



WESTERN RECORDER

April 11, 1995
Vol. 169, No. 15

**WMU
Annual
Meeting**
■ See insert

FOR THE RECORD

SBC schedule

Messengers to this year's Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting will hear Billy Graham and consider approval of a massive reorganizing of the denominational structure. See page 2.

Jury trials

A Kentucky Baptist layman and judge who presided over the Carrollton bus crash case pioneered the concept of trauma counseling for jurors. It's a process the jurors in the O.J. Simpson case could benefit from; he says. See page 3.

Editorial

Surely the Senate will find a more compassionate and equitable way to balance the budget, reduce the deficit, reform welfare and reinvent government than the House has chosen. See page 5.

Students warned

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Al Mohler warned student protesters last week they had stepped out of bounds by telling their story to donors, trustees and alumni. See page 13.

Moving? See page 4 (0411)



HEAD OF CHRIST This piece, titled "The Head of Christ," was sculpted from a mass of clay by Sam Gore during a chapel service March 31 at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. Gore, chairman emeritus of the art department at Mississippi College, created the work, accompanied by a music program, in 20 minutes. Gore said his objective is to share a creative experience while giving quiet adoration and praise to God. (BP photo by Jim Veneman)

Concentration of liquor stores linked to crime

By John Pope
Religion News Service

LOS ANGELES (RNS)—The number of liquor stores in a community has a direct relationship to the rate of violent crime, a Louisiana State University Medical Center researcher reports in what is believed to be the first study of its kind.

Richard Scribner based this conclusion on an examination of 74 Los Angeles County cities in which he and other researchers calculated each municipality's alcoholic-beverage outlets and its numbers of murders, rapes, robberies and assaults in 1990.

In a city of 50,000 people with 100 liquor stores and 570 outbreaks of violent crime, the researchers found an increase of one more liquor store would account for 3.4 more violent offenses, Scribner said. He did the work while at the University of Southern California.

The report was published
□ See Concentration of ..., page 9

Acteens encouraged to hold Jesus' hand

By Joyce Sweeney Martin
Staff Writer

WINCHESTER—Hold Jesus' hand and then reach out with confidence to the world, speakers said during the Kentucky Acteens Conference in Winchester March 31-April 1.

"Together, Hand in Hand" was the theme of the event at Central Baptist Church where more than 735 Acteens and leaders gathered.

Music leader Trish Landers of the Foreign Mission Board and featured speaker Laura Lea Chamblee of the Baptist Convention of New England set an up-beat tone for the meeting.

Landers is the author of the new Acteens theme song "Together, Hand in Hand."

"You are here by divine appointment," Chamblee told the girls in the first of her three messages. "Jesus knows each of you personally; he wants to walk with you hand in hand."

Using Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman recorded in John 4 as a model, Chamblee encouraged the girls to recognize the divine appointments God provides each day and be willing to "splash living water" on those people God places in their paths.

"You are a generation chosen to be

American dream now a 'nightmare' for some kids

By Marv Knox
Editor

LOUISVILLE—The American Dream has become an "American nightmare" for millions of children, pastor/activist Tony Campbell told participants in the Children's Leadership and Training Summit in Louisville last week.

"Creating Opportunities for All Kentucky's Children and Families" was the summit's theme. It was sponsored by Children's Alliance, an association of agencies and individuals that describes itself as "Kentucky's voice for at-risk children and families."

The summit attracted 870 child-care specialists, ministers and citizens concerned about the well-being of children, said Curt Mooney, president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children and current Children's Alliance president.

"Too many of our children have no dreams, no hope, no reason to believe in a promised land," said Campbell, rector of St. James Episcopal Church in Houston and a veteran organizer of community programs that help children.

Campbell cited chilling statistics regarding America's children:

- Of 65 million children, 14 million live in poverty.
- Of those poor children, one in

four are homeless.

■ 12 percent of the nation's children have no health insurance.

■ 30 percent of first graders will not graduate from high school.

■ One in 10 teenage girls gets pregnant each year.

■ 100,000 children go to school armed, and 160,000 don't go because they're afraid of those who are armed.

■ 34 percent of children under age 13 who have had sexual relations have had four or more partners.

Those statistics are not mere numbers, but represent real children, Campbell insisted.

He cited examples to back his claim: A 16-year-old drug dealer with \$2,000 in his pocket, who insists dealing drugs pays better than school and who believes he won't live to age 21. A young mother with three small children who abandons the shelter of an all-time teller machine to forage for food in a New York fast-food garbage bin. A girl in a South Carolina reformatory, pregnant and addicted to drugs, who believes even God doesn't want her.

Adults who care can make a difference in young lives, Campbell said.

"We can turn it around by committing to our children, developing innovative solutions and never giving up," he said.

□ See American dream ..., page 6



life-splashes," she said. "Rejoice in the well."

Not only does God place people in the girls' paths for them to "splash living water" on, but he also places people in their paths from whom the girls can learn "life lessons," Chamblee said in her second message.

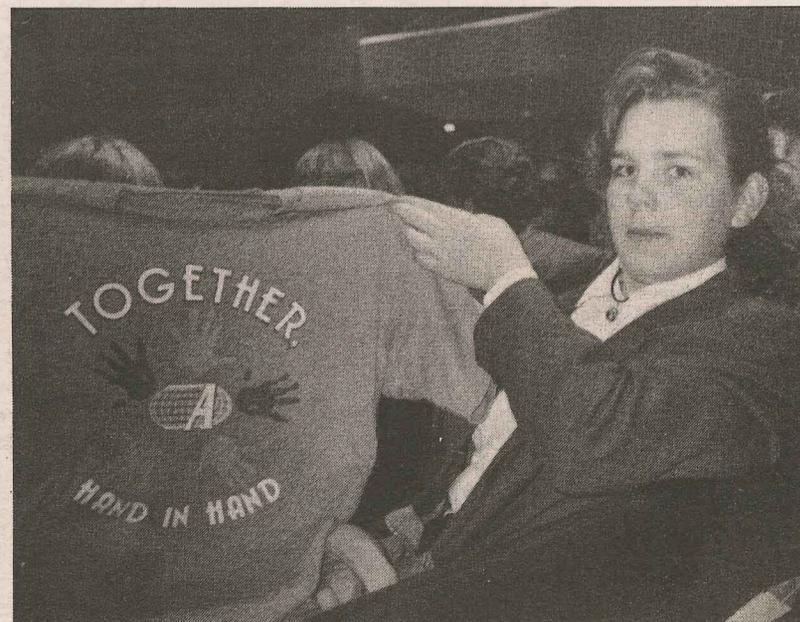
Chamblee shared some of the life

lessons she has learned from others:

■ "God is like Superman," she recalled one teen telling her. "To people who don't know him, he's in disguise like Clark Kent; but to those who know him, he's the real thing."

■ "I'm not getting up; I'm just turning over to get a better look at you,"

□ See Acteens urged ..., page 3



THEME INTERPRETATION Jennifer Vandusen of Bardstown holds up an Acteens conference T-shirt highlighting the conference theme, "Together, Hand in Hand."

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Registration is now open** for the missions day camp for elementary-age children of messengers to this summer's Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting. The day camp is for boys and girls who will have completed grades one through six by June. Registration is open to the first 250 children. Registration packets are available by writing SBC Missions Day Camp, Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104, or calling (901) 272-2461.

■ **Molly Marshall**, former professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, will lecture on "Calvinism and the American Mythos: A Faulty Vision" April 25-26 at Baptist Theological Seminary of Richmond.

■ **Michael Chute**, missionary journalist with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, has been named editor of the Florida Baptist Witness. Chute, 44, succeeds Jack Brymer, who resigned last August citing "continued harassment" from some members of the paper's governing board.

■ **Grady Cothen**, former Sunday School Board president, is writing a sequel to his earlier book about the Southern Baptist Convention controversy. "The New SBC: Fundamentalism's Impact on the Southern Baptist Convention" will be published this summer by Smyth & Helwys.

■ **Brown nominated.** Lavonn Brown, pastor of First Baptist Church of Norman, Okla., has been nominated as moderator-elect of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. His nomination must be approved at the Fellowship's general assembly in Fort Worth, Texas, July 20-23.

Arkansas WMU director criticizes restructuring plan

CONWAY, Ark.—Despite protests to the contrary, Woman's Missionary Union is being "punished" for not submitting to the control of the Southern Baptist Convention's new conservative leaders, charged Julie Ketner, executive director of Arkansas WMU.

Ketner used her annual executive board report to analyze a proposed restructuring of SBC agencies which virtually ignores WMU and assigns some of WMU's traditional roles to other agencies.

She suggested WMU had been snubbed by the study committee—composed of seven white males, mainly from large churches—because of changes begun by WMU in 1993. WMU's plan for the future was criticized by some conservative pastors and SBC leaders because it opened the door for WMU to serve a broader range of missions support than just the SBC's two mission boards.

"You remember the responses: The analogy that WMU had committed adultery, that we had 'declared independence from the Southern Baptist Convention, that our real goal was to promote ordination of women,'" Ketner said. "These and other rumors worked in an attempt to discredit the work of WMU, to bring them under the control of the Southern Baptist Convention."

"The issue then and still is the matter of control," she declared. "WMU did not yield to the threats in 1993 but courageously chose to remain an auxiliary. So what steps have now been taken to 'punish' us for not submitting to control?"

"Woman's Missionary Union has been stripped of her work as missions educators with the assignment of missions education given to the North American Mission Board."

The study committee's explanation that no ministry statements were issued to WMU out of respect for WMU's auxiliary status "sounds good if you don't look at the total picture," she continued.

"Is respect being shown by taking

from us the previously convention-adopted program statements?" she asked. "By taking away that which we started, the promotion of the Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong offerings? Is it respect when they chose not to even develop a written statement to define the relationship between the SBC and WMU?"

"Respect? Hardly," she insisted. "Yes, it may sound good, but for all practical purposes, WMU may have no assigned role to play in the Southern Baptist Convention should the report be approved as is."

"While there is much talk about how the relationship between WMU and the SBC doesn't have to be different," she explained, "without a statement to define that relationship, there is a strong possibility that WMU will eventually have no place in the life of the Southern Baptist Convention. I believe the committee has taken measures for that to happen without any concern for Southern Baptist missions."

Ketner also predicted that if the

report is approved by Southern Baptist Convention messengers in 1995 and 1996, "the future of Woman's Missionary Union is very much in doubt. If WMU is not acknowledged as an SBC missions organization, then most likely there will be no state WMU organization." She told participants, though, that "the concern is greater than whether WMU will continue to exist or if we in the state WMU office will have a place of ministry. The real concern is missions."

"We know who truly is the missions conscience of the church" she said. "It's you, members of Woman's Missionary Union. You, along with all the women since 1888, have been faithful to the task."

Ketner urged WMU members to "speak out and stand up for what we began, what we believe in and what we know is vital to the ongoing mission program of Southern Baptists."

"It is not a time to be silent and let the missions task be taken away from WMU," she said.

Based on a Baptist Press report

SBC messengers will hear Billy Graham and do business

ATLANTA (BP)—Messengers to the 138th session of the Southern Baptist Convention will celebrate the denomination's 150th anniversary, hear evangelist Billy Graham and take a first vote on whether to reduce the size of the SBC's structure.

Meeting in Atlanta's Georgia Dome June 20-22, messengers also will elect a president, conduct other business and hear devotions on the theme "Empowered for the Unfinished Task."

Debate over a proposal to reduce the SBC's agencies from 19 to 12 is expected to be the most controversial business. The downsizing has been recommended by a special study committee and endorsed by the SBC

Executive Committee.

An exact time for this item on the agenda has not been determined, although it likely will be part of the Executive Committee's report Tuesday morning, June 20.

SBC President Jim Henry of Orlando, Fla., is eligible for re-election, and he has indicated he will be nominated. No other presidential candidates have been announced to date.

Because of the anniversary celebration, the proposal to reduce the number of agencies and Graham's appearance, organizers are expecting more than 25,000 messengers.

A variety of prominent SBC figures have been enlisted to bring devotions based on the convention

theme. These include Robert Naylor, former president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; W.A. Criswell, senior pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church of Dallas; Herschel Hobbs, pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City; James Sullivan, retired president of the Sunday School Board; Roy Fish, professor of evangelism at Southwestern Seminary; Alma Hunt, former executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union; Paige Patterson, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary; layman Greg Horton of Simpsonville, S.C.; and Morris Chapman, president of the Executive Committee.

The convention sermon Wednesday

morning will be given by Al Mohler, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

This will be the SBC's first time to meet in the new Georgia Dome, although the convention has met in Atlanta many times before. The Georgia Dome's playing field will be split, with the front platform sitting about on the 50-yard line. With seating on the floor, organizers hope to accommodate about 30,000 people.

Hotel rooms are still available in the Atlanta area, convention organizers said. Because of possible construction work for the 1996 Olympics, convention-goers are encouraged to park their cars and travel via the MARTA rapid-rail system.

Lewis and Land remove signatures

ATLANTA (ABP)—Two Southern Baptist Convention agency heads announced April 6 they will remove their signatures from "Evangelicals and Catholics Together" because of "continuing misperception" about the controversial document they signed last year.

Larry Lewis, president of the Home Mission Board, and Richard Land, executive director of the Christian Life Commission, were among 40 original signers of the document.

The document pledges closer work on areas of common concern between evangelicals and conservative Roman Catholics.

In a joint statement issued on Home Mission Board letterhead, the two SBC leaders did not apologize for signing the evangelical/Catholic accord, but said they decided to remove their signatures because of the "continuing misperception" that they spoke for the SBC when they endorsed the document.

"We continue to believe in ef-

forts which consolidate the influence of evangelicals and Catholics in addressing critical moral issues," the statement said.

"We believe the document 'Evangelicals and Catholics Together' signifies a new era of cooperation on such concerns as freedom of religion, pornography, attacks on faith and family and abortion.

"We, therefore, continue to disagree vigorously with uninformed and distorted criticism of the document."

"However, we have concluded that a significant number of Southern Baptists have been offended by the misperception that our respective agencies have endorsed the document," the statement continued. "No matter how many times we explain that we signed ECT as individuals, not on behalf of our agencies or Southern Baptists, many do not understand."

The men said this does not mean they are personally rejecting the intent of the document or "agreeing with unjust criticism of it."

Waterballooners apply the sermon



"If not here, where? If not now, when? If not you, who?"

KENTUCKY

Baptist judge knows the trouble O.J.'s jurors have seen

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

OWENTON—The verdict is still out in the O.J. Simpson trial, but a Kentucky Baptist judge made a strong case for offering help to jurors who have to face the traumatic aftermath.

"If anyone is ever going to need debriefing in a situation, it would be those jurors," Circuit Court Judge Charles Satterwhite predicted. "You've got to feel sorry for everybody involved with that. Every decision that is made is analyzed, overanalyzed, second-guessed and criticized by top people in the profession. It will be horrendous for those people."

Satterwhite, moderator and long-time member of First Baptist Church in Owenton, knows what it's like to be in the hot seat.

He presided over the much-publicized 1988 Kentucky case Commonwealth vs. Mahoney, which resulted from a church busload of children being struck by a drunken driver near Carrollton.

His compassion and concern for the jurors in that case led him to seek resources for helping them debrief and readjust to a normal routine after the trial was over.

"I knew from the very beginning it would be a very difficult case for everyone involved—just by the nature

of the case," he explained.

Not only were jurors subjected to the spotlight of a high-visibility, public trial. They witnessed disturbing graphic evidence such as a computerized recreation of the death scene, and they heard the testimony of survivors and of family and relatives of the deceased.

In his office late one night after a full day of the harrowing trial, Satterwhite noticed an article telling about counseling services provided for victims and police officers involved in violent crimes.

"I realized if anyone needed counseling, juries would," he said.

Satterwhite contacted Roger Bell, professor of psychiatry at the University of Louisville, to ask if such service were available.

Despite careful research, Bell said, no record could be found. However, he and Satterwhite agreed the project warranted consideration.

"We held what has turned out to be the first jury debriefing of a trial" ever held, Bell said.

Satterwhite and Bell agreed to suggest the group counseling session to jurors immediately after they reached a verdict.

"As soon as the trial concluded,

(Bell) and a psychiatrist would be available," Satterwhite said. When the courtroom was cleared, all jurors were invited to talk about what happened and how to re-enter a life of normalcy.

Although attendance was voluntary, "I believe nine or 10 of the 12 jurors attended, plus two alternates, Judge Satterwhite, the court reporter and the bailiff," Bell said.

Bell and Theodore Feldmann conducted the first session, about two hours in length. "We followed standard crisis debriefing strategies," Bell said.

Jurors raised a variety of personal concerns.

"It was Dec. 22 at 4 p.m., and they wanted to know how to get into the Christmas spirit since they'd spent Nov. 1-Dec. 22 dealing with the trial," Bell said.

Other jurors were concerned about going back to work, about working with a relative of the defendant and even about being around their families again.

Jurors had been silenced from speaking about the trial for so long that the debriefing session was important for helping them begin to talk openly again, Bell said.

During the session, jurors and leaders talked about possible side ef-

fects of the trial—sleeplessness, nightmares, flashbacks and difficulty returning to "normal" life.

"The debriefing let them know they're not alone—all of them were feeling the same thing," Satterwhite said.

Unless the symptoms persisted long-term and became intrusive of their daily routines, jurors were told, what they would experience was "a normal response of the body to being involved in a traumatic event not of their own making."

