

September 5, 1995
Vol. 169, No. 35**FOR THE RECORD**

Rankin letter
Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin has written pastors and Woman's Missionary Union leaders, asking them to "pray for" the national leadership of WMU to change its direction. See page 2.

Candidate announced
Bill Patterson, a Henderson pastor, is the first person to be named as a nominee for the presidency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention in November. See page 3.

Beijing conference
The United Nations women's conference underway in Beijing, China, has drawn mixed reviews from Baptist observers. See page 7.

Kentucky missionaries treasure friends in Angola

By Steve Evans
SBC Foreign Mission Board

LUANDA, Angola (BP)—For a missionary in a foreign land, there are new customs and cultures to get used to. There are constant interruptions. Sometimes living conditions are rough.

And in Angola, there's the added stress of war.

To the community, the missionary is often a novelty, but always a witness. For a missionary, to be a friend is expected. But to have a national friend is a precious gift.

"When we first moved to Angola, we had little to compare it to," said Kentuckian Mark Hatfield, who leads Southern Baptist missionary work in Angola from a base in Harare, Zimbabwe. Hatfield came to Angola in 1989 with his wife, Susan, as an agriculturist. They are from Ashland.

"We thought it was normal for missionaries in Africa to live in rough conditions in the middle of shantytowns," he explained. "We helped build our own house after living five months in one room of an old farmhouse that we literally had to shovel out before we could move in."

During those first five months, the Hatfields learned about their new home, Grafamil, a community in the

□ See Kentucky missionaries ..., page 6



LETHAL JUNK Cessario Sapalo (left) and Southern Baptist missionary Mark Hatfield examine a piece of shrapnel that flew through the garage door of a missionary house in Huambo, Angola. About a half dozen homes nearby were leveled in the blast. Angola has been at war since 1961. Sapalo, a deacon in Huambo's Second Baptist Church, directs Baptist medical ministries in the area. (BP photo by Steve Evans)

**FINANCIAL FORUM**

A new feature designed to help Christians be better stewards of their money begins in this week's Recorder.

Financial Forum will be a

standing column, usually located on page 8 or 9.

This column will address a wide range of finance-related topics, such as money and marriage, teaching kids about money, family investment basics, making a family budget, using credit wisely, making a will, donating to charitable causes, "sin-free" investments and much more.

The column will have three primary writers, all with expertise in certain areas of finance and stewardship: Don Spencer, a certified financial planner and director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annuity department; Laurie Valentine, an attorney and acting chief operating officer of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation; and Doug Strader, KBC stewardship director.

Turn to page 9 for a look at the first installment of this column and find out why Christians are encouraged to tithe.

Baptist man settles lawsuit on Sunday work

BOLIVAR, Mo. (BP)—Scott Hamby hopes his victory in a lawsuit against the nation's largest retailer will encourage Christians to stand up for their beliefs in all aspects of life.

Because Hamby, 23, acted on his convictions, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. is under a court order to train its managers to avoid religious discrimination against employees. The Wall Street Journal predicted the outcome of the Hamby case could have "far-reaching implications for other companies with weekend staffing needs that conflict with workers' religious practices."

Hamby and his wife, Stacey, are members of Southern Hills Baptist Church in Bolivar, Mo. He is a 1994 graduate of Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, with a bachelor's

degree in theology.

In spring 1993, Hamby was working part time in the electronics department of the Bolivar Wal-Mart when the county's repeal of Missouri's "blue laws" allowed the store to open for business on Sundays. Although he told his supervisors he did not want to work on Sundays for religious reasons, Hamby recounted, he was put on the schedule to work the first Sunday the store opened.

Hamby said his supervisor later showed him a written document from a district manager stating every employee must be available to work Sundays, with no exceptions.

"At that time, I didn't know the legal ramifications of what was being put in front of me," Hamby said. "I just knew it was wrong."

By then, Hamby said, he had worked several Sundays and was feeling troubled about it. "That's when the stresses really set in. I knew that I was going to have to choose God and my convictions, or choose my job."

Hamby's next step was to offer—"against my convictions"—to work one Sunday a month to keep his job. He said his supervisor verbally agreed to the arrangement, but then he was scheduled a second Sunday the same month.

The person doing the scheduling told him she was unaware of any such agreement, Hamby said, and she later testified the manager had told her to "schedule Scott on Sunday until he quits."

□ See Baptist man settles ..., page 9

Building plans demolished, but volunteers rise to new tasks

By Marv Knox
Editor

Old-fashioned bureaucracy nearly demolished a Kentucky Baptist building crew's trip to Russia this summer.

Fortunately, the Kentucky builders quickly redrew their plans for the trip. Instead of constructing a church building, they focused on building bridges between Russians and Christ.

The Kentuckians included 14 members of Campbellsville Baptist Church in Campbellsville, four from London and three from Mount Washington. The team was led by James Jones, pastor of the Campbellsville

church and a former president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Their original plans called for them to spend two weeks working on a building for the Baptist church in Kolpino, a city of 175,000 people about 15 miles south of St. Petersburg in far northwestern Russia.

When they arrived, they discovered Kolpino Baptist Church had not received all the permits required for doing the construction work, Jones reported.

"We learned right away we needed to be flexible," recalled current KBC President Billy Compton, pastor of First Baptist Church in Mount

Washington and a member of the team.

Some of the Kentuckians were allowed to build a fence around the church site. They also constructed a tool shed that can be used by church members as they work on their building.

But the rest of the team divided up and did what they could.

One group worked out of the Kolpino "palace of culture"—a Russian facility that resembles a cross between a civic center and town hall—where Kolpino Baptist Church rents the third floor. They conducted a vacation Bible school in the mornings

and taught English classes in the afternoon.

Most of the children who attended this Bible school were affiliated with the church. Still, the group distributed about 100 Bibles and witnessed one profession of faith in Christ.

