelry for Baptist East Nursing Home to use as prizes at residents' parties. A men's Sunday school class gave 300 pairs of shoestrings to the Infant Resource Project in downtown Louisville.

Each spring WMU sponsors a church-wide shower for the indepen-

dent living project of a local detention center. Items unearthed during spring cleaning are repaired and delivered.

Twice a year the church collects 60 bags of groceries for the Eastern Area Community Ministries benevolence work.

In addition to WMU-led projects, the church works through short-term task forces appointed to meet specific needs, Bailey said. Once a need has been met, the task force disbands.

In keeping with the church's mission statement to reach out "to meet spiritual, emotional and physical needs in our community and throughout the world," Lyndon's long-range plans call for every church member to be involved in hands-on ministry outside the four walls of the church by the end of the decade, Bailey said.

Idealistic? Maybe.  
"But we believe it can be done," Bailey said.

### BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ An art scholarship worth \$1,600 will be offered by Campbellsville College March 4. Prospective art students are invited to present their portfolios at 9 a.m. as part of full day's activities planned for art students. For more information about the scholarship competition, call (502) 789-5268.

■ Six \$500 scholarships are to be awarded by the Women's Association of Georgetown College. The scholarship will be given to outstanding women leaders who are either high school seniors planning to attend Georgetown College or freshmen or upperclassmen already attending the college. Application deadline is April 1. For details, call (502) 863-8010.

■ Dawn Welch of Bardstown was crowned Valentine Pageant queen at Campbellsville College Feb. 10. She will represent the college this spring at the annual Mountain Laurel Festival pageant in Pineville.

■ Three Kentucky teens have been selected for the 110-voice Hymnody Heritage Youth Choir, formed to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Southern Baptist Convention's founding. The choir will perform this summer at the SBC annual meeting in Atlanta and will travel to Scotland and England. Kentuckians selected for the choir are Kerry Davis of Adairville Baptist Church in Adairville, Sean Durkin of First Baptist Church in Middletown and Amber Kempthorne of First Baptist Church in Russell Springs.

## Kentuckians help get new Toledo center

TOLEDO, Ohio—Baptists in Toledo, Ohio, have a new Baptist Center building, thanks to help from Kentucky Baptists.

The need for a new Baptist Center building was highlighted in the Aug. 9, 1994 issue of the Western Recorder as part of a larger report on the Kentucky-Ohio Baptist partnership.

"On Dec. 20, we were able to purchase a building for the center, thanks to a generous donation for the downpayment from First Baptist Church of Perrysburg," said Director Bonnie McMinn.

"I know that individuals from Kentucky have been praying for this to happen. I want to thank you for your prayer support. It is God who supplied," McMinn continued.

The new building is only a few blocks from the current building, which means the center will not lose contact with people already familiar with the ministry, McMinn said.

The new facility includes a full basement, which will house children's ministries, clothing storage and a recreation area.

The first floor will include a reception room, clothing rooms, a large area for worship and a kitchen.

The second floor will include an office, facilities for literacy training, several classrooms, storage and a lounge.

And because the new building has central heat and air, the kerosene heaters used in the old building no longer will be needed, McMinn reported.

## Baptist named Kentucky's 1995 Junior Miss

By Melanie Childers  
Staff Writer

ELIZABETHTOWN—Maintaining composure and upholding Christian values set the stage for Amanda Case to become Kentucky's 1995 Junior Miss, she said.

Case received the award Jan. 8 at a statewide competition in Bowling Green. She previously had been named Hardin County's Junior Miss.

A member of Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown, Case, 17, teaches 4-year-olds in Sunday school and participates actively in the church's music and youth programs. Case's father, Allen, serves as the church's minister of music.

With no crown and no swimsuit competition, Junior Miss is not the same as a pageant, Case explained. "Looks are not it. It's personality—being an all-around person. Pretti-ness won't win it for you."



Amanda Case

Junior Miss recognizes young women based on their performance in five categories: scholastic achievement, interviews, talent, fitness and presence and composure.

Case credited the church with helping her develop a holistic and healthy balance to life.

"The church has helped shape who I am," she said. "From the answers I gave the judges, the morals and values from church definitely came through."

Christian faith also helped her maintain a sense of composure, she added: "I said a little prayer every time I went on stage and every time I left the stage. ... My faith definitely helped."

Junior Miss awards prizes in the form of college scholarships. Case has received nearly \$6,000 in scholarships so far. She plans to enroll at the University of Kentucky next fall.

Case will represent Kentucky at America's Junior Miss competition in Mobile, Ala., in June.

"I just thank God for giving me the opportunity and this honor—and the ability to be who I am," she said.

## Arlington man has taught discipleship 60 years

By Melanie Childers  
Staff Writer

ARLINGTON—Robert Hocker Jr. has led church and associational discipleship ministries long enough to call the roll recounting the organization's various names.

The Southern Baptist program now known as discipleship training began as BYPU—Baptist Young People's Union, Hocker said.

He first led Junior BYPU about 60 years ago.

Although the name has changed numerous times—to training union, church training and finally discipleship training—Hocker has offered consistent leadership at First Baptist Church in Arlington and in West Kentucky Baptist Association.

"He's done everything you can do in the department—he and his wife both," said Charles Blair, associational director of missions. "There is probably no one else in the entire Southern Baptist Convention who has been as active in all of our training work over as long a period of time—

all the way from BYPU to discipleship training."

Hocker, 81, and his wife, Mary Helen, have coordinated the association's discipleship training ministries for more than 50 years, Hocker said.

"I'm the figurehead, she's the worker," he said, indicating they have found fulfillment as a leadership team.

He also continues to work at the family-owned general store, which he described as an "overgrown country store." Hocker's Inc. features a food market, furniture and appliances.

Hocker acknowledged he has seen many changes in methods churches use to provide training for their members.

"The principles have been the same, but the way they've been administered in the churches is different," he said. "There are less specifications made now. Churches can do different things according to what they feel their needs are."

That's largely because much more material is available now than in 1940 or even in 1970, he explained.

"Before, there was more or less a curriculum for each age group," Hocker said. Now, leaders can choose from a broad spectrum of doctrinal and biblical studies, church study courses, MasterLife, Christian parenting studies and other practical topics, he said.

While the couple has coordinated many activities on the associational level, they also have remained active in their home church, First Baptist of Arlington.

For example, they always have enjoyed working with children—especially coaching them in Bible drills. "We're trying to learn from them as they learn from us," he said. "I believe we've had 14 (state winners) represent the state of Kentucky at Ridgecrest or Glorieta."

One of Hocker's greatest challenges has been finding someone willing and committed to accept the associational position after him, he said.

"If we had someone as good as the Hockers to lead every department, we'd have the best association in the USA," Blair declared.

# OPINION

## 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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## Aid for Africa

Sen. Mitch McConnell, chair of the Senate foreign operations subcommittee, has proposed revisions in U.S. foreign assistance programs. His bill would slash programs that most effectively enable the world's poorest people to overcome poverty.

McConnell would abolish the U.S. Agency for International Development, despite its impressive reforms toward fostering long-term sustainable foreign aid, based only on narrow calculations of U.S. economic and security interests (interests

that presumably do not include reducing poverty, population growth and environmental damage in poor countries).

And ignoring clear lessons from countries like El Salvador and Somalia, McConnell would increase military aid.

Will we ever learn?

McConnell would eliminate the African Development Foundation and the Development Fund for Africa—proven programs that support some of Africa's own greatest success stories. Why does he want to abandon Africa now? Is he unaware of the disastrous effects of U.S. cold war policies on that long-suffering continent? Should we pour money into crisis after crisis or fund intelligent assistance programs that prevent humanitarian disasters?

One of McConnell's aides recently told me the senator does not believe there is any support in Kentucky for foreign aid—especially for Africa, since such aid does not foster U.S. interests!

Is he right?

Let's prove that large numbers of Kentuckians care deeply about Africa and favor cost-effective programs that support the creative efforts of

Africans to bring justice and peace to their continent.

Write Sen. McConnell. Oppose this short-sighted and hard-hearted bill.

Rick Axtell  
Louisville

## No endorsement

I must respond to Eddie Mitchell (WR, Feb. 7).

If, in his judgment, the word of God is outmoded, then he has a big problem. Romans 1:26-32 is very clear concerning the sin of homosex-

uality and the consequence not only for those who practice such things but also for those who give hearty approval of those who practice them.

While I believe we should love and pray for the deliverance of homosexuals, just as we should do for all other sinners, we cannot condone or endorse their destructive behavior.

The only "scientific" evidence supporting the claim by homosexuals that they were "born that way" is highly questionable, since most of the research was done by homosexuals.

Once again, I refer Mr. Mitchell to what he believes to be an outmoded idea, Genesis 1:27-28. My Bible says God created male and female and instructed them to be fruitful and multiply. This can only be the result of a heterosexual relationship.

I would not let an alcoholic who continued to get drunk or a drug addict who continued to use drugs serve in leadership, no matter how talented they were, and neither would I allow a practicing homosexual.

God's grace is not an endorsement of sin, but rather the forgiveness of sin. And those who refuse to confess and repent of their sins will face God's judgment.

I feel sorry for Mr. Mitchell and

others who deny their sin and refuse the grace and justice of God in their lives.

Leonard Martin  
Louisville

## Support for SOS

Melanie Childers' article on Jim Powell's SOS Christian Fellowship (WR, Jan. 17) was excellent!

Not only was it professional, but its content was encouraging and challenging.

I was shocked to read the complaint that "the voice of Kentucky Baptists" should not use its funds to report on such activities (WR, Jan. 31). Although Powell and his congregation may not be especially concerned with "maintain(ing) their Baptist heritage," they reveal a true concern for reaching the lost by pioneering a ministry to an unreached field in our own state.

Kentucky Baptists should be shamed and convicted that they do so without full Baptist support.

Jesus surprised people expecting condemnation with his love for them. Remember Zaccheus? The woman at the well? If Kentucky Baptists are concerned with the lost, we must take Powell's ministry as a challenge to find those who don't look like us, act like us or even like us, and show them Jesus died for them as well.

The biblical call to come out and be separate refers to this kind of life, not to the vehicle we drive or the clothes we wear.

I Corinthians 9:22 says, "I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some." Are we willing to depart from the comfort of our traditions and do the same—for the sake of others' souls? I am so thankful that Jim Powell is!

Kristina Stollger  
Richmond

## BAPTIST FORUM

## Our Doris

The following article appeared in the winter issue of "Update," a publication of the SBC Historical Commission.

I know of no one who more deserves this tribute than our own Doris Yeiser.

"During World War II, Doris Yeiser worked on Ken-Rad's (later General Electric) first two-way communication tube in Owensboro, Kentucky, knowing little about the Kentucky Baptist Convention or Southern Baptist history.

"Yeiser, a native of Owensboro, had hoped to go to the foreign mission field as a young girl, but as the daughter of a farmer recovering from the Depression, she knew that money to prepare for such a career did not exist.

"Taking extension courses through Campbellsville College, Yeiser worked for eight years at Ken-Rad before becoming church secretary for First Baptist, Owensboro.

"It was during her time at First Baptist that Yeiser became acquainted with the KBC. In 1951, she ap-

plied for and was accepted as the first secretary in the KBC's new Department of Missions and Evangelism. Three years later, she was invited to become the secretary for the convention's executive secretary-treasurer, Dr. W. C. Boone. In the years that have followed, Yeiser has served as administrative assistant to three additional executive-secretaries.

"During these years, the excellence of Yeiser's work did not relate to the KBC exclusively. She also began membership with and held offices in the Business and Professional Women's Club of St. Matthews, the Kentucky Federation of Business and Professional Women, the National Federation of Business and Professional Women, and the Council of Women Presidents in Louisville. Yeiser has served on the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Louisville and the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Kentucky.

"Yeiser has also earned respect for the way she has battled cancer. In 1978, 1979, and 1980, she required surgery to combat the disease. Doctors told her she would not live more

than six months. But Yeiser kept going.

"At her retirement in 1988, at the request of Dr. Bill Marshall (the KBC's current executive-secretary), Yeiser began setting up the convention's first archives.

"Since that time, Yeiser has held this part-time position with full-time responsibilities. The archives now occupies its own space in the KBC building and Yeiser is looking forward to the day when the completion of an annex allows the archives to move into its new facility.

"In May, 1989, Georgetown College presented Yeiser with the Doctor of Laws Degree and in October of that same year she was elected president of the National Conference of Women in Chambers of Commerce. Currently, she is the Kentucky trustee for the Historical Commission, SBC.

"Through it all, Yeiser has served Southern Baptists as a single woman. 'In those early years, I feared single life,' Yeiser recalls, 'but after the services at an evangelistic conference, I surrendered that fear, not publicly but to the Lord. I have not known fear since that time.'"

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

## ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall



## FAMILY FORUM: AGING

### Mission statement

By John Lepper

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." These words from the Bible are true for nations, churches, organizations and individuals. Recent years have seen a return to this concept; mission statements seem to pop up everywhere these days. I recently have seen mission statements in a church bulletin, at a grocery store and at a rest stop on the interstate. Clear mission statements help organizations and even individuals thrive.

"First Things First," a book by Stephen Covey and Roger and Rebecca Merrill, encourages the development of a personal mission statement. A personal mission statement is based on principles and connected to a higher purpose than self. It reflects individual gifts and also integrates a person's roles.

What roles would you identify for yourself? They could include your role within your family, such as spouse, parent or grandparent. Roles also could include your relationship to a job, to your church, to a civic organization and to your community.

The book suggests an exercise which helps develop a clear mission statement: Begin by jotting down the roles in your life (limit these to seven). Next, imagine yourself to be 80 years of age. Imagine someone important in each of your roles paying tribute to you. After jotting these down and reflecting on them, develop a one-sentence mission statement for each role. You may then wish to write a paragraph which captures your mission.

It is easy to go through the motions of our daily routine with little thought of how these tasks relate to our mission for life. Developing a personal mission statement can help us rekindle a vision and purpose for life. It can empower us to live life fully.

No matter your age, a mission statement can give an added spark to life. You as an individual have been endowed by God with unique gifts, a unique set of circumstances and the ability to make a unique contribution to the world. No matter your age, you are a person of worth created in the image of God with a unique mission. Claim it and live it!

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

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

# EDITORIALS

## Relationships take time, even in this Instant Age

Have you ever stood beside your microwave oven, waiting for your soup to heat or the water for your coffee to boil, and fumed, "Why can't this thing work any faster?"

Welcome to Instant America. We're the country where the fax machine has replaced the bald eagle as our national symbol. "In God we trust," seems to have been supplanted by "Overnight delivery" or "In by 9, out by 5."

Not so very long ago, futurists predicted new high-speed machines would make our lives simpler and easier. They spoke of devices that came right out of the pages of science fiction. Like computers, faxes, modems, arthroscopic surgical tools and an array of similar items. They promised us these space-age instruments would help us do our work faster and better, leaving us with more time for leisure and family.