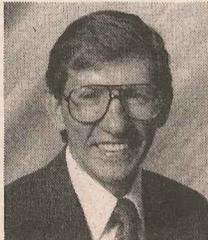
Coping skills included good nutrition, a fixed sleep cycle, a steady routine and honesty with family members, Bell said.

A year later, Satterwhite said, eight jurors returned for a follow-up session to evaluate their progress and the positive impact of the counseling.

Satterwhite himself found help through the counseling and through his church, he said.

"That trial certainly was like nothing I've ever had before and hope never to have again," he said. "I'm glad I went through the counseling too. It helped me to cope with the situation."

"It certainly would have been more difficult for someone who was not a Christian or did not have a strong faith," he added. "I did not begin a day of court without my own private thoughts and meditation."



Satterwhite

NEW FRIENDS Mary Harrison, director of pastoral care at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington, gives personal attention to a youngster waiting at a free health clinic recently held at Oneida Baptist Institute by representatives of Baptist Healthcare System. In cooperation with the school and Booneville-Irvine Baptist Association, BHS staffers offered free health screenings and general medical checkup to residents of the Oneida area. The team screened 350 individuals and distributed 100 pairs of eyeglasses. The eyeglasses were donated by four optical shops in the Paducah area, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Bowling Green Woman's Club and the Woman's Missionary Union of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green.

BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ **Board members named.** Seven people have been added to the board of directors for Baptist Healthcare Foundation: Robert Duncan, a Lexington attorney; Greg Hancock, an Ashland businessman; Russell Hoffman, a Louisville physician; Betty Johnson, a Georgetown insurance agent; Bret Robbe, an Owensboro pastor; Jack Fox, a well-known Louisville radio personality; and Claudio Ratti, a Louisville businessman. Officers elected for the Foundation board of directors include James Hargrove, chairman; Doyle Baker, vice chairman; and Larry Ensor, treasurer.

■ **Henry at Campbellsville.** Southern Baptist Convention President Jim Henry will be the keynote speaker for the annual Heritage Day at Campbellsville College next fall. Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church of Orlando, Fla., will speak at the Sept. 20 event in celebration of the SBC's 150th anniversary.

■ **Conference on the cross.** Cumberland College will host a "Conference on the Cross" April 24-25 at the Cumberland Lodge. Theme for the conference is "God Gave Us the Cross; the Cross Gives Us God." The conference is co-sponsored by the college and Robert Williams, who donated his collection of more than 6,100 crosses from around the world to the college's Cumberland Museum. Registration is \$10, and a Monday evening banquet is \$15.

For information, call (606) 539-4227.

■ **Scholarship established.** The Alan Bradford Memorial Scholarship has been established at Georgetown College in memory of a 1994 graduate who was killed last summer while traveling home from a summer missions assignment. The scholarship was established by Bradford's parents, Marion and Marti Bradford of Hendersonville, Tenn.



Acteens urged to hold Jesus' hand and reach out to others

Continued from page 1

4-year-old Jesse told her father one night when he went into her bedroom to check on her during a thunderstorm. When Jesus came in a life filled with loneliness, depression and insecurities, "turn over and get a better look at him," Chamblee counseled. "You'll hear him say 'I love you.'"

In the final worship session of the conference, Chamblee reminded the

teens that each is a pearl—a Person Eternally Altered by Redeeming Love. She called the girls to commitment to Jesus as Savior, to mission service and to walk hand-in-hand in prayer and witness.

And as a reminder of their eternal significance, Chamblee gave each girl a "pearl pin"—a tiny safety pin holding a pearl.

During the Winchester meeting, Kentucky Acteens and their leaders

also:

■ Attended special-interest conferences which included reports from missionaries to Brazil and Yemen, help in facing issues such as AIDS and Christian dating and training for leading Acteens organizations in the local church.

■ Recognized girls for achievements in StudiAct, the Acteens personal study plan.

■ Commissioned six Acteens Ac-

tivator teams for 1995 mission trips. Kentucky WMU Acteens Associate Julie Keith commended Acteens Activators from Calvary Baptist Church of Stanford, Cynthia Baptist Church of Cynthiana, Hartford Baptist Church of Hartford, High Street Baptist Church of Somerset, Highview Baptist Church of Louisville and Lucas Grove Baptist Church of Upton for their willingness to spend at least 50 hours in training for the trips.

WESTERN RECORDER

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

MARV KNOX
Editor

MARK WINGFIELD
News Director

MAURI SMITH
Marketing & Business
Manager

C. R. DALEY
Editor Emeritus

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Directors: Don Mantoath, Morehead, chairman; Tom Curry, Louisville, vice chairman; Jim Abernathy, Covington, secretary; Mark Boes, Cecilia; Rusty Ellison, Benton; Frank Hatfield, Shepherdsville; Sherry Hignite, London; June B. Rice, Paintsville; John Searcy, Franklin; William Thurman, Lexington; James Weaver, Madisonville; Kenneth Wells, Somerset.

Share Christ

As a graduate of Southern Seminary, I am grieved to learn of continued turmoil there. Balancing the interests of students, faculty, administration and trustees must be a very difficult task. However, I sense little, if any, of the commitment to students and faculty that once prevailed. Confrontations as have recently occurred are an embarrassment.

The crux of the issue seems to be a perceived theological incongruence between an outstanding seminary and a distinguished school of social work. Few would question Dr. Al Mohler's intellectual ability and desire for the continuance of academic integrity, but his difficulty in distinguishing the congruence of theological education and a social work education is, at best, regretful.

Traditional social workers have only a cup of water to offer thirsty souls. Christian social ministers are able to offer a well that will never run dry. The glory of this truth is that God welcomes anyone who will come to the well. As Baptists, we must recommit ourselves to training individuals who demonstrate theology by sharing the well of eternal significance rather than a cup of temporal remedies.

Our hearts must be broken for all who are in need. We must share indiscriminately the Christ and the hope that is found only through a personal relationship with our Savior.

John R. Walker Jr.
Frankfort

Icing on the cake

It amazes me how we Southern Baptists have gotten ourselves into a squabbling bunch of people.

If students decide on seminary

Allelujah!

More Kentucky Baptists will be in church this Sunday than on any other Sunday of the year.

Such is true for all of Christendom. Church members who attend regularly will intermingle with those who rarely attend, sometimes mistaken as "visitors."

I will be there with Alice. Surrounded by worshipping friends and their families, I will rejoice that, indeed, Christ is risen! And I will marvel that God has commissioned his church, this church, my church to continue the ministry of Christ in the world.

Winter has resurrected into spring; birds are singing and preparing for the hatchlings that will soon appear; grass is greener; early flowers are blooming. Easter is a glorious time!

In reading these past few weeks, I came across again some writing by Evelyn Underhill (1875-1941), a Christian mystic whose life and writings made a deep impact on her generation and those to follow.

This portion, taken from one of her letter exchanges, seems to me fitting for us this Sunday:

"The church is in the world to save

training, then they will know what principles will be taught before enrolling. I believe what Carver School students need to understand is to love everyone for Christ's sake, minister in Christ's name, but hate the sin. Christ told the woman caught in adultery, "Go and sin no more." He showed his compassion; he did commune with sinners in different situations, but he never condoned the sin.

The Pope and priests have spoken out about the issues. Never have I heard anyone called a bigot. They shouldn't be! But let a Southern Baptist speak out, we are belittled as being uneducated, unenlightened, even Calvinistic, my goodness!

None of us want our intelligence under attack, but you know what, Jesus not only called a learned Paul, but he called simple fishermen. Have we become so wise as it says in the Bible, we have become foolish? How will they know if we don't tell them in our own way, loving but not condoning "even our own sin." Maybe we are being tested in these days to see how strong we really are. This is only the icing on the cake.

Phyllis J. Barnes
Louisville

Support Carver

Recent events at Southern Seminary have raised a question in many Southern Baptists' minds about what church social work actually is.

Church social work is a unique way of communicating the gospel. Taking Matthew 25 seriously, we try to take our faith and put it into action, ministering to people in every situation, though we may not approve of the situations in which those people are involved.

We staff the Baptist children's

the world. It is a tool of God for that purpose; not a comfortable religious club established in fine historical premises.

"Thank you so much for your very kind and interesting letter. ... I am indeed glad you have come to see so clearly how necessary it is that we should try humbly to accept and use religious institutions and not cut ourselves off from history and the common life, if we are to develop a really wholesome and Christian type of spirituality. The withdrawal of the 'cultured' from church life has two very bad results, (a) it either shrivels or puffs up their souls, (b) it deprives the institutional life of the contribution they ought to be making to it.

"I feel the regular, steady, docile practice of corporate worship is of the utmost importance for the building up of your spiritual life. No amount of solitary reading makes up for humble immersion in the life and worship of the church. In fact, my books are only addressed to those who are taking part in that life. The corporate and personal together make up the Christian ideal.

"Now as to institutionalism. When I said I desired for you a more sacramental type of religion, the last thing

homes, fill home and foreign missionary positions in the Christian social missionary division, and fill church and associational positions. We believe that through a redemptive relationship, modeled after the relationship God offers us, we can lead people to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, and many of us have done just that.

Now it seems that this type of witness is in danger. Some are trying to avoid the issue of the Carver School of Church Social Work by turning attention to doctrinal issues. However, the future of the Carver School is hanging in the balance.

We need Kentucky Baptists to step out in support of the Carver School by writing or calling the president of Southern Seminary, Al Mohler. The phone number is (800) 626-5525. As Southern Baptists, our top priority is reclaiming this world for the gospel of Jesus Christ. May this never be suppressed.

Jean Cullen
Louisville

Thanks

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Western Recorder for the wonderful coverage of the 1995 Migrant Ministries Conference (WR, March 21). Ethnic missions faces many inherent difficulties springing out of language and cultural barriers. These are compounded by a tremendous lack of awareness of language ministry needs across our state. Thanks for helping us get the word out!

Thanks also to Melanie Childers for helping communicate our needs. May God continue to bless the WR's ministry as beacons of truth.

Renato Santos, language consultant
Kentucky Baptist Convention
Louisville

I meant was 'music, beauty and liturgy.' By all means have a taste of these from time to time if they appeal to you—but please recognize them clearly for what they are, the chocolate-creams of religion.

"By sacramentalism I mean the humble acceptance of grace through the medium of things—God coming into our souls by means of humblest accidents—the intermingling of spirit and sense. This is the corrective—one of the correctives—needed by your tendency to 'loftiness.'

"The church is an 'essential service' like the post office, but there will always be some narrow, irritating and inadequate officials behind the counter, and you will always be tempted to exasperation by them.

"Lord Christ, come to me and cleanse me! Cleanse my feet which have followed the dusty paths of my own desires. Cleanse my lips that have often uttered unloving words. Cleanse my hands that have grasped at pleasure and my own advantage, so that I may help the coming of the Kingdom and do the Father's will. And oh, cleanse my vision! That I may see within the mysteries of your church and the events of my life, the ceaseless purifying action of your generous, patient love."

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



FAMILY FORUM: MARRIAGE

'I'm sorry'

By Diana Garland

Alice turns to Rick and says, "I'm sorry you are so mad at me. Can we be friends again?" Rick feels guilty for being angry, and so they kiss and try to put the hurt behind them. Rick believes, after all, that Christians are supposed to forgive and forget.

Rick and Alice's definition of forgiveness does not begin to get at the root of what Christian forgiveness is all about. They have equated forgiveness with restoration of relationship, leaving out the vital element of repentance on Alice's part. She has only said she is sorry for the rift in the relationship; she has not said that she is wrong and wants to change.

Christian forgiveness of one another should rest on our understanding of God's forgiveness of us. We know that God loves us and stands waiting to forgive us of sin. We must repent, however, acknowledging our sin and claiming God's grace to help us live a transformed life.

It is the same in marriage. Sometimes spouses say "I'm sorry" when all they mean is "Please stop being mad at me." The real meaning of "I'm sorry" ought to be, "I am sorrowful for what I have done. I will try never to do it again. I will try to find a way to fix what I have done in the past."

Forgiveness must be met with a change of heart and a change of action. When the king forgave the servant in Jesus' parable, it was with the expectation that the servant in turn would change. When that change was not evident, the king's righteous anger blazed forth (Matthew 18:21-34).

To be a peacemaker in marriage does not mean that one simply smooths over the ruffles of married life and pretends the hurt is not there. Many times we need to recognize we both have acted in hurtful ways. We both need to respond with repentance.

Practicing genuine forgiveness and repentance takes a lot of work. It is far easier to "forgive and forget."

Reconciliation that comes from forgiveness and repentance, however, means remembering and celebrating a love that is a witness to the love and righteousness of God.

Diana Garland is director of the Gheens Center for Christian Family Ministry at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

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

Maybe Senators can put a heart in the Contract

Americans can be grateful our nation has a Senate as well as a House of Representatives. With breathtaking speed, the House has acted on the 10 provisions of the Contract with America. The balanced budget amendment has failed, and the "unfunded mandates" bill has become law. Now, the Senate continues its slow, methodical deliberation of the remaining proposals. We can pray the plodding Senate will find time to include reason and compassion in the process of governing; the House galloped right past those noble virtues during its 100-day race.

That's not to say some ideals of the Contract are without merit. Editorials on this page have advocated balancing the federal budget and reducing the deficit. Another has urged reforming welfare so that able Americans have an incentive to support themselves and their children. The problem with the Contract is its insensitivity to real-world problems and its insistence that the wrong people pay for those problems.

Debate about the Contract has taken on a bumper-sticker tone rather than reasoned discourse among our leaders. Worse still, it has scapegoated the weakest members of our nation—those unable to defend themselves in the public square. So, children in households headed by women and the disabled are likely to find the portions on their federal plates diminished. Their meager meals will go to fund the appetizers of the corporations' and the wealthiest Americans' feast of tax breaks and depreciation increases.

Of course, almost everyone who can read a newspaper is by now familiar with prevailing economic theory. It's a paraphrase of what was said during the boom following World War II: "What's good for General Motors is good for America." Every sane person wants a strong economy. But if we as a nation neglect our poorest children, we're bankrupt, no matter what the Federal Reserve Board says.

Statistics raised by child advocates in recent weeks illustrate the pit-

falls of balancing the budget on the backs of our children and youth:

- Last month, the House passed the "Personal Responsibility" Act, cutting \$66 billion from food and domestic anti-poverty programs. Meanwhile, Representatives have proposed \$189 billion in tax breaks over five years for upper- and middle-income people.

- Churches—whose members don't tithe, but give an average of between 2 percent and 3 percent of their incomes—seem incapable of making up the shortfall. During the past decade, 150,000 private agencies, including churches, have come up with \$3 billion to \$4 billion in groceries for hungry people each year. That's noble, but not enough.

- Of Americans who work full-time, 18 percent earn less than poverty-level wages.

- Food stamps provide less than 50 cents per meal.

- Children represent 40 percent of the nation's poor, although they represent only 25 percent of the population.

- In Kentucky, the combined benefits of food stamps and Aid to Families with Dependent Children fund a family at less than half the poverty level.

- In Kentucky, the Contract's welfare reform would deny support benefits to 81,000 children.

We can hope and pray the Senate will find a more compassionate and equitable way to balance the budget, reduce the deficit, reform welfare and reinvent government.

Some people say Christians shouldn't get involved in issues like the Contract with America. However, Jesus commanded his followers to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. As long as churches and humanitarian agencies cannot make up the shortfall, Christians are bound to prompt the government to help feed our hungry and clothe our naked.

Marv Knox

Every sane person wants a strong economy. But if we as a nation neglect our poorest children, we're bankrupt, no matter what the Federal Reserve Board says.

Keeping orthodoxy

Michael Barley needs to study his church history a bit more closely (WR, March 28). Calvinism does not lead to liberalism; it is a bastion against liberalism.

The United Presbyterians got rid of Calvinism (except the polity and sacraments) a long time ago—then they got rid of everything else. It began in the 1880s, when a few misguided Presbyterian leaders allowed liberal, anti-Calvinist, anti-evangelical professors to keep their jobs at Presbyterian seminaries in the interest of "academic freedom" (sound familiar?).

By 1929, the liberals were running the seminaries, and they repaid the conservatives by getting rid of all of them!

The smaller Presbyterian denominations, who stayed faithful to the heart of Calvinism, had no problem with liberal professors and preachers. There are no liberal professors at all at Reformed Presbyterian Seminary, Covenant Seminary or Westminster Seminary, the conservative schools. They excommunicate them if they

begin to teach liberalism.

The modernist Presbyterians use Calvin's name on their churches. That doesn't make them Calvinists in anything but name. After all, we use the names of Calvinists on our Baptist books. Basil Manly Jr. and John A. Broadus were two died-in-the-wool Calvinists, and the namesakes of Broadman Press.

The uniform verdict of church history is that getting rid of Calvinism eventually leads to liberalism. Keep-

ing it preserves faithfulness to Christian orthodoxy.

Charles T. Buntin
Mayfield

Lack of integrity

The church is losing ground. I'm not talking about a decrease in baptisms or professions of faith, but a lack of integrity among leadership.

Like a cancer, it will destroy our homes and neighborhoods and kill churches' influence and mission.

As a young person, I always heard perilous times would come, and as the Apostle Paul so eloquently advised Timothy, "The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine."

It makes sense that in order for Paul to have written about perilous times, he would have to experience the very times he wrote about. Being a minister, I am finding his words are

exactly right.