Another group traveled to Nikolski, a city of about 70,000 people just outside Kolpino, to conduct a mission vacation Bible school.

This group met in a restaurant, where the owner gave them use of the facility rent-free. They attracted 20 people on the first day, but the crowd swelled to 147 children and 19 adults

□ See Volunteers reconstruct ..., page 3

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

■ **David Flumbaum** has been named director of the Northeastern Baptist Education Consortium, an arm of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary that provides theological training in the northeastern United States. Flumbaum has been executive director of the DACUM Resource Center at Dundalk Community College in Baltimore.

■ **James Smith** has resigned as director of government relations for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission in order to attend Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary full time. The CLC has named as his successor William Dodson, former judge for the County Court-at-Law in Lubbock, Texas.

■ **Baptist iconoclast** Will Campbell called Southern Baptist moderates to task in Fort Worth, Texas, when he declared, "If Jesus Christ had been a moderate, he never would have been crucified." Receiving the 1995 Courage Award from the William H. Whitsitt Baptist Heritage Society, the noted farmer-theologian asked, "Have we considered that the dreadfully misnamed fundamentalist takeover is a judgment of God on the rest of us? We do have a creed today, and it begins, 'My God can whip your God.'"

Rankin asks Baptists to 'pray for' WMU

RICHMOND, Va.—The president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has asked 40,000 pastors and Woman's Missionary Union directors to "pray with us" that national WMU leaders will change their minds about producing study materials for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

FMB President Jerry Rankin wrote Southern Baptist churches, saying he was "disappointed" by the announcement that WMU will offer supplementary materials for local Fellowship missionaries for local WMU organizations upon request.

The letter was written with the encouragement of FMB trustees, who met Aug. 13-17, he said.

WMU Executive Director Dellanna O'Brien, who had not directly received a copy of the letter a week after it was sent to churches, called it "inflammatory, misleading and divisive." O'Brien pointed out she and Rankin were together in Ridgecrest, N.C., during the FMB meeting, "and yet Dr. Rankin did not show the courtesy of discussing this action at the time it was taken."

When WMU voted to publish the supplemental materials—which will go only to churches that order them—leaders said the decision acknowledged WMU members are on both sides of the controversy between SBC conservatives and moderates. The decision was prompted by a desire to enhance missions support among all Southern Baptists, they said.

While Southern Baptist missionaries cooperate with other evangelical Christians on mission fields, SBC officials have taken a harsh stance on the Fellowship, a group opposing the SBC's current conservative leaders and offering churches alternatives to official denominational programs.

In his letter, Rankin termed it "counterproductive" for WMU leaders to "endorse or promote any organization which would divert funding and undercut support for the Southern Baptist Convention."

The decision by WMU leaders to offer materials for the Fellowship "undermines a cooperative spirit" between WMU and SBC agencies, Rankin wrote.

Rankin said Aug. 29 he wrote the letter to express his concern, that the

decision by WMU "departs from what has been the historical relationship" between the women's auxiliary and the SBC mission boards.

In her response, O'Brien claimed Rankin's critical letter "will have negative impact on the 1995 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering" for SBC foreign missions. "When we are attempting to reach a challenging \$100 million goal, many Southern Baptists will have second thoughts about giving because of this new criticism of the WMU from the Foreign Mission Board," she said.

SBC missionaries consistently have commended WMU's work on their behalf, O'Brien reported. "We promote the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for the missionaries and their work; the timing of this unwarranted attack on WMU will no doubt have its damaging effect."

Citing reports in which Rankin claimed his letter "was not designed to drive a wedge between grassroots WMU members and the organization's national leadership," O'Brien responded: "It would be difficult not to imagine that was the purpose. Dr. Rankin's apparent lack of understanding of the polity of WMU does not allow him to see the connection between local church WMU members and the national organization. Is it possible that he does not know that these grassroots members elect the members of WMU's executive board? This is true only of WMU and not other SBC entities."

Rankin's letter implies WMU is in danger of abandoning its relationship with the FMB.

"Nothing could be further from the truth!" O'Brien countered. "Ninety-nine point nine percent of what we do is, and will remain, related to the Home and Foreign Mission boards. Rather than 'promoting and publicizing' the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, we are simply responding to a request from the churches for materials which include information about what the CBF is doing in missions."

Carolyn Miller, WMU's national president, said she is "appalled" that Dr. Rankin would assume by our action that we have deviated from our historic role." To the contrary, WMU has "never intended to change our relationship with the Foreign Mission

Board nor our support for Southern Baptist missionaries," she added.

The decision to produce the materials follows a 1993 statement that WMU will "produce resources for Southern Baptist groups involved in missions at their request," Miller said. "Our recent action is in line with that decision. WMU will not promote these materials. CBF leaders will. WMU is simply the printing and distribution vendor."

Miller underscored the irony of the FMB criticizing WMU for working with the Fellowship during the same meeting in which FMB trustees approved a proposal for the board to join the Evangelical Fellowship of Missions Agencies.

"If the Foreign Mission Board can work with evangelical groups—some of which have been viewed in years past as 'competing' with Southern Baptist efforts—why cannot we work with a group of Southern Baptists?" she asked.

But Rankin said there is no inconsistency for the FMB to affirm working with other evangelical groups while rejecting the Fellowship.

"The CBF exists because they have said, 'We do not want to cooperate with the SBC and SBC leadership and agencies.' What is the problem? How do you cooperate with those who say they don't want to cooperate?"

Keith Parks, the Fellowship's missions coordinator, countered that Rankin's assessment ignores two things. One is that the Fellowship has by policy made a commitment that it will not be "competitive or confrontive" in placing its missionaries.

The Fellowship has "steadfastly refused" requests to send missionaries to places where they might create problems for FMB missionaries, Parks said.