Well, they were half right. We can do more things faster than before. But now we expect (or are expected) to do three or four things in the time we used to require to do one, and we expect (or are expected) to do at least two things at the same time. If a computer with a 486 chip can process 83 gazillion items at once, why shouldn't the operator at the keyboard keep up? Now, leisure sounds like science fiction, and free time seems like a dream.

Of course, these so-called advances aren't all bad. Many of them save lives, and countless others enhance specific qualities of life. Some enable us to accomplish helpful tasks we could not have imagined before.

Unfortunately, technological advances ushered in an ugly downside. Stress, particularly in the workplace, has skyrocketed. And since human beings don't do a good job of compartmentalizing their feelings, those stresses spill over into relationships with family and friends. "When it positively, absolutely has to be there in the morning," we spend all night worrying about it. And we fuss at the kids and scowl at the spouse.

This instant age has manifested ill will in another portion of our lives as well. In an era of home shopping, we expect our spiritual desires to be filled and returned via overnight delivery. We want our prayers answered yesterday. We want spiritual maturity, and we want it now. We want the new preacher to bring in new converts and balance the budget during the first quarter. We want instant church and automatic, state-of-the-art spir-

ituality.

Problem is, the social and spiritual dimensions of our lives can't be filled, processed and shipped by computer. We're relational beings. Relationships—with each other and with God—take time. They need to be nurtured and developed. Not in a microwave in less than two minutes. But between one another, over time. This calls for patience, a devalued commodity in our day.

But active patience is vital if our spiritual and social selves are to be well. "Active patience" sounds like an oxymoron, a self-contradictory phrase. How can a person be active and patient at the same time?

Well, we start with patience, the willingness to take the time required to accomplish our purpose. Some things, especially relationships, require time. Friendships—with people or with God—need plenty of conversation. They need thought. They need good will. They need personal favors and little surprises. And all that happens over time.

That's where the active part comes in. Rather than expecting the completed product immediately, we spend our time working on the little things that make up the whole. While we wait for God's answer to our prayer or for our relationship to mend, we do what we can do. On the spiritual side, we seek God through prayer and Bible study. We participate in 26-week courses that prepare our hearts and minds to accept and do God's will. We seek the counsel of wise saints among us. We worship, and we wait. Similarly, in our relationships, we do what we can. We take time for long talks and quiet evenings together. We leave the workplace worries at the door when we enter the room. We listen. We put the concerns of the other ahead of our own.

Somehow, we've got to pull back from our hectic schedules and instant deadlines. We can, when we realize the rewards of patiently developed relationships far out-weigh the instant gratifications of immediate response.

This especially is true in the spiritual realm. As the prophet Isaiah noted, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." That promise is worth the wait.

Marv Knox

**We live in an age of immediate gratification, and we expect to get what we want right now. But relationships—with God and with other people—require time to cultivate and develop. So, despite the pressures of instant access and do-it-yesterday technology, we must practice active patience if we want to enjoy deep spiritual and social relationships.**

## Joy comes as a gift from God, wrapped in the Holy Spirit

One of the persistent temptations is to create joy without confession and repentance of sin. Only those who suffer from chronic depression don't desire

### MINISTERIALLY SPEAKING

joy, happiness, exciting and uplifting day's experience.

Our temptation is to try and create our own joy and happiness. We can easily recognize this temptation—if we want to see it. We will want something outside ourselves to make us

happy: A new job; a vacation; a different church; a change in marriage partners; a new wardrobe—and on and on. It is true that such changes can re-

new our energy level. However, in a short time our level of energy will have diminished and we are back where we were, only worse in many ways.

Real joy comes from inside—what the Bible calls our soul, spirit or heart.

Joy is an inside job. It is a gift from God wrapped in the Holy Spirit. It comes when the soul desires to receive the gift and asks for it in the way of preparing for its coming. That asking or preparation always has required confession of sin and repentance. When we want guests at our home, we both ask them to come and we also prepare our homes for their arrival. Doing one without the other is a half-hearted gesture that results in a prepared house but no invitations being sent or the invitations sent but

the house looks like we were not sincere.

Joy comes as a guest sent as a gift from God when we invite joy into our lives and prepare for its coming by seeing our sin (confession) and cleaning it out (repentance). When it has to do with real joy, deep peace and a renewed spirit, look within your soul. If joy was once a guest in your life, has sin crowded it out?

Rick Landon, pastor  
Trinity Baptist Church  
Lexington

## If our dog ever learns to spell, we won't have any privacy at all

"Mama, do you think Betsy can S-P-E-L-L?" Molly asked Joanna the other day. At the moment, Betsy was following them up the basement stairs and seemed blissfully unaware she was the subject of serious speculation.

But that's an intriguing question: Can Betsy spell?

Betsy's smart, all right. She knows enough to ring the bell by the back door to tell us she needs to go out to do her business. And she has my late-night routine figured out to a T, understanding exactly when it's time to leave her waking-hours bed in the den and head to her nighttime bed upstairs.

She's also better at mime than Marcel Marseau. She can communicate exactly

when she wants to eat and exactly where she wants to be scratched. On top of that, she reads body language so well I just know she knows my next move.

But I don't think she can spell. Not yet, anyway.

Most dogs can't spell.

And besides, if she could spell, she'd start leaving little notes. She'd scribble "Milk Bones" on the grocery list. Or she'd write a message on our neighbor's car window: "Leave 2 lbs. of beef tenderloin under the streetlight by midnight, or it's cur-

tains for your cat."

So, no, I doubt Betsy can spell.

However, what fascinates me even more than the possibility of Betsy spelling is the notion of why Molly thinks that's important.

As an 8-year-old, Molly long ago figured out spelling is the code grownups use to keep little ears out of conversations. And as a good reader, she quickly broke that code.

In the good old days, when the girls were young, Joanna and I could keep secret stuff to ourselves.

Jo could ask, "Do you want to go to



D-A-I-R-Y Q-U-E-E-N?" And I could ponder my answer without the pulsating pleading of preschoolers.

But the girls eventually learned to spell; first Lindsay, and then Molly. Now, their mama and I have to steal away from earshot to do logistical planning. And we've got to wait until after we get home on Sunday to share the latest gossip from church.

So, life's more complicated now. I've thought about enrolling the adults in our family in a conversational Japanese course, just so we can have private talks without waiting until after the kids' 9 o'clock bedtime.

But if the dog learns to spell, I'll have to keep all my opinions to myself.

Marv Knox

## Religious broadcasters gaining grassroots influence

### Christian radio in Kentucky

- **Barbourville:** WYWY-AM 950; contemporary Christian, Southern gospel and teaching/preaching.
- **Beattyville:** WLJC-FM 102.1; Southern gospel.
- **Cannonsburg:** WOKT-AM 1040; News/talk.
- **Corbin:** WKDP-AM 1330; contemporary Christian.
- **Danville:** WDFB-FM 88.1; Southern gospel and news/talk.
- **Danville:** WDFB-AM 1170; News/talk and Southern gospel.
- **Eddyville:** WWLK-AM 900; Southern gospel.
- **Elkton:** WEKT-AM 1070; Southern gospel and teaching/preaching.
- **Falmouth:** WIOK-FM 107.5; Southern gospel.
- **Grayson:** WKCC-FM 96.7; contemporary Christian.
- **Greenup:** WLGC-AM 1520; contemporary Christian, news/talk, teaching/preaching and Southern gospel.
- **Hardin:** WVHM-FM 90.5; Southern gospel. (Also heard in Central City area on 103.5.)
- **Hazard:** WJMD-FM 104.7.
- **Hindman:** WKCB-AM 1340; Southern gospel and teaching/preaching. (Also heard in Whitesburg and Hazard at 99.5.)
- **Hopkinsville:** WNKJ-FM 89.3; teaching/preaching.
- **Keavy:** WVCT-FM 91.5; Southern gospel and teaching/preaching.
- **London:** WMAK-AM 980; Southern gospel and teaching/preaching.
- **Louisville:** WJIE-FM 88.5; contemporary Christian and teaching/preaching.
- **Louisville:** WFIA-AM 900; teaching/preaching.
- **Louisville:** WHKW-FM 103.9; contemporary Christian.
- **Louisville:** WLLV-AM 1240.
- **Madisonville:** WSOB-FM 89.9; Southern gospel and teaching/preaching.
- **Manchester:** WWXL-AM 96.9.
- **Manchester:** WWXL-FM 1450; News/talk, contemporary Christian and teaching/preaching.
- **Maysville:** WFTM-FM 95.9; Southern gospel.
- **McDaniels:** WBFI-FM 91.5.
- **McKee:** WWAG-FM 107.9; Southern gospel.
- **Middlesboro:** WMIK-AM 560; News/talk, Southern gospel and teaching/preaching.
- **Middlesboro:** WMIK-FM 92.7; Contemporary Christian.
- **Morehead:** WMOR-AM 1330; Southern gospel.
- **Murray:** WNBS-AM 1340; Southern gospel and teaching/preaching.
- **Paris:** WYGH-AM 1440.
- **Pikeville:** WJSO-FM 90.1.
- **Salyersville:** WRLV-AM 1140; Sacred and Southern gospel.
- **Scottsville:** WLCK-AM 1250; Southern gospel.
- **Somerset:** WTHL-FM 90.5; Teaching/preaching, Southern gospel and sacred.
- **Stanford:** WRSL-AM 1520; Southern gospel and teaching/preaching.
- **Stanton:** WBFC-AM 1470.
- **Upton:** WJCR-FM 90.1; Southern gospel.
- **Vancleve:** WMTC-AM 730; teaching/preaching.
- **Vancleve:** WMTC-FM 99.9; teaching/preaching.
- **Versailles:** WJMM-FM 106.3; contemporary Christian.
- **Wickliffe:** WBCE-AM 1200; Southern gospel.
- **Wilmore:** WACW-AM 1610; contemporary Christian.

The above listings are for Kentucky radio stations listed in the 1995 Directory of Religious Media, published by National Religious Broadcasters. Copies of the complete directory may be purchased for \$69.95 by writing to NRB at 7839 Ashton Ave., Manassas, Va. 22110.

Continued from page 1

ment to conservative religious teachings and conservative political positions.

"The influence of Christian broadcasting is much stronger than most anybody would believe," Johnson said. "The recent reshuffling politically certainly had some influence by religious radio."

Some in Washington got an early warning of this mounting influence one year ago, when the House of Representatives was considering legislation that would have restricted home schoolers.

Home schooling is a hot button for conservative Christians who make up a major portion of Christian radio's audience. So radio programs nationwide sounded the alarm, and concerned listeners started calling their congressmen.

An estimated 1 million calls jammed the Capitol switchboard. As a result, the threatening legislation died.

That incident "awakened some people to the influence of Christian radio," said Tom Strode, communica-

tions director for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission's Washington office.

Strode said he believes Christian radio has caused more Christians to get involved in the political process. "Because of what they've heard on Christian radio, Christians have learned they need to become involved," he explained.

Strode said the CLC also realizes

it now is a cornerstone of the USA Radio Network, which he founded in 1985.

Maddoux claims "Point of View" is "the world's largest live radio ministry."

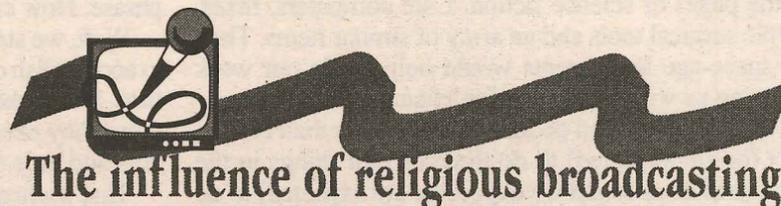
The USA network now has more than 1,200 affiliates which carry some combination of the network's offerings, including "Point of View" and USA Radio News, a 24-hour national news service reporting from a conservative standpoint.

Other major suppliers in the Christian talk-radio format include Focus on the Family Satel-

lite Network and Salem Radio Network.

"Focus on the Family," the flagship program of the network by the same name, is the top-syndicated daily radio program in the U.S. religious market. It airs on more than 1,400 stations nationwide.

Salem Radio Network offers a variety of talk shows and commentaries, including a weekly program by conservative newspaper columnist Cal Thomas, a favorite of the Religious Right.



The influence of religious broadcasting

Christian radio provides an excellent outlet for their message.

"If one of our people gets on Marlin Maddoux's 'Point of View' ... we know we're reaching a lot of Southern Baptists we wouldn't otherwise reach," he said. "In some cases, we reach a higher percentage of Southern Baptists than we reach through our normal means."

Maddoux is becoming one of the most powerful influences on Christian talk-radio. He began "Point of View," his own talk show in 1975 and

## Broadcasting convention shuns Clinton

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

NASHVILLE—Bill Clinton wasn't invited to the National Religious Broadcasters convention again this year, but convention-goers could pick up free copies of "The Clinton Chronicles Book" in the exhibit hall after Sunday morning worship.

"The Clinton Chronicles Book" is the written form of the controversial video series promoted by televangelist Jerry Falwell. The book and videos attempt to link Clinton to a bizarre history of criminal and sexual acts, including murder-for-hire, money laundering and numerous extra-marital affairs.

Clinton has dismissed the accusations as outlandish, as have numerous others both inside and outside the White House. Evangelical author Tony Campolo recently challenged Falwell to grant him equal air time to rebut the charges against Clinton.

Although the NRB enjoyed cozy relationships with Republican presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush, the NRB and Clinton have been at odds from the start.

Reagan accepted invitations to address the NRB five times in his eight years as president, and Bush spoke to the group three times in his four years as president. Both men were invited to the NRB every year of their presidencies.

The religious broadcasters invited Clinton, a Southern Baptist, to speak to their annual gathering in 1993, his first year as president. But the invitation came too late, or Clinton didn't see the need to accommodate the NRB, depending on who tells the story.

The next year, Clinton wasn't invited at all. And this year, the president was purposely left off the invitation list a second time.

NRB leadership issued a three-paragraph statement explaining why Clinton was not asked to this year's convention, despite a longstanding tradition of inviting the sitting president.

"During a White House briefing with Baptist leaders and religion journalists in October, President Bill Clinton again reiterated his position on the issues of abortion and homosexuality by claiming the Bible is 'ambiguous' about them. Statements such as these reaffirm our decision to withhold an invitation to address our convention from the president," NRB leaders said.

"We cannot give a platform to a leader who so aggressively supports and puts forth policies and positions which are blatantly contrary to Scriptural views," the NRB statement said.

The NRB also found itself at odds with another Southern Baptist president, Jimmy Carter, according to "Air of Salvation," a new history of religious broadcasting written by Mark Ward Sr.

Although many religious broadcasters supported Carter at first and were thrilled with his open testimony of faith in Jesus Christ, they ultimately disowned him, Ward reports.

This event was the turning point in transforming religious broadcasters from merely preachers into dispensers of conservative-oriented news, Ward suggests. He quotes Ben Armstrong, longtime NRB executive director, as saying religious broadcasters in 1976 discovered they had "a new commission to reclaim our na-

tion for God and to rescue it from the erosion of secular humanism."