Down through history, people have compromised their beliefs and the truth in order to appease a self-serving motive. This attitude is not only repulsive, but it breaks the heart of God.

So how should people respond to lack of integrity? Christians are to expect it (II Timothy 3:1). We should not be surprised if it creeps into our church leadership or even our own houses (v. 6). And this situation will only get worse (v. 13).

Jude urged his readers to "earnestly contend for the faith." No matter how bad it gets for Christians to live in the world, we must uphold godly integrity in our own lives and resolve with Joshua of old when he said, "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 23:15).

John Mark Roberts
Murray

BAPTIST FORUM

Did those NASA scientists get their start with milk cartons and 2-litre bottles?

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to be a parent these days, but it might help.

In the never-ending quest for second-grade knowledge, we're building a space station. I'm not sure whether it's a scientific endeavor or an art project. But it's an ambitious effort to launch Ruth Dunn School ahead of Ruthovich Dunnski Schools in the race to put children on Mars. Most evenings at bedtime, I hope we win.

Molly's the one who said we had to do it. She came home from school one day and announced it over the dinner table. "We've got to build a space station," is what I think she said.

Neither her mother nor I have ever visited the campus of MIT, much less studied there, so we don't exactly know how to

build a space station.

"Sugar, I'm not sure we know how to build a space station," I told Molly.

"Doesn't matter," she responded. "Mrs. Harvey said."

Hey, if you're the parent of a second-grader, you don't argue with the teacher. So Molly pulled the instructions out of her backpack, and we studied them. Theoretically at least, they were in English.

A couple of days later, Joanna saw Mrs. Harvey. She explained that our family is

"mechanically challenged" and asked if any space-station instructions come with pictures.

Apparently a sizable portion of parent-America hasn't gone to Rocket Science University, because Mrs. Harvey sent home a note saying not to get space fright over space stations. "Have fun," she said. "Use your imaginations."

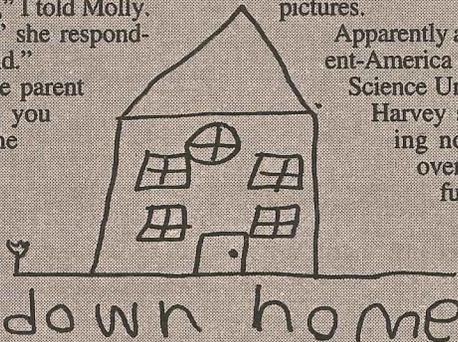
Now we're building a space station. Right at our kitchen table. Out of milk cartons, 2-litre bottles, Legos, plastic wrap and electrical tape. So far, I haven't learned much about space,

but I have proven my daddy's theory that WD-40 is excellent for taking sticky labels off of plastic bottles.

My job's been to retrofit our raw materials into space-station components. I don't think I would give away any national-security secrets by announcing our space station will have two 1-percent milk carton rooms attached by a 2-litre cola-bottle corridor.

I must admit Molly's 1-inch-high astronauts look much more space-worthy than my plastic station. But so far, my greatest accomplishment has been resisting the temptation to declare, "If God had meant for people to live on Mars, we would've been born there!"

Marv Knox



CHILDREN

American dream a 'nightmare' for kids

Continued from page 1

"Statistics have been called 'people with the tears washed off.' Church folks need to see the tears on faces. That makes (poverty and abuse) seem real."

Diana Garland

A key solution is the formation of community groups—comprised of parents, teachers, social-service agencies and churches—who work together to change local conditions and improve the lives of children, he noted.

"We must collaborate and break down barriers between institutions to say, 'Yes, we will work together for the good of children in America,'" he insisted. "We must keep our children's dreams alive. We must lead the way for them. We must give them hope."

Churches can play a huge role in that effort, but not in the way most social workers think, said Diana Garland, director of the Gheens Center for Christian Family Ministry at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Child advocates "should be helping the church accomplish its mission" rather than looking to the church as a source for money, said Garland, who led a seminar on the church's role in advocating on behalf of children and their families.

"Churches are best at building community, social networking, helping and befriending," she said. "Churches can do things that never could be done through (social work) agencies."

Church-based child advocacy must "begin with Scripture and ground everything in the Christian faith," Garland stressed. "We must look at everything from the ground up—why Christians should care, what churches should do."

Churches also are excellent places to put faces on facts, she added. "Sta-

tistics have been called 'people with the tears washed off.' Church folks need to see the tears on faces. That makes (poverty and abuse) seem real."

And churches are natural channels for urging people to collaborate on solving the problems of children, she said. "Churches are good at this; they exist in community," she explained. "Advocacy is not a one-shot deal. We must be persistent, look at long-range goals" and work together.

Collaboration is vital if people who are concerned about children expect to make a difference nationally, said Nancy Amidei, a social work professor at the University of Washington and a national leader in children's issues.

"The deal is this: As citizens, we get to tell our lawmakers our ideas for new laws and for changing existing laws," said Amidei, who led the successful protest when President Ronald Reagan tried to declare ketchup a vegetable for school lunches.

Those ideas are examined by lawmakers, who ask three basic questions, she said: Is it a good idea? Is it the best use of tax money? And will a majority of citizens support it?

"The beautiful thing is we have entry points at every level, and the ticket is our votes," she said.

Remarkably, a small percentage of votes can make a difference in government policy, she added. Last fall, only 38 percent of registered voters voted, which meant the political win-

ners represented slightly less than 20 percent of all eligible voters.

Amidei urged citizens who want to support children to act now. "We must put our A-No. 1 priority on organizing politically to be as formidable to people in office as any political group."

As important as that organization is nationally, it is even more important at state and local levels, she said. That's because Congress' intention to convert federal aid to block grants means state and local lawmakers will have greater say in how the money is spent.

"Children's advocates must understand the need to show up" at state legislatures and city and county commission meetings, she stressed.

And they should take courage in past successes, Amidei added.

"This isn't the only bad situation," she said of the current political climate. "For years, we've heard the budgets are tight, the voters are mad and the incumbents are scared.

"But during those times, we've won many victories," she said, citing low-cost housing, parental and medical leave, the Americans with Disabilities Act, a federal child-care bill and Medicare coverage of mammograms.

"The reason we won was not because Democrats were the majority in Congress," she said. "All of it happened because people across the country voted and wrote and showed up until the politicians said, 'OK, OK, I got the message.'"



'What you do to children, you do to Jesus'

By Marv Knox
Editor

LOUISVILLE—The way Christians treat children directly reflects the depth of their faith, Diana Garland told participants in a seminar on child advocacy.

"Children are Jesus in our midst, and how we treat children is how we treat our Lord," said Garland, director of the Gheens Center for Christian Family Ministry at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Garland led one of 36 seminars during the Children's Leadership and Training Summit, sponsored by Children's Alliance in Louisville last week.

Before the church pleads the case for children in the public square, it must get its house in order with regard to the way it treats children, Garland told about 50 social workers, ministers and foster parents.

Local congregations consistently need to do at least four things on behalf of children, Garland urged.

■ "We must be welcoming of children in our midst—children who already are in the church," she said.

Southern Baptists tend to do well with age-graded programs, but

consequently segregate their churches by age, she said, noting this cuts children and adults off from important relationships.

Churches should think about creating ways for children to interact with members of all ages, she added.

One example is a "rocking chair Sunday school class," in which parents and children study the Bible together. Another is to rent a laundromat, allowing people to wash their clothes for free and conduct a multi-generational Bible study at the same time.

She praised churches that sponsor churchwide Wednesday night suppers, with adults and children gathered around the same tables. "That's like a family reunion," which is how it ought to be, she said.

■ "We need to rethink how we do worship," Garland insisted.

"Children are disruptive and difficult," she conceded, noting youngsters can be distracting during worship. "But that's wonderful. It reminds us of what's important."

Children ought to be integrated into worship, she said. That could include leading prayers, writing and leading responsive readings, reading Scripture, preparing banners for the sanctuary, singing, presenting skits,

playing instruments and collecting the offering.

It also could include preparing special bulletins for children, dividing sermons into shorter segments and even providing stuffed-animal "worship pals" for small children.

■ Churches can strengthen their ministries, enrich their members and teach children about ministry by involving children in Christian care, she said.

Children can accompany adults on visits to the sick and homebound, she said, urging that children be encouraged to prepare a small gift or card to leave with the person visited. And the trip itself can be used to build bonds between the child and the adult who make the visit.

■ Churches can instill responsibility in children by involving them in church administration, Garland insisted.

"Sure, this is slower and less-efficient" than adults-only committees and programs, she acknowledged. But it's as important to focus on developing young lives as it is to concentrate on pushing work through committee, she added.

"Let's not be hypocritical," Garland said. "Put children first in our churches."

Children At Risk

■ One-quarter of all U.S. children live below the poverty level—\$11,890 for a family of three in 1993 dollars.

■ Four in 10 poor children live in families classified as "desperately poor," with incomes less than half the poverty level.

■ Families who receive food stamps get less than 50 cents per person per meal.

■ Families with children comprise the fastest-growing group of homeless people.

■ On any given night, 10,000 U.S. children are homeless.

■ In Kentucky, 6,966 children live in foster care, and 2,160 are institutionalized, all because they have been abused or neglected. That is an 82 percent increase since 1990.

■ Head Start has openings for only 36 percent of Kentucky children who are eligible.

■ 8.65 million U.S. children do not have private medical care; only 55 percent of 2-year-olds are fully immunized against preventable childhood diseases.

■ Reports of child abuse and neglect have almost tripled since 1980, with 2.9 million cases annually.

■ The number of children in foster care has doubled in the past decade, even though the number of children in society has declined.

■ More than 1 million teenage girls become pregnant every year; 69 percent are not married.

■ Each day, 13 U.S. children are killed by guns.

■ Kentuckians pay more to board a German Shepherd in a kennel than they pay a foster parent to care for an abused child.

—Compiled from the Children's Defense Fund and "Precious in His Sight: a Guide to Child Advocacy," by Diana Garland

CHILDREN

Gubernatorial forum focuses on juvenile crime, KERA

By Joyce Sweeney Martin
Staff Writer

LOUISVILLE—An increase in juvenile crime and the Kentucky Education Reform Act elicited the most forceful responses from Kentucky's six candidates for governor at a forum on issues affecting children April 4.

The forum was sponsored by Children's Alliance, an association of service agencies, professionals and citizens committed to being Kentucky's voice for at-risk children and families.

The candidates stated their positions on what moderator Neal Conan of National Public Radio called "hot-button" issues: health care, education, safety and economic security.

The four Democrats and two Republicans all proposed getting tough on juvenile offenders.

Kentuckians "are demanding that the punishment fit the crime," said Republican Larry Forgy. Rape and assault by a 15-year-old "are as serious as if they were done by a 35-year-old."

Forgy's rival for the Republican nomination, Bob Gable, agreed. "Society needs to be protected from children who are violent criminals." It's time to rethink the secrecy afforded juvenile court proceedings, he said.

Democrat Bob Babbage said he would open up juvenile proceedings to public scrutiny. In addition, he proposed opening more alternative schools and focusing on early-intervention for at-risk youth.

Democrat John "Eck" Rose agreed that juveniles should be tried in adult court but advocated leaving the juvenile secrecy code in place to protect non-violent juvenile offenders.

Discipline in the schools and community was the theme of Democrat Paul Patton's answer to juvenile crime. He called for military-style "boot camps" for serious offenders.

Get students to focus on achieving the American dream, said Democrat Gatewood Galbraith. Then there will be no need for "police or dogs in schools," he said.

Candidates gave generally favorable marks to KERA, but each had suggestions for refining it.

"Just about everything (in KERA) is working," said Rose, although he went on to say he would change the testing system.

Frankfort must make fewer decisions and allow the local school-based

councils to make more, Gable said. However, he does not believe much will happen as long as the Kentucky Education Association is in charge. True accountability will come when educators measure how much learning really occurs, not how instruction fits KERA rules, Gable said.

Forgy advocated measures for determining if "we are straying too far from the basics" of reading, writing and arithmetic.

Galbraith proposed getting rid of waste in KERA, including out-of-state consultants. "Political correctness," he said, "is one plus one equals two and potato spelled without an 'e.'"

Candidates' responses to other "hot-button" issues included:

■ On health care.

Each candidate expressed opposition to Kentucky's medical-services provider tax.

Rose compared the tax to asking teachers to fund education or law enforcement officials to fund the war on crime. However, he said he would veto any plan that would repeal the tax without replacing the money it currently generates.

■ On economic security.

Both Babbage and Gable advocated creating an employer-friendly environment which will provide what Babbage called work which will enable Kentuckians "to live well." He called for "real work for Kentuckians" which would enable more people to move off welfare.

Education is the long-term solution to Kentucky's poverty, according to Rose. But for the short term, government must work to break the poverty cycle by providing training for adults and quality day care for children, he said.

Patton agreed. "The root of all of Kentucky's economic problems is its neglect of education for 100 years." He pointed to his record as lieutenant governor as evidence that he can deliver what is needed to change Kentucky.

Gable promised to keep a safety net in place if the federal government cuts welfare funding.

Citing statistics which show 60 percent of jobs in the 21st century will require a college degree, yet Kentucky ranks 48th among the 50 states in number of college graduates, Babbage re-iterated his plan to provide post secondary scholarships to Kentucky students.



Mississippi churches get families off welfare

By David Snyder
Religion News Service

JACKSON, Miss. (RNS)—Frances White said she was about to trade her dream of becoming an operating room nurse for a life on welfare when the church folks with Faith and Families discovered her.

"I'd be homeless," the 39-year-old single mother of three said. "It had got to where I didn't know which way to go. I didn't have money for anything."

Then Crossgates Baptist Church of Brandon, Miss., a participant in the state-administered Faith and Families program, stepped in with a life-preserver.

The congregation paid her telephone bill so they could stay in touch, paid two months back rent, repaired her car and provided food.

Today she is back on track to earn a nursing degree in two years. After that, she wants to get a master's degree so she can teach nursing.

Meanwhile, Crossgates has adopted two more welfare families and hopes to get them off welfare.

White's success story is what Mississippi Gov. Kirk Fordice must have had in mind when he announced the Faith and Families initiative. The program invites churches to take total responsibility for needy families in an effort to eliminate welfare.

If each of the state's 5,000 churches and synagogues assumed responsibility for getting a family off welfare for 10 years, Fordice said, Mississippi could all but eliminate its welfare burden.

The expectations have become a little less grandiose since then, and signing up churches has been difficult. But Virginia Good, Faith and Families coordinator, said the pro-

gram is making a difference.

Faith and Families has enlisted 11 churches that are working with 10 welfare families, she said.

If the churches get 10 people off welfare, it's worth it, Good said.

Critics are not so enthusiastic. Measured against a list of 55,000 welfare families, Faith and Families is not a solution, they say.

"It's really a joke," said Beatrice Branch, president of the Mississippi NAACP. "Look at the number of children on welfare and the number of churches involved. If he (Fordice) is really concerned about families being self-sufficient, he should be pushing for a minimum-wage increase and bringing jobs to Mississippi."

But Good, 23, a political science major and the daughter of a Baptist minister, is not deterred.

When church leaders around the state mostly ignored a written appeal for participation in the program, Faith and Families changed its strategy.

"What it has taken is for me to go and talk to them one-on-one," she said. "I have been all over the state."

By the end of the year, Good said, she hopes to sign up 100 churches.

The purpose of Faith and Families is spelled out in a mission statement that begins, "Our nation's welfare system is broken. It has become a destructive trap locking our poor into an ever-deepening cycle of dependency and hopelessness."

It invites churches to "turn our welfare system around and head the people of our state in a positive direction, toward stronger families, self-sufficiency and independence from governmental intervention."

That has meant different things to different churches.

Crossgates stepped in after White was involved in an automobile acci-

dent that left her with back problems and on crutches. She could neither work at the nursing home that provided much of the family's income nor pursue her degree in nursing.

Church members stay in touch with her, provide food to supplement food stamps, and stand ready to deal with emergencies. White expects to break out of the welfare cycle when she graduates in two years.

"I almost gave up," she said, "but I'm determined. I went to school on crutches."

For Rhonda Aldredge, adopted by Stronger Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson, the program has meant counseling and help in getting a job. Aldredge, 25, a single mother of two, went on welfare while putting herself through college. She will get a degree in social work in May.

A church committee helped her prepare a resume, got her a stop-gap job at a day-care center, and Pastor Ronald Moore is walking her job application through the state Department of Human Services.

The congregation of St. Andrews United Methodist Church in McComb, Miss., took a different approach.

Barry and Cindy Cupit were on welfare and struggling with a long list of medical problems when the church took them out of a public housing development across the street, moved them into an extra parsonage owned by the church and made Cupit the church custodian.

Mrs. Cupit said her husband is mentally disabled and never had been able to hold down a job. Because he works at his own pace, the job of custodian role fits him perfectly, she said.

"He's got so much self-esteem now," she said. "It's unreal. He loves it. It makes him feel like he belongs."



Baptist quilt on display

A 112-year-old quilt made by Baptist churches and associations for the Louisville Baptist Orphans' Home is on display in a special exhibition at the Kentucky Museum in Bowling Green.

The quilt (shown above) was made in 1883 as a fund-raising activity for the orphans' home, predecessor to the modern Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children ministry.

The exhibition, "Remember Me When I Am Gone: Kentucky Friendship and Memory Quilts," focuses on how Kentuckians have made quilts to mark important events in their lives. It opened April 8 and runs through July 30. The museum is located on the campus of Western Kentucky University.