The second is that the Fellowship was giving money to Southern Baptist work until the SBC voted to refuse it, Parks said.

"It's strange to me (Rankin) would talk about us not wanting to cooperate when we were channeling hundreds of thousands of dollars to the FMB when they told us they were not willing to receive it," Parks said.

Reported by Baptist Press, Associated Baptist Press, FMB and WMU

FMB trustees approve new collaboration

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Trustees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board adopted a new strategic plan and approved cooperative ventures with other evangelical groups during their Aug. 13-17 meeting.

The strategic plan calls for missionaries and FMB leaders to develop new strategies for taking the gospel to unreached people groups without neglecting the tremendously responsive "harvest fields" of the world.

Trustees also ratified a "covenant of cooperation" with Global Focus, a new organization dedicated to helping Southern Baptist churches develop "personalized, prioritized" plans for missions support and involvement.

Global Focus will help Southern Baptist congregations broaden and deepen their missions programs by "strengthening traditional Southern Baptist missions with creative, contemporary methods that appeal to a new generation," said Larry Reesor, executive director.

Global Focus will help congregations design comprehensive church programs that foster a global vision of reaching the world for Christ and offer opportunities for church members to get personally involved in missions, Reesor said.

Trustees also voted to join the Evangelical Fellowship of Missions Agencies, a voluntary association of 110 mission organizations that send out almost 15,000 missionaries worldwide. Member groups include the Christian and Missionary Alliance, Conservative Baptists, Campus Crusade for Christ, World Vision and International Bible Societies.

"We're recognizing we don't work in a vacuum on the mission field and therefore need to cultivate relationships and communication with other evangelical missions," FMB President Jerry Rankin said.

Vines: Focus on God, not man

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)—Focusing too much on either Calvinism or Arminianism creates a human-centered theology rather than a God-centered theology, Jerry Vines told students at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary Aug. 22.

Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla., and a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, said it is possible to be educated beyond one's own intelligence—"absolutely smarter than God."

"Are you a Calvinist or are you an Arminian?" he asked, in reference to two prominent theological frames of reference which have been at the center of current debate between Southern Baptists.

"If you are either, you are a reli-

gious humanist because that is a man-centered theology instead of a God-centered theology," Vines said. "I could care less what Calvin believed and I could care less what Arminius believed. I want to know what the revealed word of God has to say."

One of the major differences between Calvinists and Arminians is resolving the tension between divine sovereignty and human responsibility. Calvinists emphasize divine sovereignty, sometimes to the exclusion of human responsibility. Arminians emphasize human responsibility, sometimes to the exclusion of divine sovereignty.

The answer, Vines said, is that "the Bible teaches divine sovereignty" and "the Bible teaches human responsibility."



"Hi, I'm the new pastor. Let's change the by-laws, get rid of the organ and start a 'seeker service.' Oh, by the way, I accepted a call to a larger church in Peoria."

Bill Patterson to be nominated for KBC president

By Marv Knox
Editor

HENDERSON—Bill Patterson, pastor of First Baptist Church in Henderson, will be nominated for the Kentucky Baptist Convention presidency, according to the pastor who will make that nomination.

Patterson, a former missionary to Korea, "is the type of man we need to lead our state," said Don Embry, pastor of Airline Baptist Church in Henderson.

Embry announced he will nominate Patterson, 44, for the KBC's top post when the convention holds its annual meeting in Owensboro Nov. 14-15.

"Bill Patterson has a lot to offer the state," Embry said. "He will represent everybody fairly. His focus is going to be on loving Jesus. He loves the Lord a lot and shows it in the way he deals with people."

An array of virtues qualifies Patterson for leadership, Embry said. He cited Patterson's foreign missions experience, conservatism, support for the convention, sensitivity to others and ability to lead his church to grow spiritually, numerically and financially.

Those factors led Embry to propose nominating his friend, he said, noting the idea was his own. "Bill was

shocked when I asked him. I noticed tears came to his eyes, and he said, 'I hadn't even thought about it.'"

Patterson confirmed his surprise. "I had never considered it," he said. "I prayed about it and felt the Lord was speaking to me. If Kentucky Baptists want to use me and my gifts and experiences, I would be willing to do so."

Both Embry and Patterson stressed they are not part of either political party that has fought for control of the Southern Baptist Convention and affiliated state conventions for the past two decades.

"Bill would be his own person—not part of any political machinery," Embry said. "I'm not presenting his name—and he didn't seek it at all—in any political way. There's no political agenda."

"I'm not part of any political group at all," Patterson added. "I've got friends on both sides of the political issue in our convention, and they have remained friends."

"I've been invited to political meetings on both sides, but I have not gone. Instead, I've tried to determine how much time it would take to go to those meetings and set aside that amount of time for prayer and witnessing."

Embry used the word "conservative" to describe Patterson, but both

of them said the term reflects theology, not denominational politics.

"I'm conservative; I really am. But I'm not mad about it," Patterson said, chuckling.

If elected, Patterson's priorities would be "missions and evangelism and keeping folks cooperating together," he said. "There's a world of talent among people in our churches that has not been tapped. I'd like to see us lay aside our fighting and reach out to one another and do more than ever before."

He also would be a strong supporter of the KBC's partnership missions efforts with Baptists in Russia, New England and Utah-Idaho, he added.

Embry praised Patterson for his leadership in the Henderson community.

"He's willing to stand on issues I feel comfortable with," Embry said, noting Patterson's public opposition to abortion and pornography on TV. "A lot of pastors of larger churches would not do that. He's gained my respect."

Christians should be "salt and light" in their communities, Patterson said. But rather than stand alone, Baptists should work with other Christians, he added.