By 1980, when Carter was seeking re-election, religious broadcasters faced a decision, Ward writes: "What was most important in a political leader? His personal faith? Or his public actions? In President Carter they had a sincere brother of like faith, one who faithfully upheld his commitment in private but whose public leadership allowed the liberal agenda to prosper."

Ultimately, the religious broadcasters declared Carter to have "faith without works," Ward reports.

That same year, candidate Reagan spoke to religious broadcasters and other evangelicals at the National Affairs Briefing in Dallas.

"Now, I know this is a non-partisan gathering, and so I know you can't endorse me," Reagan said in that now-famous speech. "But I want you to know that I endorse you and what you are doing."

Despite the NRB's unofficial alliance with conservative politics, prominent political figures of any stripe were not to be found at this year's annual convention at Opryland Hotel in Nashville.

Clinton wasn't there, but neither were any of the newly empowered Republican leaders from Washington or any presidential candidates for 1996.

But politics wasn't far from the minds of many NRB members apparently. A Sunday afternoon book-signing by the author of "The Clinton Chronicles Book" drew a large crowd.

Eager readers formed a line half the length of the massive exhibit hall to get the free, autographed copies.

## Rogers: Don't sacrifice truth for unity

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

NASHVILLE—Drawing an illustration from his experience in the Southern Baptist Convention's 15-year internal struggle, Adrian Rogers urged the nation's religious broadcasters Feb. 11 never to sacrifice truth on the altar of unity.

The religious spectrum today is "not a matter of right or left," Rogers said, but "a matter of right or wrong."

"It is better to stand alone with the truth than to stand with the multitude for a lie," Rogers told the opening session of the National Religious Broadcasters convention at Nashville's Opryland Hotel.

Southern Baptists know Rogers as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., and a three-time SBC president. But NRB members know him as host of the "Love Worth Finding" preaching program, which airs daily on 75 radio and television stations.

Most religion today is "get-alongism," Rogers said, warning that he fears movement toward a world church.

"Sometimes denominations have to stand alone," he added, citing the battle for control of the SBC since 1979. Rogers has been a key player among conservatives who have wrested leadership from moderates in a 15-year campaign for theological purity.

Some within the SBC's moderate wing have noted all Southern Baptists—conservatives and moderates alike—would fall to the right of most religious bodies, Rogers said. The implication is that those Rogers and other conservatives would brand "liberal" aren't really liberal at all when viewed as part of the whole religious community.

"So what?" he retorted, saying there is no comfort in how one's position compares with the rest of the

world. A person's theological understanding is either right or wrong, he said.

Rogers based his message on the biblical account from I Kings 22, in which the prophet Micaiah stands against the bad advice of 400 other prophets who said only what the king wanted to hear.

As with Micaiah, the message God gives a person to speak may not be pleasing or prudent, but it must be spoken, Rogers said.

He cited five points about telling God's truth.

First, "It is better to be divided by truth than united in error," he declared.

"Not only is Jesus Christ the great unifier; Jesus Christ is the greatest divider ever to hit the earth."

Second, "It is better to speak the truth that hurts and then heals than falsehood that comforts and then

kills," Rogers said.

He lashed out at "user-friendly" churches, saying, "It is not friendship if we fail to declare the whole counsel of God." The church's job is not to make the gospel palatable, but profitable, he asserted.

Third, "It is better to be hated for telling the truth than to be loved for telling a lie," Rogers said.

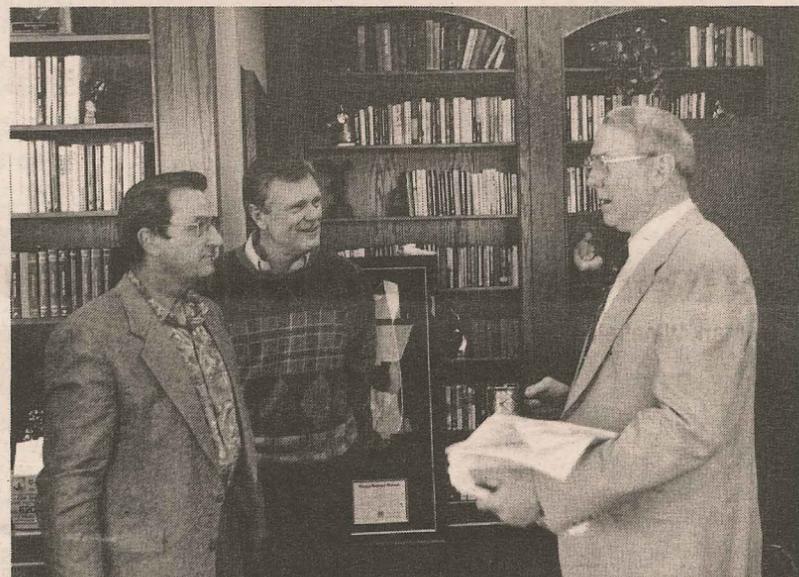
Fourth, "It is better to stand alone with the truth than to stand with the multitude for a lie."

In addition to his comments on the SBC, Rogers at this point used Noah as an illustration. By today's standards, Noah would be considered a bigot and a fundamentalist, Rogers said. But Noah "went into the ark a minority (and) came out a majority," Rogers declared to thunderous applause.

Fifth, "It is better to ultimately succeed with the truth than to temporarily succeed with a lie," Rogers said.



Adrian Rogers



**BAPTIST CONNECTIONS** Some of the Southern Baptist Convention's more prominent leaders also are known nationally for their work in religious broadcasting. Former SBC presidents Ed Young, Charles Stanley and Adrian Rogers each have large broadcasting ministries. Young is shown in this 1993 photo visiting with James Dobson of Focus on the Family and Jimmy Draper, president of the SBC Sunday School Board. Dobson had invited the two Baptists on his radio program to talk about the "True Love Waits" sexual abstinence movement.

## Satellite technology will take Graham closer to the world

NEW YORK (RNS)—Capping a half-century career, evangelist Billy Graham will conduct a \$25-million worldwide revival meeting in March, speaking via satellite to more than 8 million people at 2,200 locations.

"This is not mass evangelism," said Graham spokesman Larry Ross. "It's personal evangelism on a mass scale."

In a technological feat that experts say will surpass the last Olympic games and World Cup soccer competition, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association will hold its "Global Mission" March 16-18.

While millions have watched Pope John Paul II or the Super Bowl on television, this will be different because Graham intends to use technology to appear as if he were at each venue.

"There's never been a time in my life that I've seen people so hungry and so anxious to find something that brings peace and satisfaction and joy

to their hearts," Graham told reporters at a recent news conference.

The Global Mission, using 30 satellites and covering 29 time zones, will be the largest, most ambitious outreach of the Christian church, Graham organizers said.

The evangelist will preach from San Juan, Puerto Rico, on March 14, 15 and 16. Each sermon will then be translated into 45 languages and edited into one of eight pre-produced culturally tailored packages.

"People in South America have different heroes and different music than people in Asia," Ross noted.

The crusade packages then will be transmitted by satellite non-stop around the world to churches, town halls, soccer stadiums and outdoor amphitheaters.

By using translators, the Graham organization expects the Global Mission to be heard in 102 languages.

Even earthquake-torn Kobe, Japan, will participate, said Bob Wil-

liams, director of the Global Mission. Before the quake leveled portions of city, the crusade was to be seen in 30 sites. Now there will be one open-air meeting on a bulldozed city block, Williams said.

Technicians at each site will record the crusade from the satellite feed for broadcast on 40-foot high screens.

"There's never been anything like this before," said Kimithy Vaughan, co-owner of Vision Accomplished, a California company that worked on the last Olympics and is handling the Graham satellite extravaganza. "It's phenomenal."

Such a complex satellite system is vulnerable, especially to breaking major news stories during Graham's global meeting. "What we are worried about," said Williams, "is if there's a major news story like O.J. Simpson or a war, then we'd get bumped off the satellite. Maybe not all of them, but some of them."

The satellite sermons will be seen

### Top syndicated daily radio programs

1. "Focus on the Family" with James Dobson.
2. "Adventures in Odyssey."
3. "Insight for Living" with Chuck Swindoll.
4. "In Touch" with Charles Stanley.
5. "Grace to You" with John MacArthur.
6. "Back to the Bible" with Woodrow Kroll.
7. "The Christian Working Woman" with Mary Whelchel.
8. "Songs in the Night" with Erwin Lutzer.
9. "Truths that Transform" with D. James Kennedy.
10. "Radio Bible Class Daily" with Martin DeHaan.

### Top syndicated weekly radio programs

1. "The Lutheran Hour" with Dale Meyer.
2. "Focus on the Family Weekend" with James Dobson.
3. "Unravelling the New World Order" with Larry Bates.
4. "Unshackled!" with Bob O'Donnell.
5. "The Hour of Decision" with Billy Graham.
6. "Revivaltime" with Dan Betzer.
7. "A Visit with Mrs. G" with Kitty Anna Griffiths.
8. "Children's Bible Hour" with Charles Vander Meer.
9. "Radio Bible Class Weekly" with Martin DeHaan.
10. "Back to Genesis" with Mark Lody.

### Top syndicated radio spots

1. "MovieGuide" with Ted Baehr.
2. "Christian College Sports" with Norm Whilhelmi.
3. "James Dobson Family Commentary."
4. "Un Mesage a la Conceiencia" with Paul Finkenbinder.
5. "Family News in Focus" with Rob Gregory.
6. "Freedom Under Fire" with John Whitehead.
7. "Guidelines Commentary" with Harold Sala.
8. "Joni and Friends" with Joni Eareckson Tada.
9. "Para Ti Mujer" with Maria Miranda.
10. "Enfoque a la Familia" with James Dobson.

These rankings are based on information provided to National Religious Broadcasters and published in the 1995 Directory of Religious Media.

in about 250 locations in the United States, but Graham is concentrating on reaching the rest of the world.

"Americans are not going to come out to a cinema or stadium and watch something coming from Puerto Rico," Graham said. "They've heard me so many times anyway. Most of the people we're going to be going to have heard of us but they've never seen us in person."

After the three-day international revival meeting, Graham's organization plans to broadcast an edited version around Easter on prime time network television to an estimated 1 billion people in 100 countries, including the United States.

Graham began using satellite evangelism in 1989 when he broadcast from London to 33 countries in Africa.

In 1993, Graham's Essen, Germany, crusade was broadcast via satellite to more than 1,400 sites in 45 languages to 55 countries.

# Here's Hope TODAY



## Young people lead the way in Bell City's witnessing

### "HERE'S HOPE TODAY"

is a joint effort of the Western Recorder and the Kentucky Baptist Convention evangelism office. This supplement will appear in the Recorder through the end of March to support the "Here's Hope. Share Jesus Now" campaign.

The supplement is produced by the Recorder staff and State Correspondent Ken Walker. If you have a "Here's Hope" success story to share, please tell us about it by calling (502) 244-6470.

BELL CITY—The first two people to walk forward on "Here's Hope" commitment day at Bell City Baptist Church are living proof that you don't have to be a longtime Christian to tell about the Lord.

Ten-year-old Harold Brown and young adult Jamie Hughes became Christians just last summer. But they have been the most active participants in the "Here's Hope" witnessing campaign, said bivocational Pastor Bill Dodson.

"At last count Harold had already talked to 120 people," said Dodson, a contractor who lives in Murray, 16 miles from the small southwestern Kentucky community where the church is located.

The two young witnesses are among 11 church members who committed to participate in the 60 days of witnessing associated with the "Here's Hope" campaign. Those 11 who committed represented one-third of the attendance on commitment day, a percentage that "pleasantly surprised" the

pastor.

Dodson said evangelism is especially important in this community that is so small "the welcome and hurry back signs are on the same post." Any death or addition to the church makes a big impact in such a place, he said.

That's why there was such excitement about the six adults and five young people who committed to "Here's Hope."

"It's brought everyone's attention to the fact that reaching people is a priority," Dodson said. "We have to reach others because we're so few. Not many people move in, so everyone counts."

Although the church hasn't recorded any baptisms yet, the campaign has identified strong prospects.

"I keep encouraging members to keep showing people their tracts," Dodson said. "I think this is one of the best things the Home Mission Board has ever done. We ought to use what they've given us because it's good stuff."



Brother Clem's evangelism technique wasn't particularly effective until someone clued him in to the Certs Factor.

# YouthFest '95

YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

Youthfest '95 is a weekend of high energy, challenge, motivation and decision designed for Kentucky's youth. The two-day conference is specifically planned to minister to youth and youth leaders. The event is sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Office for Evangelism. Today's youth face many challenges and fears.

This year's conference will encourage youth to experience a life in Jesus Christ in order to deal with the fear and challenges they face. Don't miss the opportunity to join 6,000 youth and their leaders for this weekend of celebration, challenge, fun and motivation. Conference information is listed below. Call the Office for Evangelism for more information at (502) 245-4101.



Jerry Johnston  
Speaker



The Matthews  
Worship Leaders



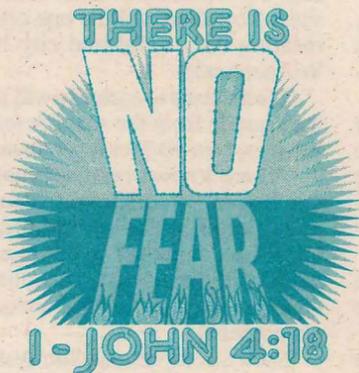
Point of Grace,  
Christian Artists



IMAGES  
Drama and Creative



ALICIA  
Christian Artist



Friday-Saturday, June 9 & 10, 1995  
Frankfort Civic Center, Frankfort Kentucky

\$5 per person advance registration • \$6 per person at the door  
Doors open at 5:30 p.m., June 9, and the conference begins at 7:00 p.m.

# Here's Hope TODAY



## 24 trust Christ at Springfield Super Bowl event

SPRINGFIELD—The first spiritual decision recorded during Springfield Baptist Church's "Here's Hope" campaign occurred before anyone had a chance to put their witnessing training into practice.

The convert came from the ranks of the 80 people who turned out for the church's training session, held the first evening of the 60-day campaign.

Ironically, the woman in her early 20s had been invited by a friend, Joyce Bagwell, a regular visitor to Springfield but not a member at the time.

The two were completing an outline designed to help Christians deliv-

er a short testimony of their faith when the woman suddenly stopped writing.

"I can't lead someone to Christ," she told Bagwell. "I'm lost myself. I've never had a relationship with Jesus Christ."

After learning about the woman's predicament, Pastor Ken Graham asked if she could meet with him the next afternoon.

"We had a long discussion and she said she realized she was needing something in her life and it was Jesus," Graham said. "It was really exciting to see that even a workshop can lead people to the Lord."