The Baptist quilt is "an excellent example of a block crazy quilt," said Sandy Staebell, museum collection curator.

'Last Supper' artists seek inclusiveness

"When you think about what da Vinci did, he was commissioned, like myself, to do something so that people—non-colored people—would understand more about the story of Christ."
Artist Michael Easton

WASHINGTON (RNS)—The Last Supper often conjures up a picture of Leonardo da Vinci's world-famous painting—a traditional portrait of Jesus and his disciples' famous meal.

But artists across the globe—men and women, blacks and Chicanos—have put their differing spins on the portrait of the gathering generally thought to be the Passover Seder that occurred just before Christ's Crucifixion.

Some artists have chosen to follow da Vinci's model closely, using the same table setting, figures and even ceiling, but have changed the color of the faces around the table. Others have replaced the disciples with historical figures and contemporary heroes. Some have added women to the picture or replaced all the men with women.

Why has the Last Supper prompted so many artistic interpretations?

"I think what they're basically concerned with is a broader inclusiveness, and some of them are realizing

that's restoring what is more likely to be historically accurate," said Doug Adams, a professor of Christianity and the Arts at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Calif.

Although the Last Supper has been a popular subject for centuries, recent depictions have particularly stressed the element of inclusion. Artists and observers say such contemporary interpretations are appropriate because women take part in Seders along with men and the people who lived in the regions where Jesus did had darker skin than those portrayed in many Renaissance paintings.

Michael Easton, an African-American artist, included black men in his 1992 painting of the Last Supper, called "In Remembrance of Me." Easton, of Washington, D.C., said he included blacks at the request of his cousin, who commissioned the piece "so his children would be aware of the fact that blacks did participate in the religious experiences that we read about."

The color of the figures was not so

important to Easton, who answers his phone by saying "Praise the Lord."

"I am a Christian, so I understand that it's about redemption more so than the color of one's skin," Easton said.

He used the face of the late reggae singer Bob Marley as a guide for the face of Jesus, and he placed Washington, D.C., Mayor Marion Barry at the table. Barry, who served a brief prison sentence for a drug violation, was recently re-elected to the mayor's post.

"The reason I used Barry was to remind people that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God," Easton said.

Easton has no argument with the diverse array of Last Supper depictions.

"Da Vinci, I don't even criticize what he did," he said. "When you think about what da Vinci did, he was commissioned, like myself, to do something so that people—non-colored people—would understand more about the story of Christ."

Disney delays Good Friday release of 'Priest'

NEW YORK (RNS)—Bowling to pressure from a conservative Catholic lay organization, Miramax Films has postponed nationwide release of the controversial film "Priest," originally scheduled for distribution on Good Friday, April 14.

However, at a news conference March 24 Miramax officials stood behind the controversial British film, which portrays the lives of five troubled priests, saying the Walt Disney Co.-owned studio had no apologies for the film's content.

"The priesthood is full of human beings, not saints," said Mark Gill, president of marketing for Miramax. He called the movie a "real-world portrait" that does not shy away from the full range of human emotions.

"Priest" had a limited debut March 24 in New York and Los Angeles and opened in 10 more prime markets April 7.

Gill said Miramax will postpone distribution to 300 U.S. theaters until April 19 "out of respect for" the concerns raised by the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights and others who complained about the Good Friday release.

Catholic League President William Donohue lambasted the movie at a news conference March 23, charging that the film's portrayal of five troubled priests—including one who is homosexual—was "designed intentionally to insult the Catholic Church and Catholics nationwide."

He called on Miramax to cancel

the Good Friday opening and limit distribution to New York and Los Angeles.

"If the movie were called 'Rabbi,' would Disney release it on Yom Kippur?" Donohue said. "I think not. They wouldn't make a movie called 'Blacks' and put it out on Martin Luther King Day."

After the next day's announcement that the Good Friday opening would be delayed, Donohue called the decision "an important step," but lashed out at the film's director, Antonia Bird, calling her "an anti-Catholic bigot."

He also said Disney Co. Chairman Michael Eisner had not responded to the Catholic League's request to disassociate itself from the film.

'Christy' gets two more tries

NASHVILLE (BP)—The acclaimed series "Christy" will get two more tries on network TV, and supporters are calling on citizens concerned about quality programming to pull out all the stops in support of the show.

"Christy," based on the late Catherine Marshall's best seller, will air temporarily in the 8 p.m. Eastern/7 p.m. Central time slot April 15, the night before Easter, and April 22.

"The whole decision whether 'Christy' comes back will rest on those two nights," said Ken Wales, executive producer of the program about Christy Huddleston, a young teacher who passed up the comforts of city life to make a difference in the lives of Appalachia's children.

"This is the best test case not only for 'Christy' but for family programs like it," Wales said.

"Christy" made its debut last Easter in impressive fashion: It drew 40 million viewers and topped "60 Minutes" and all other CBS shows in the ratings. Five episodes subsequently were aired, along with one last Thanksgiving. But CBS' commitment to giving the show a chance for success has been called into question.

With this final try for network TV, "Christy" fans are sounding a call for people to write or call CBS in support of the show.

The address is 51 West 52nd St., New York, N.Y. 10019; the phone number is (212)-975-4321.

NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Baptists featured on ABC.** The Easter Sunday worship service of First Baptist Church in Jackson, Miss., will be broadcast nationwide the same day on ABC as part of the network's expanded coverage of religion in America. Working through the Southern Baptist Radio & Television Commission, ABC selected the Mississippi church for the honor.

■ **Gambling show coming.** Anti-gambling efforts in the Midwest will be featured in the April 23 and 30 broadcasts of "Coral Gables Ministries" with James Kennedy. Lamar Cooper of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission is among those interviewed. Check local listings for broadcast times.

■ **What's in a name?** Baseball's newest expansion team hasn't thrown a pitch or swung a bat yet, but some people already are crying foul over the team's proposed name: the Devil Rays. The team, based in the Tampa-St. Petersburg area of Florida, takes its name from a fish, but that doesn't

mollify many critics. Bob Christie, pastor of Lake Maggiore Baptist Church, said he is "not interested in giving Satan any free publicity."

■ **Local church goes on-line.** Walnut Grove Baptist Church in Richmond, Va., has established a unique computer bulletin board service. About 20 of the church's 1,000 members have used the bulletin board so far to retrieve Sunday school helps, church news and messages.

■ **Mormons get new president.** Gordon Hinckley, the grandson of Mormon pioneers, has become the 15th president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The 84-year-old Hunter succeeds Howard Hunter, who died March 3 of prostate cancer.

■ **Family resource centers.** Focus on the Family has developed a new niche in its market. The Christian organization has developed a "Family Resource Center," a lending library designed for companies to

offer as a help to employees. The resource center consists of two circular book displays filled with 170 books, videos, audiocassettes, booklets and magazines. The units already are on the job at major employers such as Rockwell International and Frito-Lay. For information, call (800) 932-9123.

■ **Burkett has cancer.** Larry Burkett, president of Christian Financial Concepts and a well-known speaker and author in conservative Christian circles, has cancer, but the chance for recovery is "very good," according to his son, Allen.

■ **"Demons" beaten out of woman.** Five members of a small religious group have been charged with the beating death of a 25-year-old Korean woman who police say was killed during a ceremony to "cast out her demons." Kyung-A Ha reportedly died during an all-night prayer meeting held in mid-March near San Francisco. She was struck at least 100 times over a six-hour period. She lay dead in the apartment

where she was killed for four days before authorities were called. Eun Park, founder of the 15-member Jesus-Amen Ministries, told investigators the woman's death was "a victory for Jesus Christ."

■ **Abortion access law attacked.** A federal judge in Milwaukee struck down the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act March 16. Judge Rudolph Randa ruled that Congress misused its authority under the commerce clause of the U.S. Constitution in passing a statute regulating private activity within a state which does not affect interstate commerce. Justice Department officials said they plan to appeal the ruling.

■ **It may not be 80/20.** If you believe the old adage that 20 percent of the people in a church give 80 percent of the money, think again, says Bob Eklund, a stewardship specialist for Texas Baptists. "I have found that in a majority of churches, more like 12 percent give 80 percent of the money and 50 percent of the members give nothing at all," he said.

KENTUCKY



WMU Annual Meeting

INSIDE

Page 2

Agenda for the annual meeting of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, April 21-22 in Bowling Green

Page 3

Highlights on the featured speakers at this year's WMU annual meeting

Page 4

Baptist Nursing Fellowship event; Girls in Action event; Acteens event; Special interest conferences

WMU Knows Where She's Been & Where She's Going

Annie Armstrong was asked, "How long will WMU last?"

Her response was, "As long as there is one person in the world who does not know Christ."

Woman's Missionary Union echoes her purposeful words today.

Some things you may not know or have forgotten:

● Do you know that Annie Armstrong was the first corresponding secretary of WMU, SBC, and that she served without salary?

● Do you know that the "circle" came into being because of the Southern aversion to letting women stand up and speak in public?

● Do you know that WMU has helped to raise more than \$1 billion for foreign missions through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and more than \$500 million for home missions through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and has never kept one penny for herself?

● Do you know that in a survey done by the Home Mission Board, churches with WMU were found to give 10 times as much to missions as churches without WMU?

● Do you know that in the 1940s WMU gave Southern Baptist Theological Semi-

nary \$15,000 to begin the School of Church Music?

● Do you know that during the Depression years WMU gave anywhere from 61 percent to 90 percent of the budgets of the Home Mission Board and Foreign Mission Board—WMU making up only 13 percent of the church members?

● Do you know that in 1914 WMU Training School students enrolled 102 children in the first vacation Bible school to be conducted under Southern Baptist auspices?

● Do you know that in the early 1900s WMU was seen as embracing the Social Gospel because she designed a plan for personal missions and social action camouflaged under the innocent name of personal service (later community missions, then mission action)?

● Do you know that more than 50 countries related to Southern Baptist missions have a national organization similar to WMU?

● Do you know that WMU is a missionary organization that happens to be made up mainly of women, not a women's organization that just happens to be missionary?

The development of a women's organization in Kentucky was encouraged in

1876, when a statement of support was included in the report of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky, now the Kentucky Baptist Convention: "To further this work (state missions) we would recommend to our churches the formation of female missionary societies, or the employment of such other means as shall enlist the sisters."

The Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board recommended that committees of women take up the work in each state. Thus, the Central Committee, through which women members of the churches could give mission support, was begun in Kentucky in 1878.

From these relatively obscure beginnings, Kentucky WMU has grown to more than 60,000 members and the national WMU organization has more than 1.2 million members. Since 1888, Woman's Missionary Union has helped raise more than \$2 billion for SBC mission causes.

Catherine Allen wrote in *A Century To Celebrate*: "WMU enters the future with her sense of divine mandate intact. 'Laborers together with God' continues as our permanent watchword. Women have

believed it. We continue to believe that we are building a sacred structure. We believe that we are working under God's specific orders, laying each brick as directed. We believe we are working with each other, only because God wills us to do so. We believe that we are accountable to God for how we handle opportunity. We believe that Christ's commission to make disciples of all nations applies to each of us individually. We believe that history is on our side—WMU has been blessed by God and will continue to be blessed if we stay true to his purpose of bringing the world to himself."

In October, Woman's Missionary Union will experience some changes. Baptist Women and Baptist Young Women will become Women on Mission.

There also will be some exciting changes in Acteens, Girls in Action and Mission Friends.

These are organizational changes. The purpose of WMU was, is and will continue to be the same: missions, bringing the world to know the love of God expressed in Jesus Christ.

We know where we've been and we know where we're going.

Come, join us!

Annual Meeting to be Led by Two Graceful Women

Kay Trisler, president of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, and Dee Gilliland, executive director-treasurer of Kentucky WMU, will lead the sessions of the 1995 annual meeting, held at First Baptist Church of Bowling Green. The theme is "Growing in Grace."

Trisler, a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has been the president of Kentucky WMU since 1993, being elected in Harrodsburg during the annual meet-

ing. Before that, she served on the Kentucky WMU Executive Board as an area representative and as vice president. In addition to her responsibilities as WMU president, she is a member of Harrodsburg Baptist Church, and is a much sought-after speaker and conference leader.



Trisler

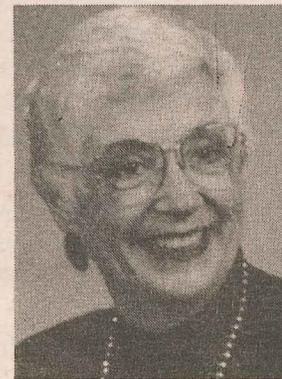
One thing you need to know about Trisler is that she has no sense of direction when she's driv-

ing a car.

Kay is the wife of John,

mother of Amy and Stephen, and proud grandmother of Johnathan Owen Trisler.

Dee Gilliland came to Kentucky WMU as executive director-treasurer in September 1984. From 1983-84, she served as marketing communication specialist with WMU, SBC. From 1977 to 1983, she was executive director of WMU for the Northern Plains Baptist Convention. She also served as family ministries director for the Northern



Gilliland

Plains Convention from 1980-83.

Gilliland is an author, speaker, monologue performer, conference and workshop leader. She is the wife of one (Ray), mother of two (Ed and Steve), and grandmother of four (Adam, Ehren, Kassie, Carter). She is a real people person a bargain shopper and wonderful person to know. For those of you who do know her, you know that just being around her is uplifting.

CONTACT

Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union offers missions programs for children, teens, young women and adults. For more information about WMU resources or the upcoming WMU annual meeting, call the WMU office at (502) 245-4101 or write WMU at Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433.

WOMU Annual Meeting

Hearing Impaired Seating. There will be a section reserved in the front of the sanctuary for those who have difficulty hearing. Also, interpretation for the deaf will be provided.

Nursery. A nursery will be provided during the sessions and the conferences. However, children should be picked up during meal times. Those attending the BYW luncheon on Saturday may leave their preschoolers in the nursery over that lunch period.

Meals for Special Groups. Special meals are planned for program personnel, associational WMU directors, directors of missions, former Kentucky WMU presidents and retired staff, Kentucky WMU executive board, Baptist Young Women, Acteens and Baptist nurses.

Agenda for Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting

First Baptist Church, Bowling Green

"The child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him." (Luke 2:40 NAS)

Friday Morning - April 21

Growing in Grace

Presiding Officer: Kay Trisler, president

9:10 Music for Worship
Shirley Karrick
Call to Order
Missionary Testimony and Prayer
A Time To Grow
Introductions
Welcome to First Baptist Church

Nadine Lovan
Congregation

Richard W. Bridges, Pastor

Recognition of Local Committees
Growing in Grace
Hymn

Martha Copeland
Wendell Belew
Congregation

Announcements and Introduction
of Conference Leaders

Dee Gilliland

Special Recognitions

Ministers and spouses, directors of missions and spouses, home missionaries, foreign missionaries, parents of missionaries, missionary kids and volunteers in missions

Women Who Risk
Solo

Catherine Allen
Alicia Lyles

Conferences 10:45 - Noon

Friday Afternoon - April 21

Growing in Grace

Presiding Officer: Sara Billups, vice president

1:30 Music for Worship
Missionary Testimony and Prayer
A Time To Grow
Growing in Grace
Introductions
Volunteers in Missions

Calvin Taylor in Concert
Divina Park
Congregation
Wendell Belew

Joyce Allison, Earl Pinkston,
Ann Moffett, Bill Snowden
Alicia Lyles

Solo

2:45 - 4:00 Conferences repeated

Friday Evening - April 21

Growing in Grace

Presiding Officer: Kay Trisler, president

6:45 Music for Worship
Missionary Testimony and Prayer
A Time To Grow
Introductions
Choir Special

Calvin Taylor in Concert
Novella Bender
Congregation

FBC Sanctuary Choir
Philip Mitchell, director

Announcements
Growing in Grace
Acteens... Growing in Grace
Hymn
Thank You from a Foreign Missionary
Prayer

Dee Gilliland
Wendell Belew
Julie H. Keith
Congregation
Janet Dillard
Wiley Faw

Offertory
Offering
Serving Christ in the Philippines
Solo

FBC Sanctuary Choir
Leslie & Ray England
Alicia Lyles

Saturday Morning - April 22

Growing in Grace

Presiding Officer: Kay Trisler, president

8:50 Music for Worship
Missionary Testimony
A Time To Grow
Introductions
Greetings from KBC President
Special Music

Calvin Taylor in Concert
June and Gerald McNeely
Congregation

Billy Compton
Men's Ensemble
First Baptist Church

Wendell Belew
Dee Gilliland
Bob Jones

Brenda Price
Congregation

Recognition of Retiring Board
Nominating Committee Report
Election of Officers and Executive Board
WMU, the Missions Hope of the Future
Installation of 1995-96 Executive Board

Larry Martin

Prayer
Thank You from a Student MK

Mark Wakefield

Prayer
Offertory

Anna Mary Byrdwell
FBC Men's Ensemble

Offering
Serving Christ in New England

Sandy and Ken Hale

Report of the Executive Director
Solo

Dee Gilliland
Alicia Lyles

Saturday Afternoon - April 22

Growing in Grace

Presiding Officer: Kay Trisler, president

1:20 Music for Worship
Missionary Testimony and Prayer
A Time to Grow
Introductions

Shirley Karrick
Geneva Faw
Congregation

Growing in Grace
WMUs Achieving Distinguished
Status, Associations & Churches

Wendell Belew
Carol Noffsinger
and Dee Gilliland

Invitation to 1996 Annual Meeting
From Guatemala to Oneida

Opal Giltner
Wesley Underwood
and Ofelio Guerra

Hymn
Serving Christ through Women's Work in Russia

Congregation

Hymn
Serving Christ in Brazil
Solo

Vera Kadaeva
Congregation
Billie and Don Dixon
Alicia Lyles

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all." (II Corinthians 13:14 NAS)

WMU Annual Meeting

WMU Program Personalities



RAY
ENGLAND



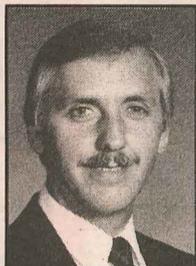
LESLIE
ENGLAND



SHARON
VINCENT



BILLIE
DIXON



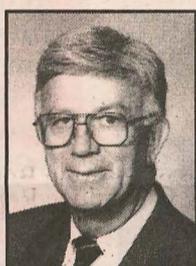
DON
DIXON



WENDELL
BELEW



NELL
BRUCE



BILL
SNOWDEN



CATHERINE
ALLEN



MARIBETH
HAMBRICK



JONI
BREEDING



BRENDA
PRICE



ANNA MARY
BYRDWELL



JULIE
KEITH



CAROL
NOFFSINGER

Sharon Vincent is WMU Specialist for WMU, SBC. She is responsible for planning, designing, implementing and marketing WMU products and resources which enable churches, associations and states to be involved in missions. She speaks at meetings, leads training events, plans and directs WMU conferences at Ridgecrest and Glorietta. A major part of her job involves writing for WMU publications. Prior to coming to WMU, SBC in 1993, she served on a church staff in West Virginia. She also has taught school in both North and South Carolina. Sharon is a graduate of Southern Seminary and was an intern for Kentucky WMU in 1990.