"When I was overseas, missionaries of various denominations walked together in presenting the gospel, and

we can do that here," he explained. "We have a growing mission field in Kentucky, and we can lead our members to grow in sharing Christ. That can mean an emphasis on issues like abortion, but it can mean strengthening the family."

"As Christians, we can hold to biblical standards and lift people out of a devolving culture up to the Lord."

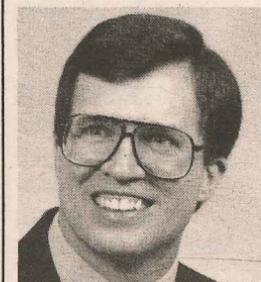
First Baptist Church in Henderson has grown during Patterson's five-year ministry. He credits his predecessors, Dave Bratcher and Keevil Judy, for the foundation for that growth.

The church's budget has more than doubled, from slightly less than \$300,000 to more than \$700,000. It has added more than 500 members, and average Sunday school attendance has climbed from 289 to 425. It also has constructed an educational building.

Prior to his missionary experience, Patterson was pastor of Cash Creek Baptist Church in Henderson, Buffalo Baptist Church in Buffalo and Superior Avenue Baptist Church in Bogalusa, La.

He's a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He and his wife, Debbie, have two sons, Timothy, 19, and Benjamin, 17.



Bill Patterson

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Weaver at Georgetown.** John Weaver, tutor in pastoral theology and director of pastoral training at Regent's Park College of Oxford University, will deliver the Charles Hatfield Memorial Lecture at Georgetown College Sept. 12. His topic will be "Cosmology, Creation and the Christian Faith."

■ **Anniversary celebration.** Campbellsville College will recognize the 150th anniversary of the Southern Baptist Convention's founding during Heritage Days Sept. 19-20. Scheduled events include a choir festival at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 19 at Campbellsville Baptist Church and a lecture Sept. 20 in the Student Activities Center by Arthur Walker, retired executive director of the SBC Education Commission.

■ **School councils trained.** Georgetown College will offer a series of seminars for members of school-based decision making councils Sept. 9, Sept. 16, Sept. 30 and Oct. 7. For information or to register, call (502) 863-8176.

■ **Chairwoman named.** Susan Wesley has been named chair of Cumberland College's department of social work, sociology and anthropology. She is a graduate of Morehead State University and the University of Louisville. The college this year is implementing a new major in social work.

Volunteers reconstruct plans in Russia

Continued from page 1
by the last day.

These Kentuckians distributed more than 100 Bibles, mostly to children. The daughter of the restaurant owner also committed to start a Sunday school in the city.

Jones, Compton and several others participated in a ministry to staff and patients in four Kolpino hospitals.

This ministry was arranged by Edward Lozovsky, a member of the Kolpino church. Lozovsky, who has been a Christian for 36 years, has overseen the distribution of 30,000 New Testaments.

"This man's commitment to Christ and to sharing God's word is simply amazing," Compton said.

In each ward of each hospital, Lozovsky introduced the Kentuckians as Christians who had come from America to talk about God. Then the Kentuckians spent several minutes promising their new friends that God loves them and explaining how to become a Christian. Before leaving, they prayed for God to heal the patients and give them spiritual strength.

The hospital visitors distributed about 500 adult Bibles and 300 children's Bibles. They also witnessed three known professions of faith and "planted the seeds for many more," Compton said.

In one hospital ward, Compton was disturbed when an elderly woman began weeping while he was talking to the patients about how to accept Christ as Savior.

"I was bothered, because I was afraid I had said something to hurt this woman," he recalled. "So, I asked the interpreter if we could go talk to her."

"This 80-year-old woman told the

interpreter: 'The reason I'm crying is I've been a believer many years, and I'm an old woman, and I've never had my own Bible. God used an American to bring me a Bible.'"

The group also visited a clinic which performs about 90 abortions per day. After Ed Garr, minister of music at the Campbellsville Church, shared his testimony and told how he was glad his wife had not aborted their three daughters, nine women left the clinic, saying they would give birth to their babies, Jones said.

The Kentuckians also led worship services at the Kolpino church, where they distributed 200 Bibles and saw six professions of faith.

In addition, several of the Kentuckians' jobs provided special opportunity for witnessing.

Richard Shriver, a postal worker from London, was invited to speak to a group of Russian postal workers. Shriver and his Russian colleagues shared information about how they do their work, and he also talked about his Christian faith. Eleven Russians accepted Christ as Savior.

A similar occurrence happened at a police station, where Joe Schenkenfelder, a state trooper from London, and Larry Noe, a prosecutor from Campbellsville, participated in a question-and-answer session. Although the Kentuckians couldn't ask the policemen for public professions of faith, the police were very receptive, Compton said.

Several teachers in the group were allowed to share their faith in Russian schools. "We could've gone into more schools if we had taken along more teachers," Jones said.

The Kentuckians shared their faith



with workers in the Kolpino hotel where they stayed and saw several of the workers accept Christ as Savior.

The Russian experience left Compton with several strong impressions:

■ "If we can distribute Scripture and Bibles, that in itself is a tremendous ministry," he said. "It cultivates people's minds and makes them receptive to the gospel."

■ The ministry partnership between Russian and Kentucky Baptists provides important encouragement for the Russians.

■ "The impact on our volunteers is tremendous," he added. "You come away realizing what a privilege it is to have that opportunity. We go over there, and we leave part of our hearts with them, but we bring part of their hearts back with us."

■ The Russia/Kentucky partnership is timely and vital. "People are being receptive, and we need to cultivate them while we have the opportunity. Kentucky Baptists need to respond to this 'divine receptivity,' to meet these needs while we can."

PARTNERS IN FAITH Kentucky Baptist Convention President Billy Compton (second from right) huddles with Pastor Oleg Michailovich (left), interpreter Valery Antsyopolovsky and church member Edward Lozovsky at Kolpino Baptist Church. Lozovsky (right) is a Gideon who has distributed 30,000 New Testaments in Russia in the past four years.