Equally thrilling is the fact that the woman wasn't the only new Christian baptized this past Sunday at Springfield. The three others baptized included a woman who had been raised a Catholic but recently discovered the need for a personal relationship with Jesus Christ; a physician raised in the Hindu religion who attended services at the invitation of his business partner; and the 12-year-old son of a church member.

But the biggest "Here's Hope" event at Springfield Baptist Church happened during the Super Bowl Jan. 29. Though the church still held

evening services that Sunday, it hooked up its video projection system in the fellowship hall for 140 football fans. Teens made up about 65 percent of the crowd.

After seeing an evangelistic video at halftime, 24 people filled out cards indicating they had prayed to receive Jesus Christ as Savior.

"When we have 24 people receiving Christ, we know we're doing the right thing," the pastor said of some who criticized the outreach. "It's exciting. I'm excited for the Lord. God is doing some great things and we're just trying to get the message out."

## Boys weren't just rowdy; one wanted to know Jesus

SOMERSET—When Garland Brinson prayed in January that he would be able to lead someone to Christ in 1995, he didn't know God would answer so fast.

About three weeks later, the assistant Royal Ambassadors leader at Rock Lick Baptist Church in Somerset noticed a couple of boys talking during their Wednesday night RA meeting.

When he tried to get them to settle down, one youth who has been a Christian for a year told Brinson his friend wanted to know how to become a Christian.

"I thought they were doing the usual thing," Brinson said of the peppy 10-to-14-year-old group.

Nevertheless, he took the boy into a quiet room and showed him what the Bible says about how to become a Christian.

"He knelt and said his own prayer: 'Lord, I'm a sinner. I want you to save me now. I don't want to go to hell when I die.' And he was sincere."

Afterward, the 13-year-old boy shared his decision with the other RAs, who were "overjoyed," Brinson said.

A longtime employee at a plumbing equipment manufacturing plant,

Brinson said the experience has been good for the other boy who watched the witnessing session.

"He's quieter than he was and it seems he takes things a little more seriously," said Brinson, who just began assisting RA leader Roger Young last month. "We have two more boys in the class who are starting to ask questions, so maybe we'll have a chance to lead them to the Lord before the year's over."

The youth was the second teenager to become a Christian that week at Rock Lick Baptist Church, which averages 100 for Sunday morning attendance.

These commitments are exciting results for the "Here's Hope. Share Jesus Now" effort, said Pastor David Evans.

Evans recently led his congregation in a witness training program. However, the only commitment he asked of the congregation was to pray for 60 days leading up to spring revival services April 2-9.

"It's been a blessing to see people coming to the Lord and doing what's right," Evans said. "I'm thankful for how the Lord has put it all together. It amazes me."

### WHERE'S HOPE?

## The work God requires: Believe

I love to work. I don't mean at the computer-telephone-chair a meeting work. I mean farm cap-muddy boots-ride a tractor work.

For 10 years before becoming president of our school, I was dean of boys and work program supervisor. My domain included everything from boys to bulldozers.

Now my staff smiles on those rare occasions when they see me in my "work clothes." They know if I can trade my suit for blue jeans, even for a few hours, I'm a happy man.

The crowds who thronged after Jesus knew what it was to work. So they asked him one day, "What must we do to do the work God requires?"

Our Lord's answer was surprisingly simple: "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." (John 6:28-29)

God has made it so easy for us to come to him; just believe. We need not do anything to earn his love. In fact, we cannot do anything to earn his love. The only way to the heart of God is by faith in his Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus took our sins upon himself when he died on the cross. Now we are forgiven and made right with God—if we truly believe.

I confess I am sometimes discouraged at how few people do believe. I sit in our school's

chapel service each day and look into the faces of the students. Scores of them are not Christians. Many seem to have no interest at all in the message. They don't want to hear, much less believe.

I gave my life to Christ at age 16. That very night my mother stood next to me in the church service. I knew she needed the Lord every bit as much as I did. I begged her to join me in following him. She shook her head, saying "I just can't."

I accepted Christ's work on the cross, and he accepted me with open arms.

Since that day I have served God in many ways; not in trying to earn his favor, but in gratitude to him who has given me new life.

Are you ready to do the work God requires? Then come to him in repentance. Come to him in faith. Come to him in commitment.

Just believe.

— Bud Underwood, president of Oneida Baptist Institute

■ For more information about how to become a Christian, or for spiritual assistance, please contact a Baptist church in your community or call the Western Recorder collect at (502) 244-6470.

### 20 IDEAS FOR SHARING YOUR FAITH

1. Invite a friend to a concert, revival or special worship service at your church. After the service, go out for dessert and talk about the message presented in the service.

2. Send a birthday card to a friend. Enclose a personal note sharing your spiritual birthday.

3. Clip an article from a daily devotional guide and mail it to a friend who needs to know Jesus. Include a personal note conveying love and compassion.

4. Subscribe to a favorite devotional guide or Christian periodical for a friend.

5. Write a letter of encouragement to a college student.

6. Write a letter or note of thanks to one who serves in the military. Include a Scripture reference of I Corinthians 2:9.

7. Design a business card to in-

roduce yourself. Include a gospel presentation on the back of the card.

8. Take contemporary Christian tapes and CDs to a juvenile detention center, youth-receiving home or shelter. Attach a note to each item sharing John 3:16.

9. Leave copies of Christian magazines in a laundromat. Write the name of your church and a note on each copy.

10. Leave a sealed candy bar or snack near the electric meter attached to your home. Attach a tract or a note of "Good News" to the candy bar and state that you would like to share both.

11. Leave a cold drink of water for the person who picks up your gar-

bage. Attach a note including John 4:14.

12. Leave a "Here's an Extra Tip" tract (available from Broadman Press) with your gratuity at restaurants.

13. Ask your pastor to make a 10- to 15-minute video presenting the plan of salvation. Share the video with a lost friend.

14. Go to the local place where neighborhood boys shoot basketball. Ask if you can join the game. Ask if you can share a Bible verse with them before you leave.

15. Use the tract "Thank You" (available from Woman's Missionary Union) to express appreciation to one who has served you, such as a

hairdresser or clerk.

16. Visit a lonely senior adult living at home, in a retirement center or in a nursing facility. Share John 14:1-6 and present the gospel.

17. When someone greets you with "have a good day" respond with, "Thank you. That makes me feel good. Now, let me give you some good news. Has anyone told you today that Jesus loves you?"

18. Wear a T-shirt with a Christian message.

19. Give your personal testimony. Practice giving it by sharing it with a friend. Ask if your friend has had a similar experience.

20. Write a note of congratulations when a friend, neighbor or family member is recognized for success.

Adapted from the HMB brochure "Sixty Ways for Sixty Days."

# HOT TIPS

## Senior adults

Warm up the church van and get ready to bring a group of friends to the senior adult retreats scheduled for May 15-17 at Cedarmore Assembly and May 22-24 at Jonathan Creek Assembly. The retreats offer a variety of workshops, worship sessions and more.

## Welcome!

Ministers new to Kentucky and people new to the ministry are invited to a "Welcome to Kentucky" banquet and orientation hosted by the KBC minister/church relations division April 17-18 in Louisville. For details, call (502) 245-4101.

## Singles Retreat

"Growing Stronger in Life" is the theme of this year's Single Adult Retreat, slated for March 17-19 at Cave City Convention Center.

## Blow your horn

The Church Music Instrumental Workshop for Kentucky Baptists is April 28-29 at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

## Singing children

Get ready for a summer music camp for older children sponsored by the KBC church music department. Dates are July 24-28. The location is Cedarmore Assembly.

## Inspirational

Attend this year's Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference and gain inspiration for sharing your Christian faith with others. The conference will be held at Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville Feb. 27-28.

# EVENTS

## FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

### PASTORS, EVANGELISM LEADERS, CHURCH LEADERS

## Evangelism Conference a celebration of Jesus

Kentucky Baptists will join together in a celebration of Jesus Feb. 27-28 during the annual state Evangelism Conference.

This year's conference features praise and worship, drama and inspirational messages to help all believers share their faith in Christ with others. In addition to general sessions, participants also may choose from a variety

of special-interest luncheons on Tuesday. A special Tuesday event is planned to highlight women's evangelism efforts.

Program personalities include musicians Squire Parsons, Cynthia Winfree, Ken and Lois Holland, the Celoria Family, the Kentucky Baptist Singing Women and the Kentucky Baptist Chorale.

Also participating will be professional bass fisherman Terry Chupp, who will talk about marketplace evangelism, and John Kramp, author of the new book, "A Theology of Lostness."

All sessions are free, except for the luncheons. Advance reservations are necessary for the luncheons only.

Load up the church van and come to any of the sessions or all of the ses-

sions. This year's conference will appeal to pastors and laypeople alike.

Monday's sessions begin at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tuesday's sessions begin at 9 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. All sessions are at Walnut Street Baptist Church in downtown Louisville.

Information: Call the KBC evangelism office at (502) 245-4101.



Celoria Family



Roy Fish



John Sullivan



Terry Chupp



Ed Vaughn



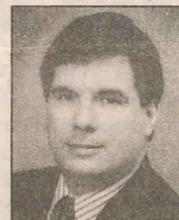
Lincoln Bingham



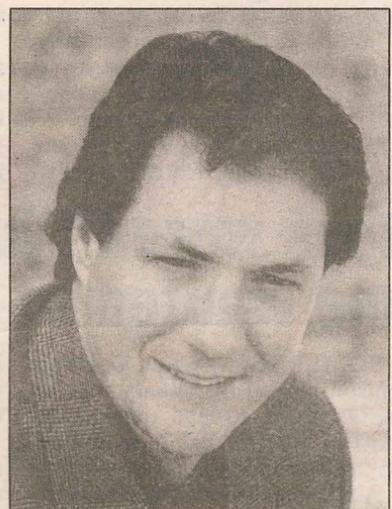
John Kramp



James Blevins



Thom Rainer



Squire Parsons

### SENIOR ADULTS & SENIOR ADULT LEADERS

## Celebrate with senior adults!

One-day celebrations for senior adults will be held in four locations across the state this spring by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's family ministry department.

These celebrations offer:

- A boost in self-worth and sense of usefulness.
- Opportunities for fellowship with new and old friends from all size churches.
- Challenging and inspirational programs to deepen your spiritual life.
- Support for senior adult ministries in local churches.

Each celebration includes lunch, two general sessions and two periods for special interest conferences. Seminar titles vary by location but include topics such as "Fitness for Seniors," "Grandparenting by Grace," "Safety, Scams and Security" "Making the Most of Your Money" and "Retreading, Not Retiring."

Cost: \$5 per person in advance or \$6 per person at the door or less than a week in advance.

Information and registration: Contact the KBC family ministry department at (502) 245-4101 or Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433.

**Paducah**  
 ■ Where: Lone Oak First Baptist Church.  
 ■ When: March 21, from 9:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 ■ Program: John Laida, speaker from Clarksville, Tenn., and Joe Mason, humorist.

**Madisonville**  
 ■ Where: First Baptist Church.  
 ■ When: March 23, from 9:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 ■ Program: Drama group from First Baptist Church of Mount Washington and Joe Mason, humorist.

**Ashland**  
 ■ Where: First Baptist Church.  
 ■ When: March 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 ■ Program: Creative worship led by Rose Marie and Bob Lehman, humorous presentation by Joe Mason.

**London**  
 ■ Where: First Baptist Church.  
 ■ When: March 30, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 ■ Program: Dramatic worship led by James Blevins, music by the Penny Loafers.

## Partnership missions opportunities

■ New Beginning Baptist Church in Pangrutch, Utah, needs help with vacation Bible school July 24-28.

■ First Baptist Church of Burley, Idaho, needs a volunteer team to hang 50 doors and do general carpentry work in March or April, as well as another team to lay 1,500 square-feet of carpet, hang a drop ceiling and do other carpentry in April. A third team is needed to help with summer camps, VBS and youth work.

■ First Baptist Church of East Carbon, Utah, needs two volunteer teams: one to help with VBS and the other to help with witnessing.

■ First Baptist Church of Kearns, Utah, needs 10 adults to help with

VBS July 17-23, as well as volunteers to help with church repairs and literature distribution.

■ Alta Canyon Baptist Church of Sandy, Utah, needs volunteers July 17-23 to help with VBS, backyard Bible club, visitation and building repairs.

■ Eastgate Community Church of Williamsburg, Ohio, needs a team of men and women to conduct a survey.

If you or others from your church can help meet these requests for volunteers, please contact Calvin Wilkins at the KBC partnership missions office by calling (502) 245-4101 or writing to Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253.

## Learn about migrant ministry

Did you know 75 percent of Kentucky's counties will become temporary homes for migrant workers this year?

These migrant workers generally come from Hispanic backgrounds, are poor and know little about a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

"In some cases, fear prevents us from becoming involved because we often do not know how to help," said Renato Santos, KBC language missions consultant. "Sometimes our help stops at providing an occasional meal or worship service. Neither of these actions is enough.

"Migrant ministry should minister to the whole person—body, soul and spirit. Migrant ministry must be friendship-making, so migrant know we love them as they are," he said.

Several Kentucky Baptist associations and churches have developed

effective ministries to migrant workers, and they'll be telling their stories during three Migrant Ministries Conference across the state in March.

Keynote speaker at all three locations will be Mauricio Vargas, language and ethnic missions director for the Missouri Baptist Convention.

Dates and locations: March 9 at Temple Baptist Church in Owensboro; March 10 at Mallard Point Baptist Church in Georgetown; and March 11 at Seaverns Valley Baptist Association's office in Elizabethtown.

Cost: Free.

Bonus: A free luncheon will be provided.

Pre-registration: Give your name and location of conference you will attend to KBC direct missions department by calling (502) 245-4101 or writing to Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253.

# EVENTS

## FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS



### YOUTH & DRAMA LEADERS

## Get dramatic for ministry

Creative ministry is the focus of this year's Drama, Puppetry and Clowning Festival.

Actors, puppeteers and clowns of all ages and experience levels are invited to this two-day conference at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown.

Here's a sampling of seminar topics:

- "Adapting Scripture for Performance."
- "Storytelling."
- "Directing Basics."
- "Puppetry Basics."
- "Puppet Directors' Symposium."
- "Fundamentals of Clowning."
- "How and Why to Do Church Drama."
- "Drama Resources."

This year's conference also includes an opportunity to have your Friday night performances critiqued.

■ **Dates:** March 3-4.

■ **Place:** Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown.

■ **Cost:** \$30 per church.  
 ■ **Schedule:** Friday from 5:30-10:30 p.m.; Saturday from 9:15 a.m. to 4 p.m.

■ **Registration:** Call (502) 245-4101 or write to Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253. Pre-registration deadline is Feb. 28.



### MUSIC MINISTERS, PARENTS, MUSIC LEADERS

## Children's camp offers music & more

Your children can return from camp singing a happy tune this summer if they attend the Older Children's Music Camp sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention church music department.

This five-day camp is for children who have completed the fourth, fifth or sixth grade by June 1995.