Catherine Allen is president of the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance. The BWA represents an estimated 25 million women in more than 100 countries. Catherine is serving a five-year presidential term which began at the BWA meeting in Seoul, Korea, in 1990. Her term will end this August, in Buenos Aires. Catherine lives in Birmingham, Ala. She was employed for 26 years by WMU, SBC. She also has worked for Samford University where her husband is a professor, historian, and retired dean. They have two adult children. Catherine has written several books on Baptist history and biography. Her best known one is *A Century to Celebrate*, the history of Woman's Missionary Union. She is outgoing, energetic, assertive and resourceful. During her term as BWA women's president, she has conducted interviews with women leaders from almost 100 nations. She has visited 48 nations.

Billie and Don Dixon both were born in Knoxville, Tenn. Don is a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Southern Seminary, and is presently working on his doctor of ministry in missions degree at Southern. Billie has a degree in Christian education from Boyce Bible School. Their ties to Kentucky come through service at South Jefferson Baptist Church in Louisville, and Waddy Baptist Church in Waddy. Billie also was church secretary and office manager for Crescent Hill Baptist Church during seminary days. She was administrative secretary for Long Run Association. The Dixons have two children: Donny Wayne II and Douglas Matthew. They serve as our missionaries in Sao Luis, MA, Brazil.

Leslie and Ray England call Kentucky home. Leslie was born in Covington and Ray was born in Campbellsville. Leslie has her undergraduate degree from Campbellsville College and her master's degree in education from Georgetown. Ray has his undergraduate degree from Campbellsville and his M.Div. and Ph.D. from Southern Seminary. They have three children—Mary Elizabeth, Jennifer Renee and Stoya Jean. They serve as our missionaries at the seminary in Baguio, Philippines.

Wendell Belew is no stranger to Kentucky. In fact, he was born in Keefer, Ky., a few years ago. Wendell is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, Georgetown College and Southern Seminary. He has been a pastor and director of mountain missions in Kentucky. From 1956 until his retirement, he held several positions with the Home Mission Board, the last being a vice president for missions strategy interpretation. Wendell is a prolific writer, having authored many books; a renowned speaker; a gifted dulcimer player and story teller, and a friend of Woman's Missionary Union.

WOMU Annual Meeting

Book presentation

On Saturday morning, Bob Jones and Dee Gilliland will feature the book *Mountain Greats*. This writing contains the stories of J.S. Bell and Lewis Martin, great Eastern Kentucky mountain missionaries. The book was written by Beulah Bell and Doug Dillard, edited by Jody Baker and Dee Gilliland, illustrated by Carolyn Gibson and Doug Dillard. You may purchase a copy for \$5.

Acteens to Participate in Annual Meeting

Kentucky Acteens will play a vital part in Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union's annual meeting in Bowling Green.

Approximately 200 Acteens are expected to attend a dinner on Friday evening, April 21, at First Baptist Church. The dinner theme will be "Together Hand in

Hand." The state Acteens panelists will be featured.

The Acteens will be involved in many facets of the Friday evening session of the WMU annual meeting.

The six state Acteens panelists will share some information about themselves during the session. Kentucky's national Acteens

panelist and two national Top Teens also will have a spot on the program

All who are interested in learning more about Kentucky Acteens are encouraged to go by the Acteens booth, in the display room near the Baptist Book Store, where the panelists will be available for conversation.



ACTEEN PANELISTS Pictured left to right are the Kentucky Acteens Advisory Panelists: Kristy Smith, Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah; Ami Dale, Gardenside Baptist Church, Lexington; Kellie Williams, First Baptist Church, Murray; Jeannette Grace, New Hope Baptist Church, Cadiz; Amy Tindall, Clayvillage Baptist Church, Shelbyville; DeAnna Terry, Highview Baptist Church, Louisville.



NATIONAL HONORS Carrie Bell, National Acteens Panelist, First Baptist Church, Murray; Melissa Bryant, Top Teen, Calvary Baptist Church, Central City; Christella Carpenter, Top Teen, Third Baptist Church, Owensboro.

We've Also Got Something for Younger Girls

Can members of Girls in Action be involved in the WMU annual meeting?

Yes, because GA is a part of WMU, there is a special GA Missions Event planned for GAs and leaders on Saturday, April 22, at First Baptist Church of Bowling Green. The event begins at 9 a.m. and concludes around noon.

As the general meeting is in session for everyone else, GAs and leaders will be having their own event with opportunities to meet missionaries, sing and have all kinds of GA fun!

GAs and leaders attending the GA Missions Event can be involved in mission action by bringing canned food (one can per person) to the event. The collected food will be distributed to needy families in the Bowling Green area.

The GA Event will be held in the social center of the church.

Baptist Nursing Fellowship

The Kentucky Chapter of Baptist Nursing Fellowship will have a dinner meeting on Friday, April 21, at 5 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.

The national organization of Baptist Nursing Fellowship started in 1983. The organization is for RNs, LPNs, student and missionary nurses. Nearly 1,000 people are members, with 25 organized state chapters. Annual membership dues are \$10 for students and \$35 for others. The Kentucky Chapter is supported by an allocation from the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions, therefore there are no state dues. Membership in the national organization is not a requirement for being part of Kentucky BNF.

BNF is organized to provide worship and Bible study opportunities with other nursing professionals, to encourage participation in volunteer missions, to give prayer support for each other and for missionary nurses, to encourage career missions in the medical field, and to help equip nurses for lifestyle witnessing.



Pat Schmidt
Kentucky BNF
president

Special Interest Conferences

- Prayer, the Untapped Resource—Nell Bruce
- Literacy—Elaine Ozment
- Volunteers in Missions—Bill Snowden
- AIDS—Jim England
- Heritage Fund, Second Century Fund, Vision Fund—Maribeth Hambrick and Lauri Valentine
- What's New in WMU?—Carol Noffsinger
- What's New in Women on Mission?—Anna Mary Byrdwell
- What's New in Acteens?—Julie Keith
- What's New in Girls in Action?—Brenda Price
- What's New in Mission Friends?—Joni Breeding

Ralph Reed addresses Jewish group

WASHINGTON (RNS)—It was Christian Coalition Executive Director Ralph Reed's strongest pitch yet for finding common ground between conservative Christians and mainstream Jews.

But in a speech April 3 to 200 members of the Anti-Defamation League, a leading Jewish civil rights agency, Reed's acknowledgment that conservative Christians have been insensitive toward Jews received a mixed reaction.

"Religious conservatives have at times been insensitive and have lacked a full understanding of the horrors experienced by the Jewish people," Reed said.

"I must also acknowledge that not all who share our (Christian) faith have demonstrated a sympathy for the burden of this history," said Reed, whose religious-based political group claims 1.5 million members.

Reed's speech and responses to questions that followed appeared intended to heal past differences between conservative Christians and mainline Jewish groups, such as the ADL, over church-state separation issues such as school prayer.

Those tensions reached a peak last spring after the ADL issued a report calling the Christian Coalition a threat to religious freedom. Reed and Christian Coalition founder Pat Robertson countered by charging the ADL with "defaming" conservative Christians and making "reckless charges" of anti-Semitism.

While those tensions have abated in large measure, lingering distrust was evident in the ADL audience's response.

Only once—when he voiced support for Israel's insistence that Jerusalem remain fully under its control—was Reed interrupted by applause, described by ADL spokeswoman Myrna Shinbaum as "polite." She similarly described the applause at the conclusion of Reed's remarks.

"This is a sophisticated crowd and they know (Reed is) a politically savvy guy," Jess Hordes, the ADL's Washington office director, said of the audience. "They'll wait and see what happens."

Abraham Foxman, ADL's national director, was more upbeat. "I don't want to get too excited, but I think it's a turning point," he said of Reed's remarks.

Reed "has said bits and pieces of his speech before, but to put it all together and say it publicly and have C-SPAN broadcast it is a significant step forward," Foxman said.

Baptists get grant to promote abstinence

BALTIMORE (BP)—With a financial boost of almost \$100,000, the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware will promote sexual abstinence in public schools through a "Wait on Love" campaign.

The \$99,750 grant comes from the Baltimore-based Abell Foundation, a group which seeks solutions to social and economic problems.

"This is a major miracle. This is God at work," said Peggi Kissinger, a Mission Service Corps volunteer in single adult ministry who directs the "Wait on Love" campaign.

In a test for interest, Kissinger contacted 15 Baltimore County high schools and found every principal "excited and encouraged by the project."

Currently she is producing a video

showing clips of the "Wait on Love" music presentation, the challenge to teens and comments of youth, parents and teachers. The video will be shown to the principals of Baltimore County schools. If they approve, Kissinger will take the program to the students.

Within a two-month period this fall, Kissinger hopes to present the program in 40 schools.

Kissinger said she plans to remain in each school an entire day, making it a sexual abstinence awareness day. After an assembly, where students will hear contemporary Christian recording artist Jeffrey Dean and his band play and talk about their personal experiences, Kissinger hopes to visit classes. There more intimate conversations can take place.

"Wait on Love" focuses on sexual

abstinence and self-esteem. "We want them to become aware of their value as a person and the opportunities they will miss if they get pregnant," Kissinger said.

The program also teaches that having sex outside of marriage can leave emotional scars, she said. "We want them to make healthy decisions. We want them to know they do have a future. ... We don't want to scare them; we want them to know they are valued."

The campaign takes its name from Dean's song, "Wait on Love."

In April 1994, Dean challenged 4,000 teens in six middle high and senior high schools in Delaware's Sussex County area. At a weekend rally, 182 teens made written commitments to sexual abstinence.

Court reduces damages in healing case

ST. PAUL, Minn. (ABP)—A Minnesota appeals court has overturned a \$9.15 million judgment against St. Paul's First Church of Christ, Scientist, in the death of an 11-year-old boy whose mother relied on prayer instead of medical care to treat his diabetes.

The Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled April 4 in a 2-1 decision that the church does not have to pay Ian Lundman's father either the \$9 million in punitive damages or the \$150,000 in compensatory damages levied by a trial court.

In a 2-1 decision, the appeals court ruled that spiritual healing is protected by the U.S. Constitution and that the church did not act in "deliberate disregard" of Ian's rights.

The court left standing, however, \$1.5 million in compensatory damages against the boy's mother and stepfather, Kathleen and William McKown, and the two Christian Science practitioners they hired to provide spiritual treatment, according to Associated Press.

The McKowns originally faced criminal charges of second-degree manslaughter for Ian's death in May 1989. Minnesota's Supreme Court threw out the manslaughter charges in 1991 based on a provision in the state's child-neglect statute that specifically allows parents to rely in good faith on spiritual treatment and prayer.

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld that ruling in 1992.

Since the death of Ian Lundman, the Minnesota legislature has amended its laws governing treatment of minors to require that practitioners of healing arts report to proper authorities if a lack of medical care may cause imminent and serious danger to a child's health.

Christian Science was founded in 1866 by Mary Baker Eddy and is based on her ideas and interpretations of Scripture. Among the religion's teachings are the notion that sin and sickness are illusions that can be overcome by full understanding of Jesus' teaching and healing. The church is classified as a cult by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's interfaith witness department.

Concentration of liquor stores linked to crime

Continued from page 1

March 29 in the American Journal of Public Health.

One reason Scribner is conducting this type of work is to provide information that communities can use to attack crime.

"First, you have to have information," he said. "If communities perceive there's a problem with crime or traffic crashes (based on the presence of a particular liquor outlet), or if they know there's an outlet that sells to minors or stays open until all hours, there should be city ordinances."

Alcohol is involved in more than half of all assault-related crimes, Scribner said. "It increases the events, and it increases the victimization.

People are more likely to be hurt. Domestic violence without alcohol is like the circus without the lions."

Each liquor outlet represents a spot where potential victims and potential offenders come together—some people to drink and others to prey on them, Scribner said.

And if there are enough of these businesses, they can shape community norms and values over time, he said.

"If a dominant institution is an alcohol outlet rather than a gym or a church or a park, you're going to have a different kind of community," he said. "Over time, people who grow up in that community are going to have different norms and values.

"A child living in a high density of alcohol outlets is going to go through life with different values. He's going to see people loitering under the influence, and he's going to see people acting under the influence."

Scribner said this type of research examines the influence of the environment on the individual. "We're trying to create an environment where people are encouraged to make healthy choices. We're saying this needs to be looked at by planners. If we want to deal with the root causes, it suggests that the environment has created these niches. As soon as one closes up, another springs up to take its place."

Researcher raps health-and-wealth theology

ATLANTA (BP)—Promises of physical health and material prosperity are appealing but unbiblical, an Atlanta author and researcher told Southern Baptist interfaith witness coordinators.

Health-and-wealth theology is taught by popular television evangelists Kenneth Hagan, Kenneth Copeland and others, said Rob Bowman, research director of the Atlanta Christian Apologetics Program.

"The bottom line is their claim that through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, every Christian ought to expe-

rience in this life physical health and material prosperity. If they don't, they're told they lack faith," Bowman said.

The movement is sometimes called "word of faith" by its followers or "name it and claim it" by its critics. Leaders teach God made the world by speaking words of faith and created people to have the same power, Bowman said. People are taught to claim physical healing, for example, just as they claim the biblical promise of forgiveness of sins, he said.

Followers expect God to serve

them as quickly as they are served at a fast-food restaurant, Bowman noted. So many people abandon Christianity when they don't get blessings they have claimed.

Southern Baptists should teach what the Bible says about money and health, Bowman said. "The key is wisdom, the application of biblical principles to life."

Rather than viewing faith as a way to hold God to his promises, faith should be taught as believing, trusting and putting confidence in God, Bowman said.

House passes two bills to protect children

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The U.S. House of Representatives approved two measures April 4 designed to protect children.

One would lengthen prison terms for people convicted of facilitating child pornography or prostitution; the other would require parental consent before federal agencies can survey children about religion, sex and other private issues.

Lawmakers approved the Sexual Crimes Against Children Prevention Act (H.R. 1240) by a 417-0 vote. The bill would direct the U.S. Sentencing Commission to lengthen by at least 17 months sentences for a range of penalties related to creating child pornography.

It also would increase by a minimum of six months the penalties for trafficking in child pornography.

The House also overwhelmingly approved the Family Privacy Protection Act (H.R. 1271) by a vote of 418-7. The measure would require federal agencies conducting surveys to obtain parental consent before questioning children about their parents' political beliefs, mental or psychological problems, sexual behavior, illegal or incriminating actions, privileged communication between professionals and religion.

Jesus put on trial again, but with different results

By Ray Waddle
Nashville Tennessean

The purpose of the trial was to ask whether Jesus would be convicted if tried today. But the audience discovered who was really on trial: themselves.

NASHVILLE (RNS)—The Son of God appeared before a Tennessee judge the other night, wearing an orange inmate jumpsuit and facing charges that ranged from criminal trespass to treason.

Accused of wreaking havoc with the laws of this world, the Prince of Peace was in a mess of trouble, and a tough-minded district attorney was determined to make the charges stick.

"This is a trial of a man who has the arrogance to suggest he is the Lord and King of this county and everyone should live according to his whim," District Attorney Clayburn Peoples told a "jury" of Christians during an unusual mock trial. "If you took him seriously, he'd do indescribable damage to your cherished way of life."

But the prosecutor didn't prevail. This time Jesus Christ escaped conviction. The jury voted him not guilty on all counts.

"The D.A. just didn't show enough proof," said Jeff Hinson, one in an audience of 800 people who had the option of casting a vote. Nearly 200 did.

The scripted trial had the look and feel of a real courtroom proceeding,

with two consummate West Tennessee attorneys and a real judge, Circuit Judge Joe Riley, of Ridgely, Tenn.