OPINION

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.

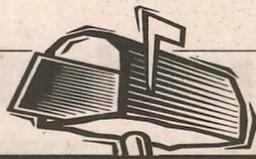
To register change of address: Send the mailing label from page 1, along with your new address, to the subscription department at the Western Recorder address.

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



BAPTIST FORUM

Who's weak?

Kentucky Baptists should give careful attention and consideration to the words of Paige Patterson (WR, Aug. 15), proclaiming Kentucky one of four "weak" SBC states.

On what basis does Patterson make this assessment? What area(s) of Kentucky Baptist ministry does Patterson reflect upon as he considers Kentucky to be "less and less involved with the things that the churches are interested in"? Does he review our efforts at stewardship, our participation in missions causes, our evangelism emphases or our support of the Cooperative Program?

None of the above. It is not ministry, but "mindset" which prompts Patterson's comments.

Because all Kentucky Baptists do not think exactly as he and other current SBC leaders do, we are "not in harmony with the SBC"! Patterson can do no better than label us an "aging state convention" that must either "be a part of the overall program" or "decline."

Patterson's comments again remind readers of the "all-or-nothing" attitude that too often characterizes current SBC leadership. What cannot be controlled is considered anathema, as many Woman's Missionary Union members are learning. It is no longer ministry in Christ's name, but allegiance to the "superior alignment with the SBC's new direction" that is the standard.

Jesus rebuked the attitude that labels other servants in his name inferior because "they are not one of us"

Buenos Aires, Part I

Following a 25-hour travel schedule from Temuco in south Chile to Louisville, "our" bed looked and felt wonderful Aug. 22.

Almost three weeks before, we had arrived in Buenos Aires for the Baptist World Congress. While most Americans were suffering from a heat wave, scores of world Baptists had underestimated a South American winter. The 30-40 degree temperatures and gusty winds made believers out of most of us very soon, and we were glad for our "long-johns," sweaters and long coats.

Because there has been good media coverage of the Congress, I will resort to a few reflections which I trust will be of interest to Kentucky Baptist readers.

The Global Connection. Having been interested and/or involved in the Baptist World Alliance since the Miami Congress in 1965, I rejoice at the remarkable growth of the Alliance and the world population of Baptists. The membership now includes 190 bodies, including Southern Baptists; 152,239 churches and 40-plus million members (baptized believers).

(Mark 9:38-41; Luke 9:49-50). Is it not time we do so as well?

Lynn Traylor
Sonora

Thanks from Russia

We want to bring in prayer words of thanks to Jesus Christ and to give you a loud thank you for your (partnership ministry) gifts for our service here in Russia.

This year (in St. Petersburg) there were studying with children 18 teachers in 14 classes, to which came about 250 children. The pastor's school had a group study preparing teachers for Sunday school for more than 30 teachers. This is God's mercy to Russian people. It is the beginning of (Sunday school) services in St. Petersburg. In this preparation of servants for our churches, the (Kentucky) partners ... had a part in this preparation.

Together with others here, I want to give brotherly greetings to the churches in Kentucky, ... which churches I think prayed much.

Also, give greetings from the teachers in our Sunday schools and from the brothers and sisters in Russian Sunday schools.

Nikolai A. Sirovatko, director
Study Center for Sunday Schools
St. Petersburg, Russia

Tobacco woes

Let me commend your courageous editorial on tobacco (WR, Aug. 5).

Especially good were your recommendations for action. In the whole Congress, the only congressman wise and courageous enough to suggest similar steps was Rep. Charlie Rose of North Carolina. Research for alternative crops is the only long-range plan with any hope.

I predict that class-action lawsuits against tobacco companies will even-

tually win. Several states have filed suit to recover Medicaid costs, and they must think they have a good chance. If one state wins one of these, every state will quickly file suit. Quite conceivably, the major tobacco companies could go bankrupt.

Then what will farmers do? What will the Kentucky economy do?

Bill Moore
Owensboro

Heartfelt thanks

Our heartfelt thanks to the hundreds of Kentucky Baptists whose love, letters, calls and prayers have meant so much to us during our illnesses. Chauncey has recovered some, but much needed healing remains.

We love you dearly, miss you greatly and pray hopefully to rejoin you when the Lord wills.

We continue to depend upon your love and prayers as our best medicine and our best hope for continued life and ministry.

Be certain of our love and prayers for you always.

Chauncey & Christine Daley
Louisville & Newington, Ga.

Wise expenditure

The Lord has honored me with the opportunity to serve on the board of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary as the Kentucky representative.

I am extremely impressed with the administration, faculty and student body. The seminary is uniquely located for international missions.

I want to express my gratitude to our Kentucky Baptist churches for the gifts they give through the Cooperative Program. I honestly believe the Lord's money is being used wisely.

Bob Swift
Mayfield

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

It is mind-blowing and heart-thrilling to experience the variations of worship styles, languages and ethnicity of Baptists from across the world. The Bible studies, seminars and worship celebrations, even in the very cold locations, took us beyond our "localism" to the larger, global Kingdom of God.

The Middle East Connection. Among the surprise "gifts" of the journey was the opportunity to re-connect with our missionary years in the Middle East.

We enjoyed an Argentine dinner with Mona and Fadlo Khowli, friends from Beirut, Lebanon. We were thrilled when Mona was elected as a vice president of the BWA, representing the Middle East.

The Khowlis are Lebanese Baptists who stayed through more than 15 years of war there and survived. It was Mona's "letters during the war" that I shared in my columns a few years back.

Her leadership as a Baptist and with the YWCA has given her a respected status, not only among Baptists of the Middle East but from other Christian and Muslim leaders as well.