Participants will learn to play Orff instruments, handbells and recorders. They also will sing, worship, perform in a talent and skit night, swim, sing around the

campfire and enjoy other recreation.

This year's camp clinician is Kathy Collier, director of the Young Musicians choir at Highland Baptist Church in Louisville and an early childhood music specialist at Second Presbyterian Church weekday school in Louisville.

Camp pastor is Mark McClintock, minister to children at Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church and an accomplished ventriloquist.

The week offers children opportunities to grow musically and spiritual-

ly and to meet other children from across the state.

■ **Dates:** July 24-28.

■ **Location:** Cedarmore Assembly.

■ **Cost:** \$79.

■ **How to pre-register:** Send registration form directly to Cedarmore, along with deposit.

■ **Information:** Contact KBC church music department at (502) 245-4101 or write to Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253.



### CHURCH MEDIA LIBRARY WORKERS

## Extensive media library training available

Church media library workers from the eastern half of the United States will gather in Nashville March 23-25 for a national seminar at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Keynote speaker will be Becky Freeman, co-author of "Worms in My Tea and Other Mixed Blessings."

The conference also will feature authors of 10 new church media library books teaching their subjects.

Seminar topics offered include:

- "Preparing Print Media for Circulation."
- "Preparing Audiovisuals for Circulation."

■ "Church Media Library Administration."

■ "Improving Your Image and Appearance."

■ "Care and Repair of Books."

■ "Displays in Small Areas."

■ "Great Commission Evangelism."

■ "Basic Computers and the Master Library System Program."

■ "Promotion Plus."

■ "Using the Dewey Decimal System."

■ "Using Sears Subject Headings."

■ "Audiovisual Hardware: Selection, Circulation and Maintenance."

In addition to the structured content, participant will have opportuni-

ties to develop a network of friends also interested in church media library work. You can swap ideas and find contacts for future assistance.

■ **Dates:** March 23-25.

■ **Location:** Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville.

■ **Cost:** \$81, including notebook and three meals.

■ **Pre-registration:** Space is limited, so it is important to pre-register. For a registration form, contact the Sunday School Board at 127 Ninth Ave. North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234, (615) 251-2000. Registration deadline is March 8.

### Deadline nears

Don't forget: reservations for "Discovery 95" youth weeks sponsored by the KBC student ministry department are due soon.

Requests postmarked March 1 will receive first consideration. Reservation forms were mailed earlier to all KBC churches.

### Go to camp

Don't forget March 1 is the date to have your request postmarked for the KBC's summer youth camps, "Discovery 95."

### Calling Acteens

The annual State Acteens Conference is set for March 31-April 1 at Central Baptist Church in Winchester. Deadline for advance registration is March 24.

### Migrant ministry

If you want to learn more about ministries with migrant farm workers, plan to attend one of three migrant ministries conferences offered across the state in March. The events are free, but pre-registration deadline is March 6.

### Youth missions

Get your youth group ready for summer ministry by attending the Youth Missions Workshop March 3-4 at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown. Sessions to be offered include crafts, games, inner-city missions, Kentucky Changers, music, backyard Bible clubs and personal witnessing.

### Library alert

Get help for organizing your church media library at the National Church Media Library Seminary slated for March 23-25 in Nashville.

## KBC Calendar

### February 24

■ Appreciation banquet for Russia volunteers, Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown

### February 24-25

■ Deacon, Pastor, Spouse retreat, Jonathan Creek  
 ■ State Youth Choir Festival at Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green

### February 25

■ All-State Youth Choir/Orchestra auditions at Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green  
 ■ South Central region Mission Congress at Campbellsville Baptist Church  
 ■ Western Region Mission Congress at Hyland Baptist Church of Henderson

### February 26

■ Volunteers in Missions Day

### February 27-28

■ Evangelism Conference at Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville

### March 3-4

■ Drama, Puppet & Clowning Festival at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown

### March 4

■ All-State Youth Choir/Orchestra auditions at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington  
 ■ Handbell Festival at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington

### March 5-12

■ Week of Prayer for home missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

### March 6

■ "Partners with God" and LIFE Support conferences at Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville

## Are you ready for a retreat?

If you're planning a retreat or training session for a church group, consider the benefits of a get-away to Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly. This is a great time to come to Jonathan Creek, because discount rates are available through April.

Nestled along the shore of beautiful Kentucky Lake, Jonathan Creek offers the serenity of a quiet retreat and the excitement of one of America's most enjoyable recreational settings.

The 125-acre retreat is located three miles west of the entrance to the Land Between the Lakes. Numerous attractions are nearby, including water sports, three state resort parks, a planetarium, shopping, restaurants and historic sites.

Jonathan Creek provide clean, comfortable facilities at competitive rates. And the staff works diligently to meet the meeting needs of churches, associations, family reunions and other groups.

It's not too early to begin scheduling events at Jonathan Creek for the fall.

For additional information or to schedule an event, call Sherrie Phillips at (502) 354-8355.

### ACTEENS, WMU LEADERS

## State Acteens meeting set

More than 1,000 teenage girls from across Kentucky will gather at Central Baptist Church in Winchester March 31-April 1 for the Kentucky Acteens Conference.

Conference leaders include Trish Landers of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, who wrote the new Acteens song, "Together, Hand in Hand," and Laura Lee Chamblee, a creative home missionary serving in New England.

Participants will enjoy great music, inspiring missions speakers, 16 special-interest conferences and more. Acteens who have completed a level in the StudiAct program during the past year will be recognized during the Friday evening session.

■ **Dates:** March 31-April 1.

■ **Place:** Central Baptist Church in Winchester.

■ **Times:** From 7 p.m. Friday through 4:30 p.m. Saturday.

■ **Cost:** \$12 per person.

■ **Pre-registration:** Mail registration form and money to Kentucky WMU, Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253.

■ **Information:** Call Kentucky WMU at (502) 245-4101.

# HOT TIPS

■ **Videos available.** The new videos of T.W. Hunt's "Mind of Christ" series are available on loan from the KBC media department. The series has 12 parts, each 30 minutes in length. To borrow the videos, contact Ruby Morgan at (502) 245-4101.

■ **Weekday education** The annual KBC training seminar for church weekday education workers will be held June 3 at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville and June 24 at Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland. Participants may receive six hours of state-required credit. Cost is \$10. Pre-register by calling the KBC Sunday school department at (502) 245-4101.

■ **Help with money** "Live Wisely" is a new course in personal money management and stewardship developed by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. Consultants from the KBC discipleship training department are available to lead these one-day conferences in your church. Call (502) 245-4101.

■ **Doctrine study** Church leaders planning to teach the Southern Baptist Convention's 1995 doctrine study, "Partners with God," will benefit from a training conference offered at four locations statewide in March.

# EVENTS FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS



Summer may seem far off in these cold days of winter, but now is the time to make plans for summer camps for children and youth.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention sponsors a variety of camping programs for boys and girls and for youth. Most of these camps are held at Cedarmore Assembly near Shelbyville and at Jonathan Creek Assembly on Kentucky Lake.

The KBC Executive Board's recent decision to terminate its ownership of Cedarmore does not impact this summer's programming. Camping programs will continue this year at both Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek.

For questions about camp programs, contact the appropriate KBC department. To make camp reservations, contact the appropriate campground directly.

## Youth camps

- June 12-16 at Cedarmore
- June 19-23 at Cedarmore
- June 26-30 at Cedarmore
- July 3-7 at Cedarmore
- July 10-14 at Cedarmore
- July 10-14 at Jonathan Creek
- July 17-21 at Cedarmore
- July 24-28 at Jonathan Creek
- July 31-Aug. 4 at Cedarmore

■ **Cost:** From \$89 to \$102 per person.

■ **Program information:** Contact KBC student ministry at Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253, (502) 245-4101.

■ **Reservations:** Send proper request forms directly to Cedarmore or Jonathan Creek postmarked March 1 for best preference.

## Boys' camps

- June 12-16 at Jonathan Creek
- June 19-23 at Jonathan Creek
- June 26-30 at Cedarmore
- July 10-12 at Cedarmore
- July 12-14 at Cedarmore
- July 17-21 at Cedarmore
- July 24-28 at Cedarmore
- July 31-Aug. 4 at Cedarmore
- Overnights for younger boys offered July 21-22 and July 28-29 at Cedarmore

■ **Cost:** \$18.25 for overnights, \$73 for full weeks and \$36.50 for half-weeks.

■ **Program information:** Contact KBC Brotherhood department at Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253, (502) 245-4101.

■ **Reservations:** Send requests directly to Cedarmore or Jonathan Creek.

## Girls' camps

- June 12-16 at Jonathan Creek
- June 19-23 at Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore
- June 26-30 at Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore
- July 10-14 at Cedarmore
- July 17-21 at Cedarmore
- July 24-28 at Cedarmore
- July 31-Aug. 4 at Cedarmore
- Overnights for younger girls offered at Cedarmore July 7-8, July 14-15, July 21-22 and July 28-29

and at Jonathan Creek June 16-17 and June 23-24.

■ **Cost:** \$19.50 for overnights, \$76 for full weeks and \$38 for half-weeks.

■ **Program information:** Contact Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union at Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253, (502) 245-4101.

■ **Reservations:** Send requests directly to Cedarmore or Jonathan Creek.

## YOUTH LEADERS

### Get your youth ready to serve

Get your church youth group ready for summer ministries by attending the Youth Missions Workshop March 3-4 at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown.

"Transporting Missions into the World" is the workshop theme.

This event is designed for youth in grades seven through 12 and is sponsored by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union and Kentucky Brotherhood.

Workshop conferences include:  
 ■ Backyard Bible clubs and mission vacation Bible schools.

- Crafts.
- Games.
- Inner-city missions.
- Kentucky Changers.
- Leadership training.
- Music.
- Personal witnessing.
- **Dates:** March 3-4.
- **Times:** 7 p.m. Friday through 4 p.m. Saturday.

■ **Location:** Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown.

■ **Cost:** \$30 per church.  
 ■ **Pre-registration:** Send registration form to Kentucky WMU, Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253 by Feb. 28.

■ **Information:** Contact Kentucky Brotherhood or Kentucky WMU at (502) 245-4101.

## DISCIPLESHIP LEADERS

### Get help with LIFE Support

The LIFE Support series has become one of the most valued resources for churches with exciting discipleship training programs.

You can learn more about this series of special-interest courses during the LIFE Support Tour March 6-10. Speakers will offer insight into starting a LIFE Support ministry and hear how the courses have changed lives in other churches.

LIFE Support courses include:

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- "Making Peace with Your Past."
- "Shelter from the Storm: Hope for Survivors of Sexual Abuse."
- "Search for Significance."
- "Untangling Relationships: A Christian Perspective on Codependency."
- "Moving Beyond Your Past."
- "A Time of Healing: Coming to Terms with Your Divorce."

■ **Dates and locations:** March 6 at Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville; March 7 at Severns Valley Baptist Association office in Elizabethtown; March 9 at Elkhorn Baptist Association office in Lexington; and March 10 at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in Pineville.

■ **Times:** 1:30-4:30 p.m.

■ **Cost:** Free.

■ **Information:** Contact the KBC discipleship training department by calling (502) 245-4101.

## SINGLE ADULTS & SINGLES LEADERS

### Singles retreat set for March 17-19

"Growing Stronger in Life" is the theme of this year's single adult retreat sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention family ministry department.

Single adults of all ages and from all parts of Kentucky will gather at the Cave City Convention Center March 17-19 for this retreat.

Keynote speaker will be Mike Thomason, pastor of Temple Hill Baptist Church in Glasgow. Worship leader will be Joe Mason, minister to single adults at First Baptist Church of Decatur, Ga.

Two special opportunities will be

offered during this year's retreat.

Singles in the "twentysomething" group are invited to a gathering on Saturday morning led by James Stillwell, single adult minister at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

In another session, lead-

Other seminar titles include "Dealing with Conflict," "Spiritual Wellness" and "Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts."

The retreat setting provides an ideal time for building community among your church's singles group and among a large network of single Christian friends from across the state.

■ **Date:** March 17-19.  
 ■ **Place:** Cave City Convention Center.

■ **Cost:** \$20 per person registration fee before Feb. 25, not including lodging. The fee is \$25 after Feb. 25. A list of area motels is available upon request, but participants are responsible for securing their own lodging.

■ **Registration:** Advance registration is suggested but not required. To register, send \$20 per person (or \$25 after Feb. 25) to Family Ministry Dept., Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253.

## PASTORS, DISCIPLESHIP LEADERS, STEWARDSHIP LEADERS

### Here's help for the 1995 doctrinal study

If you plan to teach the 1995 doctrine study or if you have an interest in teaching your congregation about stewardship, consider attending the "Partners with God" study slated for four locations across the state.

John Gilbert, pastor of First Baptist Church of Poplar Bluff, Mo., will teach "Partners with God," this year's doctrinal study on stewardship.

The study focuses on six biblical truths about giving.

■ **Dates and locations:** March 6

at Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville; March 7 at Severns Valley Baptist Association office in Elizabethtown; March 9 at Elkhorn Baptist Association office in Lexington; and March 10 at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in Pineville.

■ **Times:** 9 a.m. to noon.

■ **Cost:** Free.

■ **Bonus:** Pre-register



John Gilbert

and receive a free copy of the "Partners with God" book.

■ **Registration:** Forms are available from the KBC discipleship training department by calling (502) 245-4101 or writing to Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253.

## Be a missionary at home to help missions overseas

Continued from page 1

will be the movers and shakers in (their) countries," said Wakefield, a 34-year veteran of foreign missions. "God has given Christians in America a unique opportunity to be personally involved in missions overseas."

Some experts predict that up to one-half of the world's top positions in politics, business and education will be filled during the next 25 years by foreign students now studying in the United States.

And a foreigner's experience in the United States could prove either helpful or harmful to Christian work overseas, depending on whether the foreign guest gets a favorable or unfavorable impression of Christians in America.

Benton Williams, partnership missions director with the Kentucky Baptist Convention and a former missionary to Buddhist-dominated Thailand, tells about once trying to secure air time for Christian TV programs over-

seas.

After failing to be heard at a local station, he and a colleague approached the State Ministry of Communications. There they introduced themselves to an assistant, who escorted them directly into the minister's office and provided the entree they needed to air the programs.

"I'll never forget the Baptists," said the assistant, who had studied at the University of Texas in Austin. "They were my best friends while I was in the United States."

Wakefield tells of a more recent incident involving Hal Eason, associate director in the student office for Georgia Baptists. Eason befriended a university student from a Muslim country, among the hardest for missionaries to enter. That student now has become a government official in his native country.

His role? To account for the welfare of all foreigners inside his borders—and to grant or deny entry vi-

sas. In a recent letter to Eason, this man wrote, "If I can ever be of assistance, please let me know."

Missionaries immediately made contact with him, and he has provided necessary contacts for them since then.

A staggering number of foreigners enter the United States. Up to an estimated 5 million people every year pour over U.S. borders for extended stays as diplomats, students, businessmen, workers, military officers and medical professionals. Including tourists and crew people of ships and planes, up to 20 million foreigners visit the country annually.