But the scene was actually a suburban Nashville church. Believers packed the auditorium of Community Church of Christ in Hendersonville on the night of April 1, receiving a copy of the eight-count indictment as they walked in.

The purpose of the trial—a repeat of one the small team of lawyers first staged last year—was to ask whether Jesus would be convicted today.

But the audience discovered who was really on trial: themselves.

"We always speculate about what Jesus would do if he came back today," Peoples, a district attorney in Trenton, Tenn., said before the trial. "But what would we do? Would we follow him?"

Peoples said he hoped the trial would put the audience in the hot seat and make them weigh the cost of following Jesus. Is it ethical to follow a Savior whose teachings break the law? Can the laws of the state and God's laws be reconciled?

"It makes you think," audience member Kenneth Jones said. "We bend religion to shape our own wants. Some churches are self-centered, not centered on Christ."

Among the charges against the King of Kings: disrupting the religious services of a televangelist and advocating the destruction of the U.S. government. Also, he allegedly destroyed a herd of pigs that ran off a cliff because they were possessed by a demon.

The attorneys trotted out modern-day characters who sounded vaguely familiar from the New Testament—Peter Simon, Mary Magdalene McCoy, Ray Lazarus—who spoke for or against the Galilean.

The evening's humor was supplied by an unsavory evangelist, "Billy Ray Swearington." He took the stand to complain that Jesus swept into his service with a whip, disrupting a church raffle and his cassette-tape sales.

"He said I'd made the church a den of thieves," said the indignant Swearington, played by lawyer Michael Whitaker. "I didn't know what he meant. He was wild-eyed, not the kind of person who goes to church."

Jesus Christ, played by Memphis actor John Richard Locke, remained slumped in silence. Nearly 2,000 years after his Jerusalem trial, the Nazarene once more said nothing in his own defense.

Then the Simon Peter character

took the stand and, to the dismay of the defense attorney, suddenly denied that he knew Jesus. Three times, sure enough.

David Gordon, a veterinarian who played Peter, said the role made him uneasy. "It's hard to say the things I have to say," Gordon, who attends Central Christian Church in Covington, Tenn., admitted afterward. "We probably have all denied him one way or another."

In his closing argument, defense attorney Houston Gordon, a practicing defense lawyer in Covington, threw the burden on the jury.

"You have only three choices: Either he is an evil liar and traitor, or a lunatic, or he is who he says he is ..."

Audience member Hinson, a Church of Christ member, said the mock trial proved how difficult it would be to convict Jesus under the modern court system.

"Today, there'd be so many hearings and appeals. We have freedom of speech. We can worship any way we want. Anyone can say they're the son of God and not be arrested. Back in Jesus' time, with the Romans and Jewish authorities in charge, things were different. God knew what he was doing when he sent Jesus when he did."

Mammoth Cave case called 'hostility toward religion'

"As long as the park is generally open to others to use for religious and non-religious purposes, ... I think they're on firm ground."
Church-state attorney Brent Walker, commenting on an annual religious service held inside Mammoth Cave

MAMMOTH CAVE—Protests over a religious service held annually in Mammoth Cave National Park appear to be a "blatant act of hostility toward religion," according to a Baptist expert in church-state issues.

The Freedom from Religion Foundation, based in Madison, Wis., has asked Mammoth Cave to end its affiliation with a Christian group that holds an annual interdenominational service inside the cave.

The service, called the "Church Revisited," began about 20 years ago, according to the Louisville Courier-Journal. It is a historical recreation of services held inside Mammoth Cave in the 19th century.

One area of the cave, now commonly called "The Methodist Church," features a rock formation

resembling a pulpit. This is the site of the annual service sponsored each August by A Christian Ministry in the National Parks. The spot also is an important stop on historic tours of Mammoth Cave.

In addition to the annual service inside the cave, A Christian Ministry in the National Parks also conducts church services throughout the summer in the park's amphitheater.

Chief Ranger Phillip Veluzat told the Courier-Journal the only role the park has played in the "Church Revisited" service is guiding visitors to the chamber, located about a quarter-mile from the main entrance.

On regular park tours, guides merely point out the chamber and rock formations that resemble a pulpit and choir loft and provide a brief

historical perspective of the services, Veluzat told the paper.

But Annie Laurie Gaylor, staff investigator for the Freedom from Religion Foundation, said that amounts to park sponsorship of the religious service. And her preference, she told the Courier-Journal, is that "in the spirit of the Constitution, that there not be any religious services held in the park, period."

Brent Walker, general counsel for the Baptist Joint Committee in Washington, D.C., called Gaylor's comments "a blatant act of hostility toward religion."

The Freedom from Religion Foundation's assertions about the National Park Service violating the Constitution appear to have no basis, Walker said after reading the foundation's

accusations against Mammoth Cave.

"If all they're doing is guiding people in there ... and watching out for their safety and are not actually promoting the prayer meeting—and particularly if it's more a matter of historical re-enactment—I just can't see a way in the world that should violate the establishment clause," Walker said.

"I suppose if the Park Service didn't allow anybody else to use this particular area and it was reserved exclusively for the Church Revisited program, there might be a problem," he explained. "But as long as the park is generally open to others to use for religious and non-religious purposes, as long as the park service is not actually promoting the religious service, ... I think they're on firm ground."

Annuity Board employee says he was fired for reporting scam

By Toby Druin
Texas Baptist Standard

DALLAS (ABP)—A former employee of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board says he was fired for uncovering a computer scam.

The Annuity Board said March 28 it has investigated the "allegations of impropriety" in the purchase of new computers but no one has been fired for blowing the whistle. The board "suffered no (financial) loss" in the affair, the statement added.

The allegations of wrongdoing came from Tony Mlakar, a former Annuity Board employee. Mlakar told a Dallas weekly newspaper that he had been terminated "for poor job performance" after reporting what he considered to be "self-dealing" by an Annuity Board employee in the purchase of new computers for the board.

Mlakar, who installed and maintained the board's computers, found that many of the new machines purchased in early 1993 did not work properly. He said he discovered they were not federally licensed, they had no serial numbers, many components were assembled incorrectly, and others lacked parts.

When he began to look into the matter, he told the Dallas Observer, he found that a board employee who had recommended the purchase of the computers from K.S. Computer Service of Forney, Texas, had business connections with the firm and was in fact purchasing computer components, assembling them and providing them for eventual delivery to the Annuity Board at a considerable profit.

Mlakar said that when he blew the whistle on the employee, an internal audit supported his claims and recom-

mended that the employee be reprimanded. Instead, Mlakar said, he was terminated and Jerry Bell, the employee whose actions he had questioned, was never reprimanded.

According to Mlakar, the Annuity Board paid about \$85,000 for the faulty equipment before it stopped doing business with K.S. Computer, which is owned by a friend of Bell's. The purchases were part of a \$600,000 computer upgrade.

Tom Miller, Annuity Board senior vice president for public relations, said the matter had been investigated and corrective action taken, but he added the board does not reveal the nature of corrective actions. Miller said no employee had been terminated for reporting any perceived impropriety, but added that the board also does not discuss the nature of any separation from employment.

The business and financial plan of the Southern Baptist Convention states "that as a normal procedure each agency of the SBC shall refrain from entering any business transaction with a trustee or employee, or a business enterprise in which a trustee or employee has an interest."

The matter was reported to Annuity Board trustees at their fall 1994 meeting and they were given a review of the actions taken, Miller said.

"It sounded to me like there was definitely some wrongdoing and (Tony) had uncovered it," recalled trustee Steve Henderson of Lakeland, Fla., who serves on the audit committee. "I expressed real concern that it didn't look good," Henderson told the Observer. "It had the appearance that he was let go because he blew the whistle and embarrassed management."

BAPTISTS

Hobbs denounces Calvinism

OKLAHOMA CITY—Baptist Calvinists who cite the views of early Southern Baptists such as James Petigru Boyce ought to listen instead to the words of Jesus, according to Herschel Hobbs.

Hobbs, pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City and chairman of the committee that drafted the "Baptist Faith and Message" statement, recently issued a written rebuttal of five-point Calvinism.

"I am more interested in what Jesus said and Paul wrote than what Boyce ... wrote," Hobbs said.

Boyce was the first president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. The seminary's current president, Al Mohler, often has cited the views of Boyce and other 19th century Baptists as support for his own endorsement of five-point Calvinism.

Five-point Calvinism is a shorthand term used to describe a theological system developed by followers of the 16th century theologian John Calvin. Five-point Calvinists assert that God has selected certain people for salvation—and therefore others

for damnation—before the creation of the world.

In an interview with the Western Recorder last fall, Mohler defended his Calvinistic views, saying he believed the same views were held by the Apostle Paul.

In his recent statement, Hobbs asserted that anyone who believes the Apostle Paul was a Calvinist is "putting the cart before the horse about 1,500 years."

Calvinism's teaching that certain people have been predestined to salvation and others to damnation "is contrary to the very nature of God," Hobbs said. "Those who follow Calvin say that only the elect believe in Jesus as Savior. As I understand it, the opposite is true. Believers are the elect."

Hobbs said he agrees with a statement by Southern Baptist theologian Frank Stagg that election is not a "rigged television show."

God's salvation through Jesus Christ is available to "anyone, anywhere, any time," Hobbs said, citing Jesus' words in John 3:16 that "whoever believeth" may be saved.

Church gives \$1.2 million for school

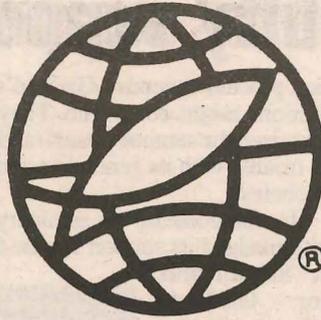
ATLANTA (ABP)—A disbanded Atlanta congregation has earmarked about \$1.2 million from a recent property sale for a proposed theology school at Mercer University.

Emory Baptist Church completed a sale of its property March 7 to neighboring Emory University for \$1.5 million. Eighty percent of the proceeds are designated for a new theology school in Georgia, the

Christian Index reported March 16.

Supporters hope the Mercer University School of Theology will open in the fall of 1996 on the Baptist university's Atlanta campus. The school would join the list of theological education alternatives cropping up in response to growing conservatism at seminaries owned by the Southern Baptist Convention.

The 48-year-old Emory Baptist Church disbanded last year.

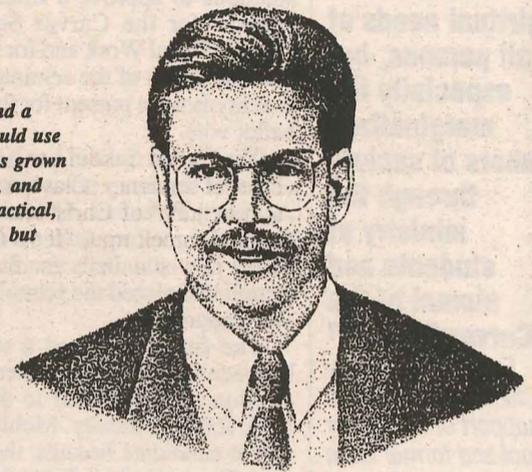


EVANGELISM EXPLOSION III INTERNATIONAL
LEADERSHIP CLINIC
MAY 19 - 24, 1995

ASHLAND AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
163 North Ashland Avenue
Lexington, Kentucky 40502
(606) 266-4341
Hershael W. York, Senior Pastor

"Any church that has a heart for the lost and a desire for perennial long-lasting growth should use Evangelism Explosion. Ashland Avenue has grown 18 percent a year each of the last two years, and E.E. is the tool God used. It is biblical, practical, and essential to train not only soul-winners, but trainers of soul-winners."

—Hershael W. York



YES! I'm interested in what EE III can do for my church! Please send me Clinic registration information

Please tear off the coupon and place it in an envelope and mail it to:

Ashland Avenue Baptist Church
163 North Ashland Avenue
Lexington, KY 40502
ATT: CLINIC REGISTRATION

NAME _____ YOUR TITLE _____
CHURCH _____
PASTOR _____
CHURCH ADDRESS _____
CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____
DENOMINATION _____
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP _____ PHONE () _____

Baptist Book Store Presents

Sing Kentuckiana 1995

June 9 & 10 • Highview Baptist Church • 7711 Fegenbush Lane • Louisville



A two-day choral clinic offering hands on experience of the newest, most exciting music from companies such as PraiseGathering, Word, Benson, Integrity and many others.

- Take part in a read through of music available for adults, youth and children
- Participate in worship which will include performances by the Highview Baptist Church Instrumental Ensemble and local recording artist, Angela Dailey
- Celebrate such a tremendous evening with a presentation of Hosanna Integrity's "Mighty Cross."
- Listen to premier performances of adult and children Christmas musicals.

WIN one of two \$100.00 gift certificates (must be present to win)

All choral read-through music will be offered at special discounted prices

Associate Registration includes:

- Friday supper and Saturday lunch
- passes to each premier

Full Registration includes the above PLUS copies of all music premiered during the clinic

Registration confirmation will be sent by letter. Registration after May 8 will be subject to availability, no refunds given after April 30.

Full Registration - \$70.00 Associate Registration - \$25.00 Non-Attending Registration - \$55.00

Name _____ Church _____ Address _____ City _____ St/Zip _____ Phone _____
Paying by _____ Check _____ Cash _____
Book Store Charge# _____ Bank Card # _____ (exp. date _____)

Send registration & payment to Baptist Book Store - 1235 S. Hurstbourne Pkwy - Louisville, KY 40222 - 502/423-1422

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Resumes are being accepted for

CHURCH & COMMUNITY MINISTRY
DIRECTOR

at the
Metropolitan Baptist Center
Indianapolis

Please send your resume to:
Metropolitan Baptist Association
Attn: Personnel Committee
952 North Pennsylvania Street
Indianapolis IN 46204

Steeple & Baptistries

From the world's largest manufacturer of fiberglass church products

Call or write for our free catalog
1-800-527-1459
P.O. Box 1340
Henderson, TX 75653-1340

FIBERGLASS SPECIALTIES INCORPORATED

L.L. SAMS SINCE 1898
RENOVATION PEWS
1-800-537-4723
WACO, TEXAS

Seminary faculty supports Carver School, Garland

"The church of Jesus Christ ... has been more thoroughly equipped to respond to the physical, emotional, relational and spiritual needs of all persons, but especially the marginalized members of society through the ministry of students and alumni of the Carver School."

From the seminary faculty resolution in support of the Carver School and former Dean Diana Garland

By Marv Knox
Editor

LOUISVILLE—The faculty of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has overwhelmingly affirmed the seminary's embattled social work school and its former dean, Diana Garland.

During a faculty meeting April 5, professors voted 37-2 with two abstentions to approve a resolution of support for the Carver School of Church Social Work and for Garland. All four deans of the seminary's other schools were present for the secret-ballot vote.

The Carver School has been at the center of seminary crisis since March 20, when President Al Mohler fired Garland for telling students the president's new standards for faculty selection had placed the school "in serious jeopardy."

The firing followed a stalemate between Garland and Mohler over the election of a professor to the social work school's faculty. Mohler rejected the candidate because the professor believed God might be able to call women to "any role within the church."

Garland made public the fact that Mohler has instituted a set of questions prospective faculty members must answer correctly to be approved by him. The questions relate to candidates' personal views on abortion, homosexuality, women in ministry and the uniqueness of the gospel.

Insisting that Mohler's new requirements prohibit the Carver School from finding qualified faculty, Garland told students the school might lose its accreditation and possibly even die.

After Mohler fired Garland, close observers of the academic-accredita-

tion process conceded Garland's predictions might come true. They also surmised the seminary itself might get in trouble with its general accrediting agencies.

In that context, the seminary faculty pledged its support for the Carver School and for Garland, who remains as professor of church social work.

"Over 10 years ago, divine God led inspired minds and hearts to dream, create and found the Carver School ... as the first and only accredited school of church social work within a seminary context in the world," the resolution states.

The resolution praises Garland and her predecessor, Anne Davis, who also still teaches at the seminary, for their leadership in building "an excellent faculty of church social workers to teach in this place."

"The church of Jesus Christ in fulfilling the Great Commission has been more thoroughly equipped to respond to the physical, emotional, relational and spiritual needs of all persons, but especially the marginalized members of society through the ministry of students and alumni of the Carver School," the resolution adds.

Through the resolution, faculty members "express our affection, appreciation and admiration to our colleagues on the faculty of the Carver School for their courage and integrity." They also "extend our support to the students currently enrolled in the school."

The resolution labels Garland's

dismissal as dean a "premature ending of an exemplary tenure."

Further, the resolution asks Mohler, administrators and trustees "to help the Carver School faculty keep covenantal faith and trust with all currently enrolled students in the

Carver School, that their studies and the pursuit of credentials and certification will not be compromised in any way by the circumstances of these last few days."

Such resolutions "are meant

to be an on-the-record statement of the mind of the faculty," said James Chancellor, a professor of Christian missions and world religions and chairman of the Faculty Committee, which presented the resolution.

"The intent was to affirm the faculty's commitment to the School of

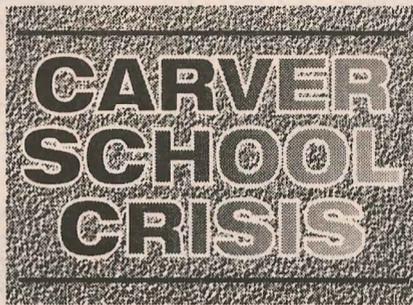
Church Social Work and to affirm an overwhelming sense of personal support to Diana Garland and her family," Chancellor said.