To experience again their warm friendship and to learn that Baptists

are still growing in Lebanon alone was worth the journey!

The Russia Connection. Especially important was a meeting with Pyotr Konovalchic, president of the Russian Baptist Union.

Interpreting for us was my new friend, Alex Leonovich, who is the executive director of Slavic Missionary Service, stationed in New Jersey. With his assistance, Pyotr, Yuri Sipko and I were enabled to deal with some long-range concerns of the partnership and strengthen our own fraternal relationships.

Konovalchic's task is enormous! Fully aware that Kentucky alone is not adequate to meet all their needs and opportunities, we have been encouraging to him as he has begun considering the possibility of additional partners for their ambitious mission.

He has become a "brother" to me and our staff here. He was tearful when he expressed appreciation for Benton Williams, who just retired.

I left the USA primarily focused as a Kentucky Baptist. By the time I returned, I realized anew that through the Baptist World Alliance, Kentucky Baptists are part of a large and growing global family.

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



FAMILY FORUM

Criticism & contempt: Twin sins of marriage

By Diana Garland

Research on healthy marriages has documented what many of us have known: Anger and disagreement do not tear up a marriage. Every couple disagrees. All partners become angry with one another at times.

We are tempted to express our anger in certain ways, however, which do create the hurt and distance that lead to an ever-widening chasm between partners. According to research, it is criticism and contempt, not anger itself, which destroy the bond between partners.

Anger might be expressed like this: "I just spent an hour cleaning up the kitchen, and now I see cake crumbs scattered all over the countertop. I am tired and frustrated; I want you to clean up your own mess."

Criticism, however, takes it to the next step: "As usual, you mucked up the kitchen. I know you think you are the center of the universe and I'm just here to clean up after you, but I'd think you could at least take 10 seconds to wipe up a few crumbs after I've worked so hard."

It is not the anger that makes this statement so destructive. It is the insinuation and insult that is added to the anger. Criticism like this makes it hard for the partner to respond except with defensiveness.

Contempt is the communication of loathing, as though the partner is worthless and probably hopeless. Contempt is the opposite of respect, which values the other despite and beyond any conflict or problem.

Contempt is not the same as anger. Instead, contempt uses anger to communicate that the partner is worthless to the spouse. When criticism and contempt are used, partners find it more difficult to act lovingly toward each other. It is hard to be loving toward someone who considers you worthless!

Most of us have felt and even expressed criticism and contempt for our partners at least one time or another. When we have done so, we have sinned. Jesus made it clear we are neither to judge (criticize) one another nor hold one another in contempt (calling another a fool).

If you find yourself tempted to express feelings with contempt and criticism, stop and pray for the Spirit of God to breathe into you, that you might love in word and deed.

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

'You don't have to go far' to share Christ's love

You don't have to go far to meet Kentuckians who desperately need to hear the saving good news of Jesus Christ. Every trip to the grocery store, work, school, ballgame or bank brings Kentucky Baptists in contact with people who have not accepted Jesus as their Savior.

You don't have to go far to see needs for ministry in the name of Jesus Christ. Visits to inner-city housing projects, mountain hollers, country crossroads, college campuses or suburban nursing homes allow Kentucky Baptists to meet people wracked by poverty and loneliness.

"You Don't Have to Go Far" is the theme for the 1995 Kentucky Baptist week of prayer for state missions, which will be observed across the commonwealth Sept. 10-17. Promoted by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, the week of prayer will bring Baptists face-to-face with the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of Kentuckians.

The week of prayer theme is based on Jesus' admonition to serve the poor and downtrodden: "I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me" (Matthew 25:35-36). Jesus spoke to the heart of Christianity when he told his followers that as often as they ministered unto "the least of these"—the poor and needy—they ministered to him.

Today's Kentucky Baptists don't have to go far to find opportunities for ministry, insists Dee Gilliland, executive director of Kentucky WMU. "When's the last time you fed someone who was really hungry?" she asked. "Have you ever given a thirsty person a cup of cold water? Has a stranger ever spent the night in your home? Do you regularly visit the sick who are not members of your church or family? How many prisoners do you know on a first-name basis? Jesus says that when we do these things for the least important people of society, we do them for him. ...

All one has to do is pick up a local newspaper, turn on the radio or TV and be bombarded with overwhelming needs."

The week of prayer emphasis will give churches up-close looks at four groups of people whose needs are met by Kentucky Baptists—the deaf, people whose primary language is not English, poor infants and their mothers, and people who have not learned to read.

These ministries and a host of others are supported by Kentucky Baptists' Eliza Broadus Offering, which will be launched during the week of prayer. The goal for the offering is \$800,000. The money will be used to provide ministry that could not otherwise be extended.

The offering will have a significant impact on Kentucky, stressed Bill Marshall, the KBC's executive secretary-treasurer. "With one-third of Kentucky's population admitting—by census—to no faith at all, the Eliza Broadus Offering bears testimony to the commitment of Woman's Missionary Union to work together with the Kentucky Baptist Convention to do something about that challenging reality," he said. "Growth in this offering is greatly needed. It can happen in at least three ways: First, if more Kentucky Baptists contribute something to the offering through our churches. Second, if those of us who already give to the offering increase our offerings by at least the percentage of the increased cost of living for the year. And third, if many of the 1,210 KBC churches who currently do not contribute become active partners in this opportune missions offering."

Every Kentucky Baptist church ought to observe the week of prayer. And every Kentucky Baptist ought to contribute to the Eliza Broadus Offering. Kentucky needs the ministry, and we don't have to go far to provide it.

Marv Knox

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's week of prayer for state missions is Sept. 10-17.

Southern Baptist 'votes' will shape the SBC after reorganization

Southern Baptists recently glimpsed into their post-reorganization world. It wasn't a happy sight.