Twenty percent of foreign students grew up in Muslim nations, many of them hostile to the West. Others came from similarly distant cultures unreached by the gospel.

"But while they're here in the United States these people are accessible to us," Wakefield stressed.

Historically, the FMB has had no

ministry to foreigners on U.S. soil, leaving that work to other Southern Baptist agencies. But as a growing number of aliens touch America and then go on to influence their home countries, FMB President Jerry Rankin has begun to look for ways to link them with missionary work in their native countries.

Wakefield has named several former missionaries as international outreach representatives. These workers will mobilize other former mission workers to launch programs such as "friendship families" for students and to create other arrangements involving foreigners.

A friendship family program links foreign students with Americans who keep in touch with them regularly.

"The Bible tells us to take care of the stranger within our gates," noted Avery Willis, FMB senior vice president for overseas operations. "It's almost like God has said, 'If you won't go to them, I'll bring them to you.'"

**"God has given Christians in America a unique opportunity to be personally involved in missions overseas."**

*Bill Wakefield of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board*

## Teen pen-pals sought for China project

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Christian teenagers in the United States are being enlisted as pen pals with teenagers in China who are learning English.

Correspondence between Christian teens in the U.S. and non-Christian teens in China could provide an unique opportunity for witnessing, according to John Carter, coordinator of the National Fellowship of Baptist Educators.

Carter's group is sponsoring the pen-pal effort with help from the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission.

"This will afford many American students an opportunity to share their faith, and it can make a very significant impact on the lives of the Chinese young people in a society that is officially atheist," Carter said.

If the program works well in China, it could be expanded to include other countries where English is taught in the schools.

Currently, Carter is seeking 100,000 Christian teens from the United States who will commit to answer at least one letter from a Chinese student. The Chinese students will write as part of an assignment in their English classes. Further correspondence between the pen-pals could follow, depending on how much effort both parties are willing to put forth, he said.

Individuals and groups of teens may sign up for the project.

To participate, send your name, address, sex and current school grade to Carter at Samford University, Box 2305, Birmingham, Ala. 35229. Youth ministers or pastors who want to sign up several teens at one time may send a list of names and appropriate information.

Participants should be in grades seven through 12.

For further information, call Carter at (205) 822-4106.



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# BAPTISTS

## Sunday School Board better in first quarter

### 'Christian Single' adds advisory board

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Austin Pryor, president of Pryor & Associates and publisher of "Sound Mind Investing" in Louisville is among 11 professionals who recently joined an editorial advisory board for "Christian Single" magazine, published by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. Other advisory board members include motivational speaker Zig Zigar from Dallas; pollster George Barna from Glendale, Calif.; John Whitehead, president of the Rutherford Institute in Washington, D.C.; Neil Clark Warren, president of Associated Psychological Services in Los Angeles; Henry Cloud, co-director of Minirth-Meier New Life Clinics West in Los Angeles; David Stevens, CEO for Christian Medical & Dental Society in Dallas; Lynn Gannett, associate professor of Christian education at Dallas Theological Seminary; Phil Boatwright, publisher of "The Movie Reporter" in Los Angeles; Deborah Tyler, president of Renaissance Ministries in Morristown, Tenn.

NASHVILLE (BP)—After a 1993-94 loss of \$8.2 million, the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board operated ahead of budgeted income during the first quarter of the current fiscal year, administrators reported.

Meanwhile, an official confessed the board "really missed the mark" on delivery of dated curriculum for October-November-December 1994 and January-February-March 1995 cycles.

"Our service level to the churches has been far below our standards, and we are doing everything we can as fast as we can to get things fixed," said Ted Warren, executive vice president and chief operating officer.

Warren said the board responded to customer requests to make Sunday school literature more "timely and relevant" by reducing production schedules from 40 months to less than 12 months for some titles. This resulted in the need to change processes at every stage, including reducing the eight-week shipping cycle to six weeks.

## Volunteerism increases but needs still unmet

ATLANTA (BP)—The number of volunteers for Southern Baptist home missions work increased almost 10 percent last year, according to the Home Mission Board's volunteers in missions office.

Southern Baptists will observe Volunteers in Missions Sunday Feb. 26. Last year, 68,915 people volunteered for home missions work, up from 62,755 in 1993.

Leaders say such figures dispute conventional wisdom that volunteerism is declining.

"Something that we've been hearing lately is that the age of volunteerism is over," said Mike Riggins, associate director of the HMB's Mission Service Corps department. "Yet with God's people we're finding that not to be the case. Really, I think we've just seen the tip of the iceberg as God moves among his people to get involved in missions and in ministry."

Despite this outpouring, many home missionaries' requests for help still go unmet, said Mike Robertson, director of the HMB student missions department.

But not all the volunteers are

assigned by the HMB, Robertson noted. Some are assigned by other Southern Baptist agencies and state conventions or through direct contacts between churches.

As a result, the impact of youth workers was mixed in 1994, he said. Figures show youth volunteers rose from 35,310 to 38,092. Those who were HMB assigned, however, dropped 23 percent, from 18,275 to 13,969.

"Where that creates a problem for us is that some of our priority locations with critical needs went unfilled," Robertson said.

The need for summer youth teams is especially great for work at inner-city mission centers, resort settings and churches outside the Southeast, said Valerie Hardy, associate director of the student missions department.

Nationwide, Baptist volunteerism for projects lasting less than four months grew 9.6 percent in 1994. A record 66,899 volunteers served in such projects, with the number of youth, college and adult volunteers all increasing.

Adult volunteers increased 12 percent from 22,975 to 25,843.

Elmer Goble, director of the volunteer projects department, attributed the increase to better tracking of volunteers.

College student volunteers rose 9 percent last year from 2,717 to 2,964. Van Simmons, associate director of the student missions department, credited greater awareness among students for the increase.

Long-time commitments through Mission Service Corps increased 15 percent in 1994, according to Bob Mills, director of the program. At the end of 1994, the HMB volunteer division had 2,016 active Mission Service Corps volunteers. The previous year, there were 1,753 active MSC volunteers by year's end.

Of the almost 5,000 home missionaries assigned by the HMB, 1,094 are Mission Service Corps volunteers who have completed at least two years of service.

More information about volunteer opportunities is available from the Kentucky Baptist Convention's missions division by calling (502) 245-4101 or from the HMB by calling (800) HMB-VOLS.

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# BAPTISTS

## Southern Seminary honors W.A. Criswell

LOUISVILLE (BP)—W.A. Criswell's alma mater paid tribute to the legendary Baptist pastor Feb. 7 by presenting him the institution's highest honor.

Criswell, senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas, received the E.Y. Mullins Denominational Service Award from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Southern Seminary President Al Mohler called Criswell the seminary's "most famous living alumnus."

Mohler said Criswell is "uniquely qualified" for the award named for the seminary's fourth president.

A frequent critic of the seminary in recent years before Mohler's election as president, Criswell last week said he has fond memories of the seminary, where he received the Th.M. degree in 1934 and the Ph.D. degree in 1937. He noted that he and his wife were married on the school's campus on Valentine's Day 60 years ago.

During his sermon, Criswell encouraged the seminarians to be enthusiastic about their ministries. Criswell said the word "enthusiasm" is derived from a Greek phrase meaning "in God."

"Enthusiasm is nothing other than

God in you," he said.

Criswell told of an incident during his seminary pastorate when frustration helped fuel his enthusiasm for ministry. Criswell wanted his Mount Washington congregation to set a high attendance day goal of 100 in Sunday school. But church members were reluctant, he said, since their record attendance had been 60.

"I was young then and it made me mad," Criswell recounted. So he launched into a door-to-door campaign by himself. On high attendance day, 365 people came for Sunday school, he reported.

## Catholic leaders visit Foreign Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Seven U.S. Catholic mission leaders visited the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board home office Feb. 2-3 and met with FMB officials.

The visit came in response to a 1994 Southern Baptist Convention resolution on improving relations with Roman Catholics.

Discussions ranged from Latin America, where tensions sometimes run high between established Roman Catholic churches and the bustling number of new evangelical churches, to World A—that unreached area of

the globe where neither Southern Baptists nor Roman Catholics have much toehold.

"It was a mutual dialogue and fellowship with no expected outcome," said Sam Pittman, FMB executive director of public affairs.

Frank Ruff, the official Roman Catholic liaison to Southern Baptists, said he and his colleagues were "inspired by the commitment Southern Baptists and Southern Baptist churches have to world missions."

Besides Ruff, the group included Joe Thaler, a Maryknoll missionary;

Bruce Nieli, director of the office for evangelization of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops; Joseph Lapauw, top administrator for Missionhurst Foreign and Home Missions; Sister Peggy Loftus, executive director of the U.S. Catholic Mission Association; Sister Patricia McCabe, the Catholic Diocese of Richmond's liaison to Southern Baptists; and Tom Quigley, a policy adviser on Latin America, Caribbean and East Asian Affairs in the Office of International Justice and Peace of the U.S. Catholic Conference.

### BAPTIST BITS

■ **Southwestern gets 800 number.** The admissions office at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary now has a toll-free number for use by prospective students. The number is (800) SWBTS-01.

■ **Southwestern to appeal.** Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary will appeal its two-year probation imposed recently by the Association of Theological Schools, according to seminary President Ken Hemphill. "It is in the best interest of Southwestern to participate in the appeals process to present our case," he said. "As we have stated, probation was too strong of a decision based on the facts of our case."

The probation was imposed largely because of the way seminary trustees fired President Russell Dilday last March. The appeals process normally takes about three months.

■ **Drummond recovering.** Lewis Drummond, former professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and former president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, underwent surgery to remove a tumor from his colon Feb. 14. Drummond was reported to be resting well after the surgery at Duke Medical Center in Durham, N.C.

■ **Chaplaincy leader named.** Albert Holmes has been named director of institutional and business-industrial chaplaincy with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. He replaces Bill Donovan, who retired. Holmes, who has worked for the Texas criminal justice department nine years, is the first African-American to join the HMB's chaplaincy division staff.

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## Millenium fever gaining as year 2000 approaches

**"The great danger for Christians is that it's escapism; it takes away from our task of carrying out the Great Commission to evangelize the world."**

*Timothy George, dean of Samford University's Beeson Divinity School*

*Continued from page 1*

and publishes works of biblical prophecy by the late Seventh-day Adventist co-founder Ellen White, said his group does not promote end-time dates.

"I am not personally, nor is anyone with this organization, setting any dates," he said. "I'm not convinced that the year 2000 has any theological significance or relation to the Second Coming of Christ. I do believe time is short."

Nevertheless, interest in the end-times is running high. "We have thousands of people who purchase our books across the world," Wheeling said.

Cataclysmic responses to the end of the millennium are expected to be rampant, said Craig Branch, director of the Watchman Fellowship, an evangelical anti-cult ministry.

The Branch Davidians' deadly 1993 inferno in Waco, Texas, and the ritualistic deaths of members of the Solar Temple cult in Switzerland and Canada last year could be harbingers of apocalyptic mania, some observers say.

In a Market Facts Inc. poll of 1,000 people taken for U.S. News & World Report early last December, 61 percent said they believe Jesus will return to earth. Of those, 34 percent said the Second Coming would be within a few decades. About 53 percent of those polled said some world events this century fulfill biblical prophecies.

Jehovah's Witnesses and Seventh-

day Adventists traditionally have placed a strong emphasis on end-times theology, but evangelical Protestants also are developing Armageddon fever.

"There's a strong and growing emphasis in eschatology among Southern Baptists," said Timothy George, dean of Samford University's Beeson Divinity School. "The great danger for Christians is that it's escapism; it takes away from our task of carrying out the Great Commission to evangelize the world. The problem is when we get so latched onto prophecies and dates that we lose our proper emphasis."

Christians aren't the only ones expecting dramatic changes in the next millennium. Many adherents of New Age movements believe an era of higher consciousness, love and understanding is dawning.

"They're much less apocalyptic," Daniels said. "They have a strong optimistic tone, although they're starting to heat up a bit."

Daniels said he doesn't see any danger to the general public from end-times cults such as the Branch Davidians, although such groups could be harmful to themselves if they become suicidal or get into trouble with law enforcement authorities.

But dwelling too much on the inevitability of apocalypse could bring other negative consequences, noted Paul Boling, pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Birmingham, Ala.

Religious believers should not try

to hasten the end or become too convinced that any one event is prophetic, he said. "It can be a self-fulfilling prophecy. Our spiritual life should not focus on prophecy. Our spiritual life is determined by our relationship to Christ."

Instead of hoping for a rapture,

perhaps Christians should hope for a reprieve, Boling said.

"You need to pray that these things don't happen so you have more time to work with people on a spiritual basis," he said. "The Bible's very explicit that no man knows the day or the hour."



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### CLASSIFIED ADS

**SEEKING:** Young, growing SBC church (30 miles south of Charlotte, NC) is seeking a full-time minister of music and worship. Send resumé to: Covenant Baptist Church, Music/Worship Search Committee, P.O. Box 578, Lancaster, SC 29721-0578.

**NEEDED:** Full-time editor of preschool and children's resources; a seminary degree and church staff experience are required. Please send resumé to: Smyth & Helwys Publishing Inc., Human Resources Manager, 6316 Peake Rd. Macon, GA 31210.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church of Mason, Ohio, is looking for a full-time youth and music minister. The church is medium-sized (200-250) and located near Cincinnati. Please send resumé to First Baptist Church, 735 Reading Rd., Mason, OH 45040, or call (513) 398-5816.

**SEEKING:** Church custodian: 40 hours/week, \$6 per hour with benefits. Experienced required. Call Highland Baptist Church, (502) 451-3736.

**SEEKING:** Central Baptist Church, Maysville, promoting Sunday school growth and missions, is seeking a pastor. Send resumé to Pastor Search Committee, 437 Central Ave., Maysville, KY 41056. For additional information call (606) 564-5939 evenings.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music for Sundays only. Please send resumé to First Baptist Church, 2910 Howard Dr., Jasper, IN.

**SEEKING:** Camp director for 1995 GA/Acteens summer camp at Cedar Crest, Bagdad, Ky. Send resumé to Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433.

**SEEKING:** Pastor's secretary: Secretarial and administrative skills required; salary with benefits. Call Highland Baptist Church, (502) 451-3736.

**FOR SALE:** 20 white, padded pews, 13-1/2 feet each. Contact First Baptist, Princeton, Ky., (502) 365-5591.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Hopkinsville accepting resúmes for full-time minister of music. Mail to FBC, 1400 S. Main St., Hopkinsville, KY 42240, Attn. Minister of Music Search Committee.

**TOUR:** Baptist heritage tour, Britain; July 26-Aug. 8. Cost: \$1,800. Contact Bill Leonard, Samford University, Birmingham, AL 35229. Phone (205) 870-2839.

**NEEDED:** organist. Part-time position available. Wicks pipe organ. Send resumé to: Organist Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 246 N. Main St., Madisonville, KY 42431. Resúmes accepted through March 1, 1995.