The resolution was carefully crafted and did not attack Mohler, Chancellor added. "The faculty believes the School of Church Social Work is an integral and important dimension of the institution, and we wanted to affirm that."

Also in the faculty meeting, professors received a draft of a faculty statement on the "spiritual distress" on campus during the current crisis.

The statement is designed to help the Faculty Committee, which serves as a liaison between the faculty and trustees and administration, develop a consensus report to trustees, according to one faculty source.

Chancellor declined to comment on the specifics of the report or its purpose, noting only, "It is fair to say there is a deep spiritual crisis in the community that is far more significant than small disagreements over theological orientation."



Available in 20' to 33' Models
(12- to 37-passenger)

Church Buses New & Used

(We take trade-ins)
Call Henry Headden
Carpenter Bus Sales Inc.
Brentwood, Tenn.
1 (800) 370-6180
1 (615) 371-6180

Church Seeks Pastor

First Baptist Church in Corbin, Ky., seeks energetic pastor to lead moderate congregation in the growth of spiritual maturity and Christian commitment.

This church has historically maintained a strong emphasis on meeting the spiritual and physical needs of not only our own members, but also the needs of the surrounding community.

This fellowship affirms autonomy, corporate worship, congregational inclusiveness, stewardship, service, missions and ecumenical activities as central to the life of a New Testament church.

As these aspects of ministry are our chief concerns, we are uninterested in serving as a platform from which to wage denominational and/or political battles.

Persons interested in further information should address all inquires to:

Pastor Search Committee
First Baptist Church
401 N. Laurel Avenue
Corbin, KY 40701

The hope of Easter

I cannot imagine being hopeless. To feel like you are at rope's end and that there is no way life can get better must be the most tragic feeling in the world. Unfortunately, hundreds of children and families are living in that circumstance here in Kentucky.

■ They are the 4- and 2-year-old who cling to each other in the darkened bedroom as they hear their dad beat their mother. They have no place to turn and know no life except one of constant fear.

■ It's the teenage boy who has been beaten so often that he just accepts that he must be something terrible. No matter what he does he cannot please.

■ It's the 14-year-old girl with the terrible secret that her father sexually abuses her. She feels so unclean and cannot imagine anyone could ever care about her.

■ It's the young mother who has just gone through a divorce. She feels she has done wrong and prays for forgiveness. She cannot forgive herself, however, and continues to feel herself pulled further into depression.

These and many more could educate all of us on the utter despair of living without hope. Such chil-

dren and families are the reason we celebrate Easter. Our Lord came with the message of hope. Through his death and resurrection he gave life to each of us who reach out to him.

Our Lord offers hope to a world without it. As Christians we are called to make a difference for those around us.

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

To me, the parable of the Good Samaritan sets forth the example all of us are to follow. A stranger, a despised Samaritan yet, stopped to help a man who had been beaten and robbed. He put him on his own donkey. He took him to an inn. When he had to go, he left money for the man's care and promised to pay any additional costs.

For more than 125 years Kentucky Baptists have been following the example of the Good Samaritan by reaching out to children and families in need.

On behalf of the hopeless who have now found hope I say "thank you." Please pray this Easter for those still searching.

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

Staff cuts reportedly on the horizon at Southern

LOUISVILLE—The seminary pastor's position will be eliminated this summer at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, according to Bill Cubine, the current seminary pastor.

Other administrative positions are reported to be on the chopping block for economic reasons, but no specifics have been announced.

In the wake of turmoil on campus after the firing of social work school Dean Diana Garland March 20, rumors have circulated well beyond Kentucky that other faculty members have been fired. They are not true, according to the subjects of those rumors.

The Western Recorder has received numerous calls about the status of Carey Newman, New Testament professor, and Gerald Keown, Old Testament professor and associate dean in the theology school. Both Newman and Keown report they have not been terminated, despite rampant rumors to the contrary.

Keown said some confusion may have arisen because he will go on sabbatic leave this summer and does not expect to maintain his role as associate dean when he returns in 1996.

While no other faculty members have been let go, numerous faculty and staff sources said they anticipate a downsizing of the seminary's administrative staff before the next fiscal year begins Aug. 1. The reductions reportedly would be caused by the seminary's declining enrollment and declining income.

Cubine, formerly pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Paducah, said President Al Mohler notified him Feb. 9 that the seminary pastor's position would be eliminated in the next fiscal year due to budget cuts. However, Cubine said he is negotiating a three-year contract to teach in the theology school and expects to remain at Southern.

Cubine said the president told him other staff cuts would take place.

In the aftermath of Garland's firing, Mohler cancelled a meeting scheduled for March 22 with seminary faculty and staff in which he presumably was to have laid the groundwork for announcing staff cuts, numerous seminary sources said.

However, Michael Duduit, a seminary spokesman, said the president has scheduled no meeting to announce staff cuts. "The executive cabinet has been discussing administrative restructuring," he said. "But to date there is no formal plan, no date, no dollar amount goal."

Mohler reprimands student protesters

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

LOUISVILLE—Students have no right to hold seminary administrators accountable or to take their concerns to trustees and donors, President Al Mohler told students of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary April 5.

"You cannot hold us accountable. That is not your role," Mohler said in response to a student's question in an hourlong campus forum.

"Your responsibility as a student is to study," Mohler said in answer to another question.

Throughout the forum—and in a five-page letter distributed to students the same day—Mohler placed total responsibility for the seminary's current crisis on the students and former social work Dean Diana Garland. The president took no personal responsibility for the public controversy that has ensued since he fired Garland as dean of the Carver School of Church Social Work March 20.

Mohler fired Garland after she informed Carver School students the school's future was in "serious jeopardy" due to a rigid litmus test for faculty hiring instituted by Mohler outside the seminary's governing documents. The president is requiring prospective faculty members to agree with his specific interpretation of the Bible's teachings on issues such as women in ministry, homosexuality and abortion.

Mohler used his letter and the forum before a full chapel to tell Carver School students they had strayed from their proper role by notifying trustees, donors and alumni of their concerns about the school's future and Mohler's leadership.

"It is entirely inappropriate for students to address the constituencies of the seminary in an effort to bring pressure against the administration and trustees," Mohler said in the letter. "It is beyond acceptable conduct for students to write to the donors of this institution suggesting their consternation and calling for action. This is beyond the right and prerogative of students."

Mohler said student efforts to raise awareness of the current crisis on campus have been "counterproductive."

"You cannot serve the future cause of the Carver School of Church Social Work by attempting to bring intimidation in the public square of the denominational arena against this administration or board of trustees," he said in the letter. "That is a secular means of political protest which will be entirely unproductive."

The president also chastized student protesters who have held a sit-in

outside his office since Garland's firing. Every hour, the students pause for a period of public prayer, which reportedly has been fiery at times.

"You must not allow your prayers to be manipulated into a form of protest," Mohler said in the forum.

"When prayer crosses the line into public protest, it is a travesty of spirit and truth," he wrote in the letter.

Mohler said students "must take responsibility for your public statements and for the way you present your case to the denomination and to the watching world."

For his own part, Mohler said he had "sought to avoid the course of events" which has brought the Carver School into immediate crisis. The crisis was caused by Garland making the issue public and by students telling the story widely, he suggested.

One student compared Mohler's accusations against students to critics of Martin Luther King Jr., who in the early 1960s accused him of creating controversy by demanding equal rights for blacks. King later was shown to have unveiled "institutional prejudice," the student said.

This student said Mohler has demanded respect from students but has failed to show respect for Garland in his dealings.

Mohler responded that the language of institutional prejudice "will not wash" with Southern Baptists, who largely support his leadership.

Southern Baptists, not students, are the ultimate governing authorities for the seminary, Mohler said in the forum.

Several students replied that they are Southern Baptists and members of Southern Baptist churches as well as students. But Mohler said his ultimate mandate comes from the Southern Baptists who have voted in a string of conservative convention presidents over the past 15 years.

The seminary cannot represent the views of all Southern Baptist churches, he said, so it is his responsibility to represent the views of the "mainstream" Southern Baptists who have supported conservative reforms.

Ironically, Mohler's support from self-described conservative students and faculty has eroded with the latest crisis.

Mohler did appear to have the support of some students, who applauded him and said "Amen" at times.

Throughout the forum, he attempted to answer most student questions

but labeled some as "impertinent" and "presumptuous." He declined to discuss personnel issues with students, saying, "Frankly, they are not your concern."

Mohler also declined to elaborate on his earlier statement that the arena of Christian theological education and the arena of social work are "not congruent at all points."

One student asked what it would take to have Garland reinstated as dean.

Mohler declined to speak much on the subject, but he said a "significant river has been crossed" that prevents Garland from returning as dean.

Another student said Mohler has not demonstrated the kind of peace-making skills as an administrator that students are taught at the seminary to use in churches. This student asked if the president would be willing to humble himself and forgive Garland for any mistakes she might have made.

"There is not enough common ground for the relationship that must exist between a president and a dean," he said.

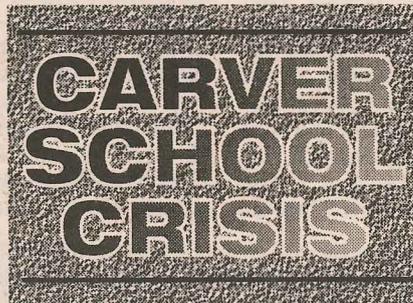
In both his letter and in the forum, Mohler assured students the Carver School is still "operational" even though it has no dean and will have key faculty vacancies by the end of this semester.

While no new students will be accepted into the Carver School next year, current students should expect the master of social work program to continue at least through the 1995-96 academic year, he said.

And the school could still be saved, he said, noting he will do "all within my power" to keep the school alive—"insofar as it fits within the aims, purposes, mission and identity of this institution."

If the school continues it must be "genuinely evangelical, consistently standing within the confessional, biblical, moral and theological parameters which are established for the institution as a whole," he wrote in the letter.

Although he did not say any investigation is underway, Mohler said he has been "in contact" with the Council on Social Work Education, the primary accrediting agency of the Carver School. "We will supply information to the agency regarding recent events, the study process and future plans for the school," he wrote in the letter.



"It is beyond acceptable conduct for students to write to the donors of this institution suggesting their consternation and calling for action. This is beyond the right and prerogative of students."

Southern Seminary President Al Mohler addressing a student forum

Conservative faculty seek trustee conference

LOUISVILLE—Southern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees may get the most pressure from a less-than-obvious source next week.

A group of the seminary's newest professors—whose theology most closely resembles the beliefs of the conservative trustees—are seeking an audience with the trustees during their spring board meeting April 17-19, a

faculty source said last week.

"The people on this faculty that are the most distressed are the new conservative evangelical faculty," the source said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "Those people have demanded a meeting with the trustees."

The new professors date from 1991, when seminary administrators and faculty agreed to recommend bib-

lical inerrantists for faculty vacancies.

However, several of these conservative evangelical professors have expressed alarm with what they describe as President Al Mohler's ultra-conservative theology and combative administrative style.

They have said their hope is that some trustees will try to bring reason to the seminary crisis.

PEOPLE

PRAYER PARTNERS

Pray for these specific needs related to Kentucky Baptist Convention partnerships with Baptists in Russia and Utah/Idaho.

■ A construction team from Clear Creek Baptist Bible School and Immanuel Church in Danville who will go to Vyborg, Russia, April 26-May 10.

■ Pastor Ronnie Raines and the evangelism/discipleship team from Calvary Church in Glasgow who will go to Moscow May 10-24.

■ John Edwards of Russell First Church and his construction team of 20 who will be going to Penza, Russia, May 3-17.

■ Calvin Wilkins and 24 volunteers who will form a second construction team in Penza, Russia, May 17-31.

■ For volunteers to come forward to meet urgent needs this summer in Utah and Idaho.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **CADIZ**—Buffalo Lick Church met its Annie Armstrong Easter offering goal of \$600 in one offering March 12 due to WMU's assistance. **David Culp** is pastor.

■ **CARROLLTON**—Whites Run Church will celebrate its 185th anniversary April 23. The worship service will be followed by dinner on the grounds, an afternoon concert and service with former pastors and staff members participating. Revival services will be April 18-21 at 7 p.m. with Director of Missions **Charles**

Stephens as speaker. Call (502) 347-5432 for information.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Calvary Church ordained Minister of Education and Administration **Hank Ellington** to the ministry March 12.

■ **LODIBURG**—Walnut Grove Church called **Tom Campbell** of LaFollette, Tenn., as pastor. He will begin after graduating from Clear Creek Bible College in May.

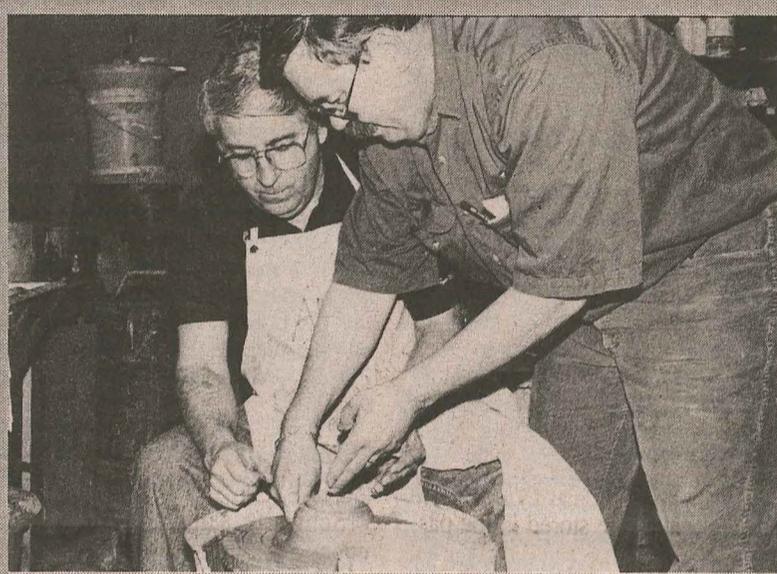
■ **LOUISVILLE**—Broadway Church will celebrate its 125th anniversary May 21. Guest speakers will

include former pastors **Duke McCall** and **Edwin Perry**. Call (502) 895-2459 for more information.

Randall Floyd resigned as minister of youth and singles at Hurstbourne Church. Also, **Barbara Koch** resigned as director of preschool ministries effective May 31.

Deer Park Church called **Tony Smith** of Anderson, S.C., as administration and education intern.

■ **RICHMOND**—Richmond Christian Academy is accepting students for the 1995-96 school year. It will use the facilities of Eastside Bethel Church. **Carl Powell**, former state Brotherhood president, will be headmaster. Call (606) 624-3083 for information.



NEW ROLE Ken Winters (left) abdicated the presidency of Campbellsville College for one day March 29 in the annual "President for a Day" program promoted by the Student Foundation as a fundraiser. Winters exchanged roles with Jeremy Suchman, normally an art student but on this day, president. Here, Winters assumes Suchman's role in a ceramics class taught by Tommy Clark. For his part, Suchman held a series of meetings with college administrators, decreed a "forgiveness day" for overdue books at the library and extended dormitory visiting hours for the week. (Photo by Lynne Pendency)

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: Sizzling games. How to improve your relationship. For more info., call (615) 641-3217.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church, Russellville, accepting resumes for full-time minister of youth and associate pastor. Mail to: FBC, P.O. Box 838, Russellville, KY 42276-0838, Attn: Dr. Randall S. Neal.

LESSONS: Piano and organ lessons for children and adults, beginners or advanced. Reasonable rates; call Ramona (502) 363-0873.

TOUR: 12-day Holy Land pilgrimage into Egypt, Israel and Jordan. Sept. 12-23, only \$1,995 from Louisville, Nashville, Memphis areas. Call Pastor Jack R. Studie for a color brochure and more information (502) 247-8331. Experience you can trust!

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music for exciting, fast-growing, mid-sized church. Resumé or call should be addressed to: FBC, P.O. Box 339, Belfry, KY 41514; (606) 353-4645.

WANTED: Part-time organist/choir accompanist to play for Sunday morning and Sunday night worship and Wednesday rehearsals. Send resumé to Jim Rittenhouse, P.O. Box 91146, Louisville, KY 40291, or call (502) 587-8015.

WANTED: Church bus; minimum 25-passenger. Phone (502) 828-3143.

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

Winter sports awards: Part one

Over the next two weeks we will share the stories of those who have excelled in our winter sports this season.

Harold Underwood coached our varsity and junior varsity wrestling teams, while Mike Waslewski worked with our middle school team. Twenty-four students lettered in wrestling.

Only three seniors were on the 1994-95 wrestling team. Cliff Smith had joined the team last school year in mid-season. Chris Byers wanted to wrestle this year for the first time, but Harold recalled, "I didn't think he would ever stick with it. He was already so involved in band and drama." But stick with it he did, and earned his letter.

James Hines, our third senior, wrestled for the fourth year in a row. He was not able to finish the season because of an injury, but Coach Harold related the ways he's seen James grow and mature. "I've been really impressed with his behavior and life in general the past few months."

Other letters went to Jason Gardiner and Jacob Akers. Harold remarked, "Jason's determination was an inspiration to me." The coach told how Jacob "didn't like getting beat, so he took that frustration and drilled hard in practice." Jacob maintained a 4.0 throughout the wrestling season.

"Rookie of the Year" awards went to brothers Bryan and Ryan Gregory. "100% Awards" were shared by Jerry Boblett and Jack Elliott.