Early this summer, messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting approved a massive reorganization. Part of the plan called for stretching SBC resources by delegating a greater responsibility for home missions back to larger state conventions.

Late this summer, SBC leaders seemed stunned by an early, logical response. Texas Baptists proposed to keep more Cooperative Program unified budget money in the state to help start 1,400 churches. SBC leaders accused Texans—who provide by far the largest share of the Cooperative Program budget—of being uncooperative.

The Texas proposal springs from two primary sources. First, the state is growing meteorically, and the vast majority of newcomers are unchurched. This places a monumental strain on the convention in order to reach the state with the gospel. Second, when Texas asked for Home Mission Board help in that task, HMB officials harked back to the reorganization's mandate to turn more home missions work over to the states. They turned down the Texas request, leaving the state to fend for itself. Consequently, the Texas proposal calls for the state convention to reduce the share of receipts it sends to the SBC from 35.5 percent to 33

percent. The 2.5 percent swing will result in \$1.5 million per year to spend on church-starting.

Among the protests, SBC Executive Committee Chairman Ronnie Floyd said, "The larger state conventions were encouraged ... to take initiative in assessing more financial responsibility in their own states of doing mission work, without sacrificing world mission dollars."

The Texas proposal and the backlash against it are important to Kentucky Baptists and speak to the SBC reorganization on two points:

■ The reorganization plan, which was not studied for feasibility, was vitally flawed. Only afterwards did planners admit they expected the states—most of whom are strapped for funds—to take up the slack in home missions while continuing to underwrite the SBC program fully.

■ SBC leadership cannot expect to run the convention the way they won it. They came to power on the basis of narrow political votes during a three-day meeting each summer. They exerted power by installing trustees who acted as if those votes were broad mandates for change. Now that many Southern Baptists no longer feel they have a voice in the SBC, they are voting with their pocketbooks. And those "votes" will be ignored only at the SBC's peril.

Marv Knox

Children can teach grownups a thing or two about how to talk to God

Nobody can accuse Joanna and me of raising children who don't believe in miracles.

Just the other night, Lindsay asked the Lord for a big, fat favor: "... and dear God," she prayed during the first week of the new school year, "please help it not to hurt so much when I have to get up in the morning."

Oh, me of little faith!

I never thought about asking for such a practical miracle as feeling like getting out of bed when the alarm goes off. That's not to say I couldn't use it. Our morning routine got moved way, way up when school started and Lindsay graduated to middle school. Since school began, she and I leave the house at the same time she got out of

bed last year. Nobody in our home is thrilled about starting the day that early.

So, praying to feel good about getting up was a common-sense request for an everyday sort of miracle. Too bad grownups aren't so practical.

That's what I like about praying with kids. Their faith is greater than the average adult's, and their providential petitions make sense.

A child will pray for the dog to get rid of its fleas. For God to make a cloudless sky produce snow

on Christmas eve. For the store to have the right color of sneakers. And to get a hit in a Little League baseball game.

Through a bedroom door, I once heard Lindsay tearfully ask God to help her daddy remember what it's like to be a little kid. Needless to say, that prayer was answered immediately.

When adults pray with children, they often wind up trying to teach kids how to pray as much as praying themselves. That's true for me, at

least, when I say bedtime prayers with our daughters or pray with Mission Friends at

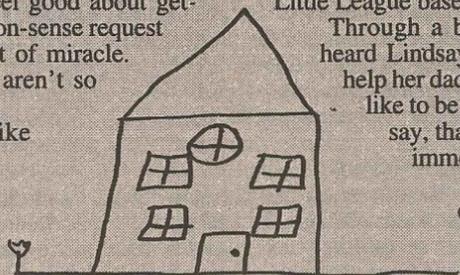
church on Wednesday nights.

Many times, I've added a silent prayer of repentance after a child's prayer has been much more heartfelt and sensible than my own.

For example, I'll pray, "God, bless all the missionaries on foreign fields," and a child will pray, "Please help the missionary kids learn a new language, and help their moms and dads remember to drive on the other side of the road." Or I'll ask, "Heal those who are sick," and Lindsay or Molly will plead, "Help Nanny's eye to see better."

Grownups who are blessed to pray with kids often are reminded of Jesus' words, "And a little child shall lead them."

Marv Knox



down home

Baptists plant seeds of health amid Angola's war

LUANDA, Angola (BP)—Take a capital city. Add overpopulation, runaway inflation and unemployment. Stir in poor living conditions. Agitate with war.

It's a recipe for desperation.

But it's a recipe currently being concocted in Angola, where war has driven about 1.5 million people from

outlying areas into Luanda, Angola's capital city. They're refugees in their own country. Unemployment is rife, wages low and inflation at 1,400 percent in this city of 3 million.

Desperate times call for desperate measures, and Southern Baptist missionaries in Angola have entered a state of emergency.

At one point, the United Nations said 1,000 people per day died from war-related causes in Angola. Then Angola's rate of human suffering was higher than any nation in the world. Angolans continue to suffer and die.

"One large reason for these deaths is malnutrition in children," said missionary Mark Hatfield, a Kentuckian who heads Southern Baptist efforts in Angola from Harare, Zimbabwe.

Missionaries and the Angola Baptist Convention's Social Ministries Board and Medical Commission now work together to save Luanda's children. Angolan Baptist physician Oscar Paulo spearheads the effort that began last year and will continue into 1996.

"My real interest is in nutrition, especially for (children from) birth to

five years," Paulo said. "Many physical, emotional and mental problems a person may have later on in life can be traced back to the first five years of (his) life. Unfortunately, this is also the time when most of our children die."

"In focusing on our children, we're focusing on the future of Angola."

Paulo speaks with the voice of experience, not only as a doctor, but as a father. He lost his only two children, both daughters, at young ages. The second died in his arms last December.