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### Southern exposure

What a difference a year makes!

One year ago this month, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children acquired a children's shelter in Somerset that was on the verge of closing its doors. Taking over this facility, which we now call the Southern Region Shelter, was a step of faith because we had not planned for it and because we knew that we would soon have to replace the shelter building. We were also deeply aware, however, of the great need for the shelter and were concerned about the children who would have no place to go if it were allowed to close.

George Page, a long-time childcare veteran, was called on to direct this new work and has done a tremendous job. He's built a committed team of staff members who care about children. He's worked with churches and individuals to improve the existing facilities as much as possible. He's built bridges of communication throughout the community.

In the past year, Kentucky Baptists have served 179 children through the Southern Region Shelter. I often wonder where those children would have gone had

Kentucky Baptists not been willing to provide a place for them.

As we get ready to start our second year, we are seeing additional growth in our work in southern Kentucky. We have just added a foster care worker to recruit and train families to serve the longer term needs of children in the region. We have also recently opened a Cornerstone Counseling office in Somerset. And, we are exploring the development of a new program to work directly with hurting families to prevent the kinds of problems that often bring children into residential care.

A critical need we continue to face, however, is that the shelter building must be replaced if we are to provide the kind of care these children need. We are now beginning the process of raising funds to meet this need and I ask that you put the Southern Region Shelter on your personal prayer list.

I think it's going to be exciting to watch the Lord work in the coming year!

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

#### HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

## Christian Coalition pushing Republican 'Contract'

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

NASHVILLE—Every Christian in America should buy and read the book form of the Republican "Contract with America," according to Ralph Reed, president of the Christian Coalition.

Reed stopped by the annual convention of the National Religious Broadcasters Feb. 13 to pitch the book, which already is No. 3 on the New York Times best-seller list.

"Pro-family" Christians who criticize Speaker Newt Gingrich and the House Republicans for being more interested in fiscal reform than family values haven't read the fine print in the "Contract," Reed said.

"There's a lot of misinformation out there," he asserted. "This is not exclusively a fiscal document."

But even the proposals for fiscal reforms should be supported by Christians because they are "pro-family" issues, Reed said.

The Christian Coalition, an offshoot of televangelist Pat Robertson's media and political interests, has pledged to spend \$1 million to promote the House Republican agenda outlined in the "Contract."

Reed said his organization is "not a Republican Party organization" but he believes the "Contract with America" outlines a family-friendly agenda conservative Christians should support.

The Christian Coalition's goal is "not to legislate family values ... but to ensure that Washington values families," he said.

Reed suggested Congress should be required to develop a "family impact statement" for all proposed legislation.

In Reed's perspective, family-friendly public policy would remove government entirely from doling out charity and leave that work to noble citizens and churches.

"I'm for charity," he said. "I just don't think government ought to give out charity."

He cited the biblical story of the Good Samaritan, who found a traveler beaten and robbed and then helped him out of his own resources. "The Good Samaritan story doesn't say 'Verily, verily, send 40 percent of your money to the government,'" Reed noted.

The issue of family values will be a key factor in the 1996 presidential race, Reed said. He predicted a Re-

publican candidate will latch onto this theme and carry it to victory because "it's a winning formula."

Any candidate who combines the traditional fiscal conservatism of the Republican Party with "pro-family" issues of conservative Christians and the "Ross Perot issues" of a balanced-budget amendment and term-limits automatically will win a majority of the vote, Reed said.

But he declined to predict who that candidate will be. He called former Education Secretary Lamar Alexander "very viable" and praised the influence of former Vice President Dan Quayle, who recently announced he would not seek the presidency in 1996.

Reed also downplayed the possibility of a split in the Republican party between fiscal conservatives and religious conservatives.

The rural South, once strongly Democratic, has left its political roots, he said.

The so-called "Reagan Democrats" have turned into "religious Republicans," he said.

"Whoever gets their hands on the ball of family values ... will get the Republican nomination and ... win the election," Reed predicted.

### Americans expect few results

GLENDALE, Calif.—Most Americans doubt the changes outlined in the Republican "Contract with America" will come to pass, according to a nationwide survey by the Barna Research Group.

The changes most expected to materialize are a decrease in the number of federal government employees and restructuring of the federal welfare program. However, only one in four adults is "absolutely certain" these changes will take place.

Fewer than one in five adults said they are "absolutely certain" eight other key conservative issues will be passed by Congress: a school prayer amendment, Congressional term limits, improving moral conditions, reducing income tax rates, increasing defense spending by 20 percent, reducing the national budget deficit, passing a national health care policy and making abortion illegal.

The poll found little difference in opinion between Republicans and Democrats or between "born-again" Christians and people who are not evangelical Christians.

"Most voters are too skeptical about the magnitude of their personal influence or the sensitivity of their elected representatives to the people's will to dare believe that their elected officials would make desired but daring shifts in policy," said George Barna, president of Barna Research.

The survey was conducted among a random national sample of 1,006 adults Jan. 18-30. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points.

## Medical schools will be required to teach abortion

By David Anderson  
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Over the objection of Roman Catholic bishops, the organization that governs physician training has approved a proposal to make abortion a required part of obstetrics education.

The requirement, announced Feb. 14, was adopted by the 23-member Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

In a letter Monday to the council, Cardinal Roger Mahony of Los Angeles sharply criticized the change in requirements.

"Coercing people and institutions to participate in the destruction of innocent life is a great evil," wrote Mahony, who chairs the Committee for Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Catholic Conference, the public-policy arm representing American bishops.

"When such coercion is directed against people and institutions that

embody a society's commitment to healing, moral outrage is the only appropriate response. I therefore find it difficult to believe that medical organizations would require doctors who specialize in caring for unborn children and their mothers to learn how to kill the former and jeopardize the physical, emotional and spiritual health of the latter."

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education sets the standards for 273 U.S. residency programs.

About 70 percent of those programs offer training in abortion procedures, according to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. But only about 12 percent require residents to have such training.

The Chicago-based accreditation council is made up of representatives from health organizations such as the American Medical Association and the American Hospital Association.

Under the newly adopted rule, "experience with induced abortion must be part of residency training" unless the student has a moral or religious objection.

If the institution, such as a Catholic teaching hospital, has a religious or moral objection to providing the training, it must arrange with another institution to do the teaching, according to the new requirement.

In addition to requiring abortion training, the revamped standard also calls on teaching hospitals to provide training in "all methods of family planning," including "all reversible methods of contraception, including natural methods as well as sterilization."

The Catholic Church opposes all forms of artificial birth control.

Mark Chopko, general counsel for the U.S. Catholic Conference, said the requirement, even with the conscience clause, "violates existing statutory protections in place in

roughly half the 50 states."

In a Feb. 9 letter to the accrediting council, Chopko said those laws exempt hospitals from referring patients for "abortion, artificial contraception or sterilization" when the hospital is morally opposed to any of those procedures.

But, he argued, those laws would also be "violated" if Catholic institutions are required to send their medical students to an abortion provider for training.

Rules adopted by the U.S. bishops last November prohibit Catholic health care providers from any cooperation with abortion providers. "Catholic health care institutions need to be concerned about the danger of scandal in any association with abortion providers," according to the directives.

Mahony stated the proposed conscience clause allowing abortion training at a non-Catholic facility was, therefore, "of no consequence."

## Baptists participate in annual prayer breakfast for Israel

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

NASHVILLE—Honoring Holocaust survivors was the theme of the 13th annual "International Christian Prayer Breakfast to Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" organized by Southern Baptist layman Ed McAteer.

Several thousand people paid \$25 apiece to attend the three-hour event, held Feb. 13 at Nashville's Opryland Hotel during the National Religious Broadcasters convention.

The crowd included both Christians and Jews, many from the Nashville area.

McAteer, from Memphis, Tenn., has been a prominent political and religious strategist for conservative causes. He is founder of the Religious Roundtable, which sponsors the prayer breakfast.

Southern Baptists were prominent among the event's participants. Adrian Rogers, former Southern Baptist Convention president and pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, delivered the invocation. Richard Land, executive director of the SBC Christian Life Commission, led the pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

Speakers at the prayer breakfast included Elwood McQuaid, presi-

dent of Friends of Israel; Joe Rogers, former U.S. ambassador to France; Sam Moore, chairman of Thomas Nelson Publishing Co.; Uzi Baram, Israeli tourism minister; Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's ambassador to the United States; Yehuda Levy, publisher of the Jerusalem Post; and Kaare Kristiansen, a prominent politician in Norway who resigned from the Nobel Peace Prize Committee in protest of giving the award to Yassar Arafat.

John Hagee, a television preacher from San Antonio, Texas, led the assembled body in a prayer for the peace of Jerusalem.

A statement in the printed pro-

gram explained that those in attendance represent "the vast majority of Bible-believing Christians in the United States" who agree that a strong Israel is important to U.S. strength. "We believe there is an iron-clad bond between the State of Israel and the United States," the statement said.

"Bible-believing Christians consider the support of Israel a biblical mandate," it continued. "We believe one of the reasons America has been blessed over the years is because we have stood with Israel."

The statement further said the nation of Israel is "a manifestation of what America was and is."

# PEOPLE

## KENTUCKY KERNELS

Brazil is the country with the largest number of Christian missionaries from the United States: 2,229. Other countries with more than 1,000 U.S. missionaries are the Philippines, Mexico, Japan, Kenya and Papua New Guinea.  
Source: *Mission Handbook 1993-1995*

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **CRESTWOOD**—Crestwood Church called **Steve Hadden** as pastor. He will begin his ministry March 12. He previously was pastor at Faith Church in Georgetown.

■ **LACENTER**—**John Guffy**, stepfather of Larry Lindsey, died Feb. 14. Lindsey and his wife, Joy, are Kentucky partnership coordinators in Moscow, Russia.

■ **LEITCHFIELD**—First Church called **Sam Stack** as its first full-time minister of music and youth. He began his new ministry Dec. 25.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Habitat for Humanity will hold a volunteer information meeting March 20 at 5:30 p.m. at the Presbyterian Center, 100 Wither- spoon, for an update on work and plans for its 10th anniversary project. Habitat will celebrate its anniversary

by building 12 houses and hosting a special event in the fall. Call (502) 583-6599 for more information.

West Broadway Church called **John Kruschwitz** as interim pastor.

■ **MORGANFIELD**—First Church celebrated its 107th anniversary Feb. 11.

■ **NEWPORT**—**Norman Willie** will retire as pastor of First Church April 30 and will live near Ridgecrest, N.C.

■ **OWENSBORO**—**Perry Moseley**, 61, bivocational pastor of Immanuel Church, died of a massive heart attack Feb. 13. Moseley is survived by his wife, Dorothy, two children and grandchildren.

■ **CORRECTION: Lawrence and Gail Osbrink**, missionaries to Senegal, are in the States at 808 Huntington Rd., Louisville, Ky. 40207.

## Western Baptist Hospital begins expansion

**PADUCAH**—Western Baptist Hospital will break ground in May on a multi-million dollar expansion to increase outpatient services, surgery and critical care areas and medical office space.

Last year the hospital won approval from the City of Paducah and the state to reroute a portion of Kentucky Avenue to facilitate the new building.

The \$27.4 million project will be a three-story addition of 158,750 square feet, said President Larry Barton.

Patients will have direct access to new physician offices from within the hospital or from a new main entrance.

"Over the years, we have committed ourselves to providing comprehensive, high-level quality care to our patients so they don't have to travel far from home for serious health needs," Barton said. "This expansion supports that commitment. It also vastly improves our ability to provide outpatient services."

This project is the first part of a long-term development plan.

## HELP FOR YOUR CHURCH

### Church Communication Tip #1

If your church budget has been hit hard by the recent postage-rate increase, consider letting someone else pay the postage for your weekly or monthly mailing to church members.

By publishing your church newsletter with the Western Recorder, you are guaranteed a competitive rate for an entire year or longer. In most cases, the Recorder can print and mail your newsletter—along with a wealth of other news and features—for less than the cost of a postcard.

The Recorder also provides support services to ensure that your church puts its best foot forward with a newsletter. Call us today at (502) 244-6470 for details on ways to save money and improve communication within your church.

### Western Recorder

Practical Resources for Christian Living

## Oneida Choir: A labor of love

I stand at the window of the chapel building, watching as they straggle up the street. With pillows and blankets, books and walkmans, they make their sleepy way to the bus. This could be happening in the dark, early morning hours while the rest of the campus sleeps—and it could be any Sunday morning of the school year. These young people will be making music in a few hours, maybe in your church, for they are the dedicated members of the Oneida Baptist Institute High School Choir.

These students prove their dedication each time they step on a bus or van and leave this campus. Since we meet each day as part of the school curriculum, participating in choir is not part of the student work program. All of these young people must have a job or participate in an extracurricular activity. Many of the students in the choir loft on Sunday morning may have been competing with an athletic or academic team all day on Saturday. In addition, some of these same students shoulder extra responsibilities as hall monitors or job supervisors. Others may have been mopping floors or emptying trash—each job an important and vital element of Oneida's program. Some of these young people have increased their load by making sure their names are called each quarter for the academic honor roll. For all of them, singing with the choir is a labor of love.

Each year there are many newcomers with fresh, young voices and little experience. The first day of this school year there were eight "returning" choir members in a group of 37 enrolled in the class. The majority of the group will not have any musical background. There will only be a few who have participated in a church or school choir

before coming to Oneida. We also have several foreign students who join choir hoping to improve their communication skills. Part of our purpose is to help these young people discover their talents and abilities, encourage development and prepare them to utilize their gifts to the fullest.

Our accompanist, Joy Godbold, has been a tremendous asset, not only for her playing ability, but in her willingness to help students learn their music. Now in her third year accompanying the choir, she helps teach the music by working with

the girls in sectional rehearsals. An established tradition is the memorization of all music performed. Students in the Oneida Choir may have as many as 15 to 20 pieces committed to memory by the time the school year ends.

The members of the Oneida Choir have been blessed with unique opportunities. They travel hundreds of miles across our state and get to meet some of the greatest people in the world. They get a chance to say, in their special way, "thank you" to the many supporters of Oneida they meet along the way.

Meeting the many people who love Oneida through prayers and gifts is an eye-opening experience for these students. Being the beneficiaries of love from people we have yet to meet is an humbling experience for us all.

We, the members of the Oneida Choir, welcome every opportunity to express our thanks for your unfailing love and kindness to us. All that is required is an invitation. "To a friend's house the road is never long."

Written by Dianne Blades, choir director

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

### THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

## The Clear Creek experience

After 24 years in Florida, Mike and Debbie Hughes and their two children, Kyle and Katie, moved to Clear Creek for the January term. Mike states: "I became a student here because of three distinct qualities which I believe make Clear Creek unique among Bible colleges. No. 1 is academics. Clear Creek has a long, rich history of providing a biblically sound and relevant education to men and women such as us. Almost every faculty member has educational credentials at the doctoral level.