John Tingle was honored as "Most Improved." Harold shared, "I really think he's bound and determined to win the state championship."

Another "Most Improved" was Chris Smith. Coach Harold noticed "not only his ability, but one of the best attitudes on the team."

"Coach's Awards" went to Rex Boblett and

Mike Stout. Harold said of Rex, "I really appreciate the example he sets." Of Mike he noted "When I asked him to move to a more difficult weight class, he said, 'Coach, wherever you need me, that's where I'll be.'"

Stefano Ximenes earned "Most Valuable Wrestler." He has been on the team for four years, and had the highest winning percentage. Coach Harold described Stefano as "one of the finest young men I have ever had on any team."

The 1994-95 season saw five team members qualify for regional competition. Harold is now hopeful; "I feel all five will qualify for state competition next year."

Harvey Travis coached our middle school boys' basketball team this season, aided by Paul Feltner. Nineteen boys received certificates of participation, 10 of whom earned special recognitions. The "B Team Award" went to Mike Shuck for leadership qualities. Levi Akers received the "Coach's Award." Brothers Tim and Fred Feltner earned "Captain's Awards."

"Most Improved" honors went to Mark Woods. Matt Hess took the "Sixth Man Award," while David Mourning earned "Best Defense."

Javaris Williams was awarded for "Most Assists." Coach Travis praised Javaris for keeping a positive attitude even when "I asked him to step into a position he didn't really want to play." Brandon Hyden was "Best Three-Point Shooter." Joseph Neikirk took honors for "Highest Grade Point Average."

(To be continued next week)

Written by Denise Spencer, publications

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

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

30 graduate at Clear Creek

The senior class invites you to graduation Friday, May 5, 7:30 p.m., Binghamtown Baptist Church in Middlesboro. Southern Baptist Convention Vice President Gary Frost is commencement speaker.

We all rejoice when graduates are called to new ministry positions. Also, 10 will continue in their present positions. I thank God for churches who encourage pastors to complete their education. Randy McPherson came to Clear Creek in 1988, the same week our family arrived. We both remember a new student welcome when he asked me, "Is this your first year also?" Like many others, Randy combines studies with the responsibilities of an active congregation (Bethel, Berea) and a growing family. He and wife, Lisa, have three children.

Cleo Goodlett's graduation represents our continuing commitment to an open admission policy. He entered without a high school diploma. Tutor Georgia Mink worked with him to secure a GED, required to enter the degree program. The family also will celebrate the graduation of their daughter, Jennifer, from Bell County High School.

Six seniors have just been called to new positions. Mark Barnett

goes to his first pastorate in Virginia, 30 miles from his parents' home. Tom and Samantha Campbell relocate to a church near Louisville where Tom will attend Southern Seminary. James and Donna Overbee are excited about a new ministry at Emmanuel Church, Berea. Marty and Kathy Roberts will join the staff at Oneida Baptist Institute.

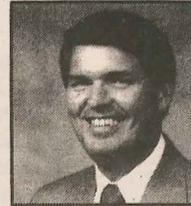
Three of our singles, Tim Smith, Dennis Starkey and Jewell Habermehl, will attend Southern Seminary. David Dean and family return to Memphis and Mid-America Seminary. Johnny Skeans and family move to Grace University, Omaha, Neb., where he will enter the missionary aviation program. Dennis and Angela Hisle anticipate a home mission assignment in South Dakota.

Some still wait on the Lord's direction: Steve Birch, Kris Garris, Charles Gray, Jack Helton, David McQueen and Bud Wright.

Kentucky Baptists have made a significant investment in the lives of these 30 graduates. The majority will remain in Kentucky. Pray for these and for fruitful harvests in their fields of labor.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

CHURCHES

Mission set its sights high with building plan

By Charles Willis
SBC Sunday School Board

CHERAW, Colo. (BP)—Pastor Terry Schwartz may be looked up to by everyone in Cheraw, Colo., someday—if his study is moved to the top of the local grain elevator.

The decades-old landmark, unused and a home to pigeons for 30 years, was given to Cheraw Baptist Chapel in 1993.

Local residents were amazed when Schwartz, with the donated help of an attorney, untangled complicated legal encumbrances on the property and neighboring land, located descendants of the last-known owners and persuaded the younger generation of owners to donate the unused land to the church.

Located prominently on the main street of the small southeastern Colorado town, the almost-90-foot-tall grain elevator can be seen for miles as travelers approach Cheraw. Someday, the structure will bear a sign identifying the church and, perhaps, a mural. Schwartz can see a variety of design possibilities in his mind's eye, as well as that pastor's study with an unobstructed view.

At the beginning of the project, the grain elevator was viewed as an architectural liability. To tear down and haul away debris from the giant concrete cylinder would cost thousands of dollars, which the new mission did not have.

Among steps the congregation

took as they pondered possibilities was to contact the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church architecture services. The drawings returned to the church show the grain elevator as the focal point of a two-phase building plan.

The illustration suggests back-lighted crosses on two sides of the structure to identify the property.

Schwartz knows the idea would attract attention. The first Christmas the congregation owned the elevator, a lighted star was placed on top of it.

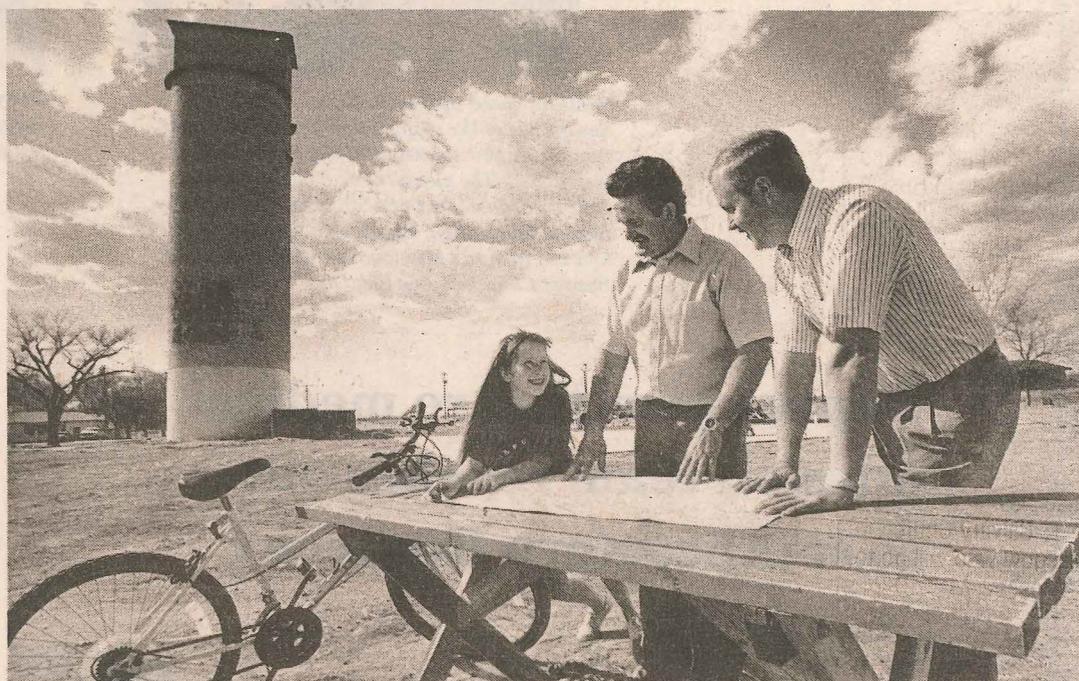
A basement room already has been used for a Bible study, and the possibility of making that unique space into a youth room has been discussed.

Schwartz laughs that the Cheraw Baptist Chapel, constituted as a church in September 1994, is called the "Cheraw Unique Chapel" by some. And rightly so.

The pastor, his wife, Kathy, and their six children moved from Denver to Cheraw in 1992 without any idea how they would be supported or where God would lead them in the burden they had felt for ministry in that specific area of the state.

The mission began in the Schwartz family's 12- by 60-foot rented mobile home with a handful of people. Soon 22 people were crammed into the kitchen and dining area of the home, forcing a move.

Rented use of the local school on Sundays has brought membership growth to 34 people—topping average attendance at the two other



churches in town.

Enough money has been borrowed to allow a foundation slab to be poured beside the grain elevator, and the members held their first worship service there in balmy, 60-degree weather on Christmas Day 1994.

Outdoor baptisms have been done in a shiny, metal horse trough, and church supplies, such as hymnals and offering plates, are stored in the pastor's van.

And, last, but not least among the "unique" qualities of the church, is

that it has had no less than three church organs donated to it.

The timetable for completing the first phase building has not been set, Schwartz said. Volunteer groups of church builders from Alabama, Tennessee and Texas have offered to help, but the matter of approximately \$60,000 worth of materials must be addressed.

Schwartz said he believes the money will be no problem. "If God can give us 3.2 acres of land, he can provide the money."

LOOKING UP Terry Schwartz (right), pastor of Cheraw Baptist Chapel, looks over architectural drawings with Gale Stovall, church trustee, and his daughter, Catina. (BP photo by Jim Veneman)

Karate and basketball provide kickback in outreach

By Chip Alford
SBC Sunday School Board

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)—Last year, Andrew Large put a little bounce in his youth Sunday school program. This year, he added a little kick.

Large, minister to youth at Arlington Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla., uses basketball and karate in a unique outreach designed to share the gospel with non-Christian youth and involve them in Bible study.

The Youth Basketball Sunday School Outreach started first with the stated goal of "reaching teenagers who would not normally come to a Bible study at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays."

"Some kids in our community wouldn't set foot on our church campus because they wouldn't feel comfortable here," Large explained, "but they will go to gym because it's not threatening to them. And a lot of kids like sports, so if we can use that as a hook to get them involved, then we ought to do it."

The program works like this: Each Monday night at 7, teens begin gathering at Fort Caroline Middle School, which allows the church use of its gymnasium. Arlington Baptist youth are encouraged to participate, but to do so, they must bring along a non-Christian friend. The Christian teens also agree to attend an evangelism training session before taking part and share their faith.

Things get under way with 30 minutes of "basketball practice" and

"drills," followed by a "time-out" for a 30-minute Bible study drawn from Sunday school literature. Sessions are led by "coaches"—youth Sunday school teachers or workers from Arlington Baptist and other area churches. The teens then divided into groups for another 30 minutes to an hour of four-on-four games.

"We usually have about a 50/50 mix of church kids and non-Christian kids," head coach Jeff Clarkson said. "We've had street kids, gang members, kids who have been in prison, kids from broken homes. But we've never had any big fights or anything."

The gym grew silent on a recent rainy Monday night as more than 50 teenagers dressed in sweatshirts, shorts and ball caps listened to Clarkson's lesson on marriage, commitment and God's love. A 14-year-old neighborhood boy wandered in as another coach was finishing his personal testimony.

"I know some of you have been hurt by divorce," the coach said. "It is my prayer that each one of you will seek God's plan for your life."

Within a few minutes, the boy had found Large and was praying to receive Jesus Christ as Savior.

More than a dozen teens have accepted Christ through the basketball outreach this year, Large said, adding some also have become involved in Sunday school.

The Christian Karate Club is another outreach which meets on Monday nights. Large is convinced it will "take off" in time, possibly even sur-

passing the basketball program.

"It can cost \$1,000 to take karate lessons in town. When teenagers find out they can take it here for free, I'm convinced (the program) will take off," he said.

Led by second-degree black belt and Arlington church member John McEldowney, the karate club meets at the church and follows the same basic format as the basketball outreach.

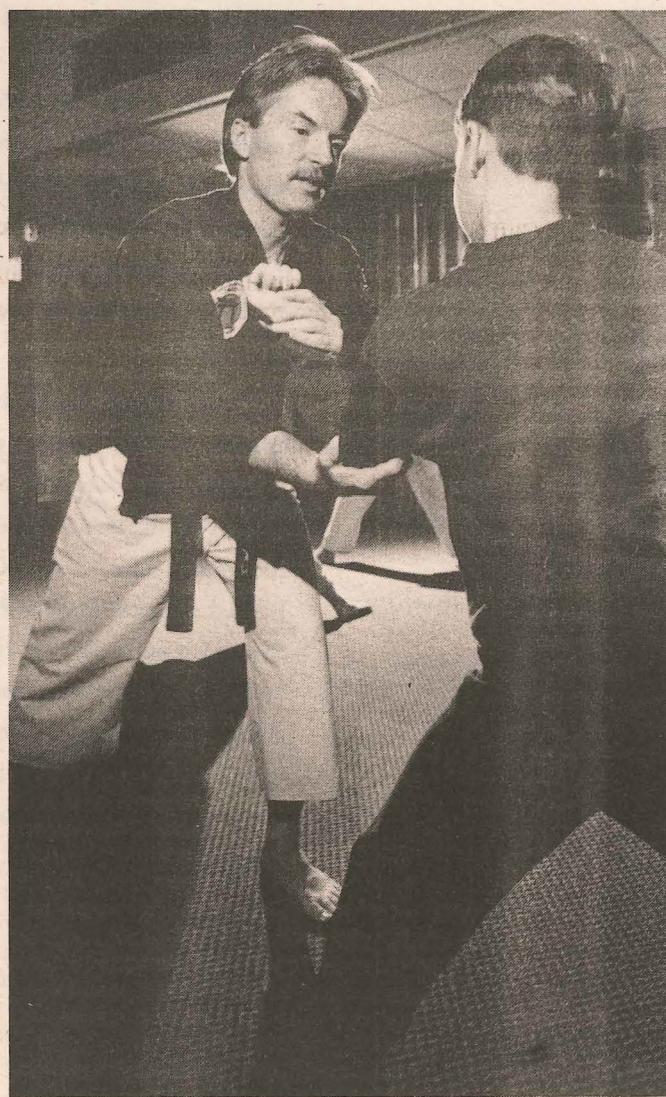
"I try to relate the key attributes of the Christian life to athletics. People are really learning things about themselves, improving their self-esteem," McEldowney said.

He admitted some church members were concerned about the appropriateness of a karate class on campus.

"Some people think it is all about Eastern philosophy or mysticism or that it promotes violence, but that's not where it's at, at all. I relate Scripture to specific movements and actions to help reinforce biblical truth. I try to get my students to think about who they are and who they represent."

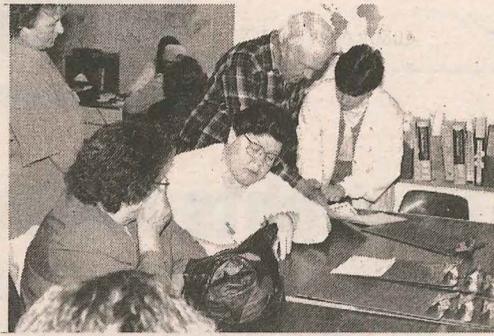
"And the type of karate I teach is defensive. I drill my students to run from a fight if at all possible. If they use karate for an offensive confrontation, they are out of the class."

CHURCH WITH A KICK Second-degree black belt John McEldowney works with a young student during a recent meeting of the Christian Karate Club at Arlington Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla. (BP photo by Jim Veneman)





Paducah-based ophthalmologist Jeff Johnson screens one of the many individuals who sought eye care. Approximately 100 eyeglasses were distributed. The glasses were donated by four optical shops in the Paducah area, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Bowling Green Woman's Club, and the Woman's Missionary Union of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green.



Patty Corts (center), R.N. and Marilyn Leatherman, surgical technician, Western Baptist Hospital, gather patients' medical history.

Baptist Healthcare medical mission team reaches out to southeastern Kentucky



Ginny Orman, R.N., Tri-County Baptist Hospital, assists a patient with his medication.

In March, Baptist Healthcare System's commitment to community outreach extended in a slightly new direction — to Oneida in the heart of Clay County in southeastern Kentucky.

In partnership with Oneida Baptist Institute and the Booneville-Irvine Baptist Association, Baptist Healthcare dispatched a 25-member medical team to offer free health screenings and general medical checkups to residents of Oneida and the surrounding communities, some of which are among the poorest in the state.

The medical mission initiative brought together medical, pastoral and support personnel from all five Baptist Healthcare facilities: Baptist Regional Medical Center; Central Baptist Hospital; Baptist Hospital East; Tri-County Baptist Hospital; and Western Baptist Hospital. Joining the Baptist Healthcare team were Lewis Graham, D.D.S.; Jeff Johnson, M.D., ophthalmologist; and Madonna Ringswald, D.O., internist



Mary Harrison, director of pastoral care at Central Baptist Hospital, introduces the stethoscope to a youngster waiting at the free clinic.

and pulmonologist. All arrived in Oneida with a shared objective: to meet some of the unmet healthcare needs of the area. And that they did.

From March 16 through 18, the Baptist Healthcare team treated, cared for and comforted 350 individuals — ranging in age from one to 91. Healthcare services offered included physical exams, blood pressure checks, dental checks, diabetes testing, eye exams and eyeglasses. The healing ministry touched individuals not only in Oneida but from such neighboring communities as Annville, Beattyville,

McKee, Big Creek, Booneville, Fall Rock, Irvine, Sextons Creek, Manchester and London.

Baptist Healthcare extends its gratitude to Oneida Baptist Institute and the Booneville-Irvine Baptist Association for their support of this project. And Baptist Healthcare salutes its medical mission team members who made a difference in the quality of life and health in a southeastern community.

BAPTIST HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

4007 Kresge Way
Louisville, Kentucky 40207