"No. 2 is affordability. I am constantly amazed at how little I pay personally in exchange for the quality education I receive. With the federal Pell Grant, Asher matching scholarship and other endowments, Clear Creek enables a student to obtain an education without the encumbrances of debt. A Clear Creek education is a financially responsible education.

"Finally, atmosphere. It gives me great comfort to know many of my fellow classmates also are married and have the responsibilities of children. This provides me with a peer group and common ground."

Former truck driver Christopher Mullens announced his call to preach three years ago in a small

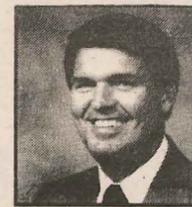
country church in the mountains of West Virginia. He describes the Clear Creek experience: "Clear Creek is the wilderness where God sends some people in order to prepare them for his purpose. Before you can tell other people to trust God for everything, you must fully believe yourself. To quit your job of many years, sell your house and move to a small Bible college in the hills of Kentucky takes a lot of faith.

"I've seen what God can do in people's lives at Clear Creek. I've seen the before and after pictures. A graduate comes away from Clear Creek with confidence and experience that only comes from a close relationship with God.

"The staff and faculty are a unique group of people. They are kind, caring Christians who know what you're going through and are willing to help in any way they can. Although I've only been at Clear Creek six months, I feel I've grown a great deal as a Christian. I am looking forward to the challenges ahead of me. The Clear Creek experience is learning to trust in God."

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

### CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

## 'Storying' strategy relays gospel message delicately

By Craig Bird  
SBC Foreign Mission Board

SOKODE, Togo (BP)—Sometimes telling the "old, old story" of Jesus means not even mentioning his name for the first several months.

That concept—known as "storying"—is not based on a fear of sharing the Christian faith. It's based on the premise that in some cultures it's best to reveal the saving nature of Jesus Christ the same way God did in the Bible—by waiting until the New Testament segment of the story.

"Storying"—now used by missionaries in many areas of the world—is the systematic introduction of biblical truth into the oral tradition of a people group.

In places where the very mention of the name "Jesus" will likely shut down all communication, the gospel is presented the same way it was to the ancient Jews. After the foundation is laid through months of chronologically telling Old Testament stories, listeners are ready to meet Jesus.

Storying is working well in many places, particularly west Africa. Mission work among the Muslim Kotokoli people in Sokode, Togo, is a good case study.

"It's difficult sometimes not to jump in and talk about the death and resurrection of Jesus, because that's our normal method of evangelism," admits Southern Baptist missionary Patsy Eitelman, the lead "story-er" in Sokode.

"But when you work with Muslims that approach is almost always counterproductive. ... They accept Abraham and Moses, and they accept a holy God who is creator and judge," explains Eitelman, from Canton, Texas. "So as we tell them stories about people they know about, they listen."

Her husband, Ray, from Fort Worth, Texas, also uses storying extensively. His work focuses on followers of traditional African religion. He covers a region of 8,400 square miles, including 70 Baptist churches, and spends most of his time training pastors. Much of that training involves storying.

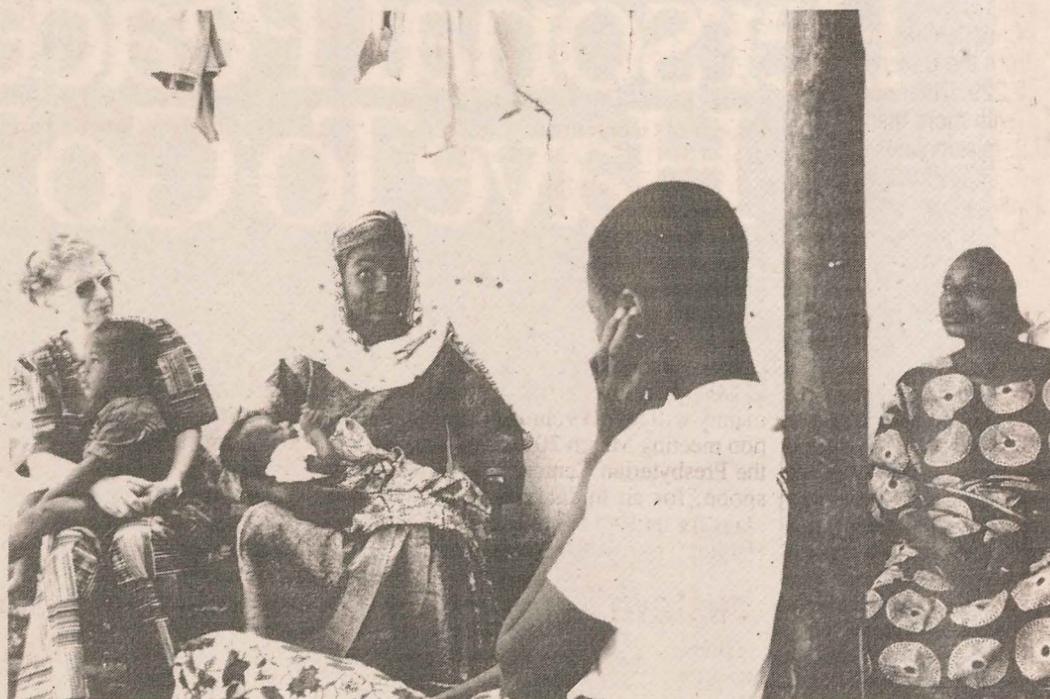
"The pastors see the need for sto-

rying in their church because so many of their members are non-literate or semi-literate and will never really hear the word of God except through this oral method," he notes. "Plus it has improved the preaching ability of the pastors and helped them become animated and interesting."

The Eitelmans have even found storying effective in discipling new Christians, grounding them in the basic doctrines and equipping them to evangelize their family and friends.

Mrs. Eitelman works closely with three Kotokoli Christians (all former Muslims), each with a dynamic testimony of how they were converted and each with a commitment to sharing the gospel through storying: Maliouro Sakibou, pastor of a Baptist church in Sokode; Asibi Agoro; and Toubaye Essognina.

The storying team works in different configurations. Mrs. Eitelman meets with groups ranging from one listener to 90. Sometimes she tells the story; sometimes one of the Kotokoli Christians does.



### Converted Muslim tells her story despite danger

SOKODE, Togo (BP)—It's not abuse for a Muslim husband to beat his wife for becoming a Christian in Sokode, Togo.

It's not assault if her mother tries to stab her for the same reason.

It's not unheard of for a converted Muslim to revert to Islam under such pressures.

Asibi Agoro fought off her knife-wielding mother and endures occasional beatings from her husband. And she seriously thought of renouncing her faith.

But ultimately she couldn't walk away from Jesus Christ—or stop telling her Muslim family, friends and neighbors about him.

In 1989 Agoro had a thriving business selling lottery tickets. But she noticed her business neighbor, a seamstress with little income, seemed so much more content than she was. The woman told her about Jesus, took her to church and en-

couraged Agoro's decision to become a Christian.

Agoro's family reacted differently. Her husband hauled her to her relatives, and when she professed her new faith, they all took turns slapping her. She stopped going to church but read a hidden Bible when her husband was absent.

The beatings continued, and she was forced to drink milk that had been used, as is the custom, to wash off charcoal writings on wooden tablets from Islam's holy book, the Koran. "I'll drink it, but I won't abandon my faith in Jesus," she insisted.

At one point she was so discouraged she went to Southern Baptist missionary Patsy Eitelman and said she was ready to go back to Islam.

Hiding disappointment, but understanding the pressure the young woman was under, the missionary replied: "If Christ hasn't really

changed you, it would be better if you did go back—but if Christ has really saved you, you won't be able to."

Finally Agoro fled to the neighboring west African country of Burkina Faso. But her husband tracked her down and brought her back to Sokode after promising she could practice her new faith without persecution.

Her mother attacked her with a machete, but her husband—fearing for her safety—protected her.

A year later he kicked her out just after she was baptized. But nine months later he came to the Eitelmans, and even stood before the church and asked for help in convincing his wife to come home.

Since her return, the cruelty has been more emotional than physical. Still, she regularly shares Christ with the children and leads several storying groups.

**TELLING THE STORY** Asibi Agoro (second from left) of Togo leads a "storying" session to introduce Muslim women to biblical truth as Southern Baptist missionary Patsy Eitelman (left) looks on. (BP photo by Charles Ledford)

## Christians shouldn't abandon Somalia, Baptist worker urges

MOGADISHU, Somalia (BP)—The specter of civil war once again looms over Somalia as international relief agencies and United Nations troops abandon their two-year-old effort to restore hope to a nation desolated by famine and clan warfare.

One relief worker who has helped in Somalia for several years fears the last state of Somalia may be worse than the first. But he hopes relief groups will be able to return to their work in a couple of months.

"The world has made up its mind that Somalia is a lost cause," said the worker, who is a Southern Baptist but asked not to be identified for security reasons.

"They see CNN reports and conclude the situation is hopeless. But the world's agenda is not the agenda of God's people. We are hoping to be back in the country by April. Now is

the time to redouble our efforts."

No progress has been made toward a political solution to clan rivalries, which are expected to erupt once again into open warfare when a U.S.-led international force completes the evacuation of U.N. troops and civilian relief workers by the end of February. Civil war in the African country led to a devastating famine in 1992 that claimed 300,000 lives.

Horrifying images of starving children prompted a multibillion-dollar international effort to restore order to the country. But the stubborn refusal of Somali warlords to cooperate with the peace process has exhausted the patience of world leaders and the generosity of relief donors.

Even though it was intervention by Western countries, considered "Christian" by Islam, that yanked Somalia back from the edge of self-

destruction, the only inroads into the country's culture during the past two years have been made by Islamic militants.

The evacuation of foreign troops and relief workers will leave civilians at the mercy of the warlords, said the relief worker. Militant Muslims are stepping into the vacuum.

Relief agencies that have abandoned Mogadishu for now are working with Somali refugees in three neighboring countries and that ministry will continue, the worker said.

The 1992 civil war created opportunities for residents of the overwhelmingly Muslim country to respond to the claims of the gospel.

Yet the nation now has fewer Christians than before the war, the relief worker said. As donor support dried up, all the relief groups had to withdraw, often breaking contact be-

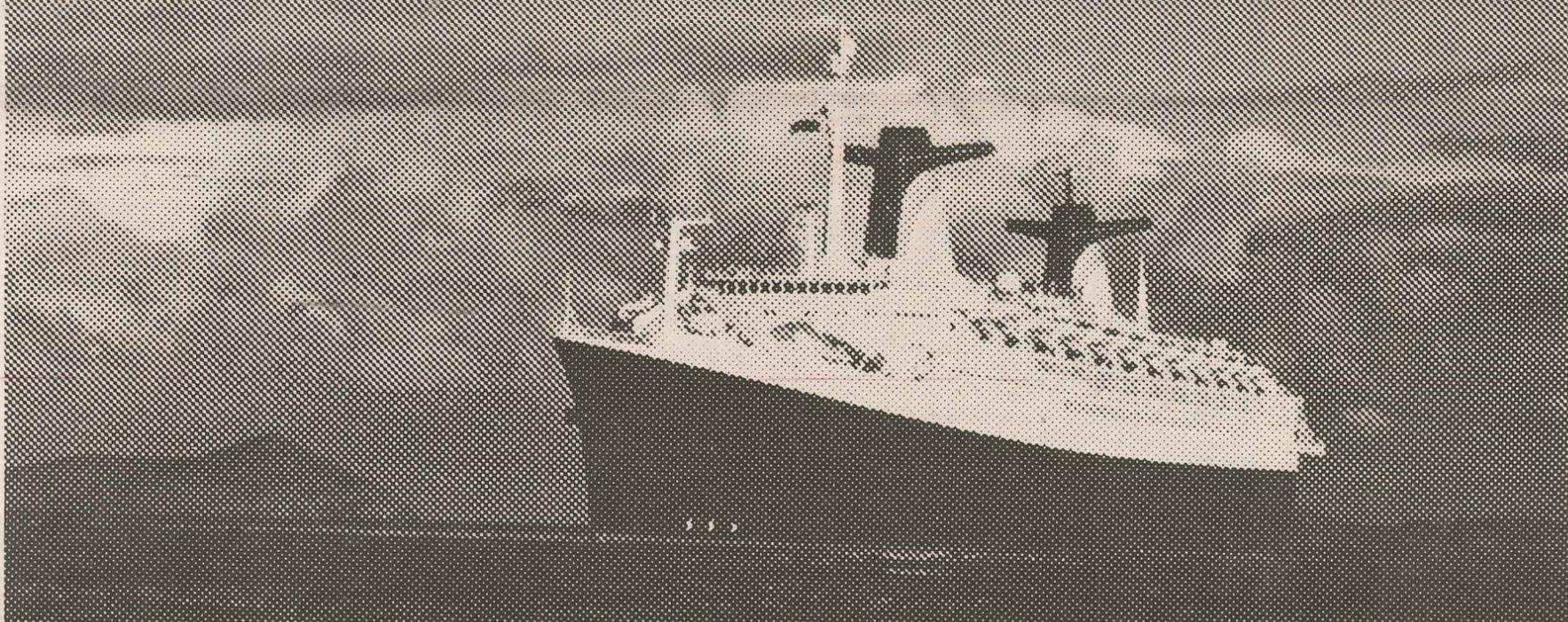
tween Christian workers and Somali converts. Many Somali Christians fled the turmoil, along with tens of thousands of their Muslim countrymen.

For the moment, Islamic extremists appear to be the only outsiders willing to keep pouring resources into the country, the worker said.

Southern Baptists and other Christians from all over the world gave more than \$1.5 million to Somali relief through the Foreign Mission Board during the early stages of the relief effort. Special relief gifts averaged \$10,000 per month. Recent contributions hover at the \$100 per month level.

Southern Baptists who feel the time has not yet passed to assist Somalia can learn how to pray for Somalia and help financially by calling the FMB at (800) 866-FMB1.

# Some People Circle The World Looking For Personal Peace. You Don't Have To Go That Far.

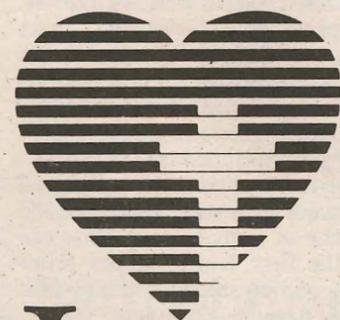


For some people, inner peace is the most elusive thing on earth. But for millions of others, it comes naturally from knowing God.

The God we worship never promised to make life a bed of roses. He doesn't deliver us from the struggles we all have to face. But He gives us the inner peace and strength to endure them. And eventually triumph over them.

That's why we're inviting you to join us in worship. To get to know God. And experience the peace that only He can give firsthand. It can change your life.

Wherever your search for peace has taken you in the past, there's hope for the future, because Jesus cares for you.



## Here's Hope.<sup>®</sup>

*A message of life from Southern Baptists.*

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