"Many of Africa's chronic sicknesses can be linked to malnutrition," Paulo said. "When people are malnourished or undernourished, they're more susceptible to other diseases. In fighting malnourishment, we're also fighting many other killers of our people."

Baptists have targeted three areas of Luanda known for severe malnutrition and inadequate health facilities. Their plan calls for three feeding stations for children, two medical clinics and a sewing project.

Children are chosen for the program through surveys and medical exams. They receive a special diet to alleviate the malnutrition, and a professional staff charts their progress.

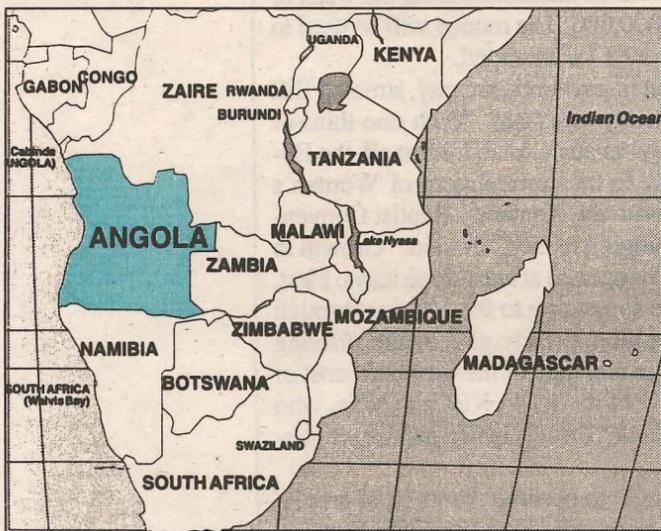
"We aim to move children to a maintenance program for a month after they reach normal averages for weight to age," Hatfield said. "When they enter the maintenance phase, they'll be fed locally available food that mothers will be taught to select and prepare."

"At the same time, we'll teach sewing to unskilled, unemployed men and women who can then provide food for their families."

Hatfield anticipates helping 700 children and training 80 adults as tailors and seamstresses.

Baptists have found most malnourished children come from homes where the mother is unskilled. Mothers who learn to sew can earn money and buy food.

Medical clinics near the feeding stations will treat about 12,500 patients during the project. Southern Baptist relief funds will provide medicines.



Kentucky missionaries treasure their friends in Angola

Continued from page 1

capital city of Luanda—and the people there learned about them. A mutual respect developed and grew.

Life continued to be a hard, daily battle for the Hatfields and their missionary colleagues Curtis and Betty Dixon. Water, electricity and fuel were constant problems.

Visitors seemed to be there all day, every day. There were constant requests for transportation.

"I can't count the bodies I've taken to the cemetery," Hatfield said. "We used to give nails for the coffins, then drive the bodies to the cemetery."

At Grafamil, the Hatfields became charter members of Good Hope Baptist Church, located just outside the walls of the mission compound. They made friends with Pastor Ricardo Santos—dentist, evangelist, church planter and friend to missionaries.

Almost daily, late in the afternoon, Santos would walk to the mission compound. Over a glass of cola or cup of tea, he and the Hatfields would talk about Angola's war, life in Luanda, families, church happenings and news.

"He made us feel special, but in a common way. We were like his Angolan friends. He and his wife did special things for us but didn't put us on pedestals the way they do most foreigners when they visit once in a blue moon."

"Ricardo knew I was an agricultural missionary and didn't try to force me to be anything else. He saw I was good at doing physical work and allowed me to use that ability. At the same time, he let me teach and preach in church."

Santos uses ministry situations to teach missionaries about customs and culture.

"I remember the first funeral I went to in Angola," Hatfield said. "Ricardo helped me feel comfortable in showing my concern for the family. I was the church's 'hearse' driver, and he always rode in front with me, telling me how fast to go, how to treat the family and what to do and say."

The missionaries won Santos' friendship through trust. "Our friendship really grew after the Hatfields trusted my wife and me enough to have us stay in their home for a month while they were away," Santos said.

Missionaries face the temptation of appearing self-sufficient, Hatfield said: They take with them things that keep them from having to live a dependent life, but what's needed is a dependency that creates friendships.

"We depend on friends for our existence," he said. "National friends are vital for a missionary to be effective and remain on the field. If you don't

have them, you're not sharing your life as a Christian or missionary."

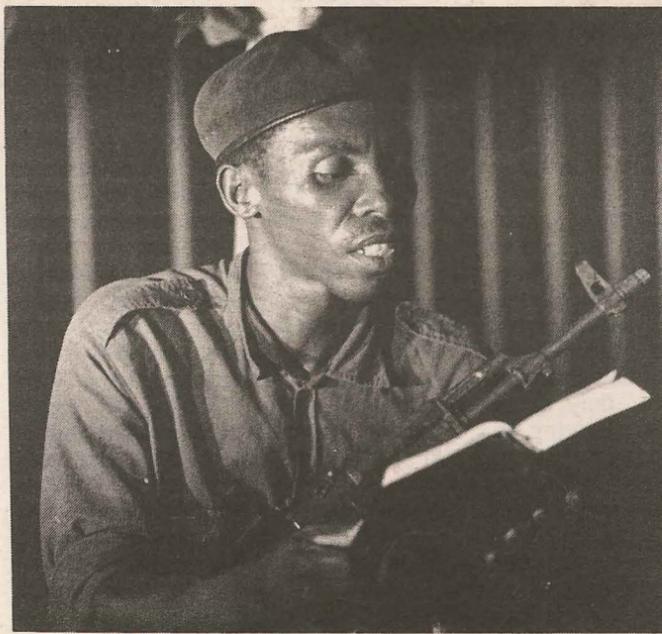
Hatfield told of the time two years after arriving in Angola when he felt he had had enough. After much prayer, he came to a different conclusion.

"We were forced to depend on our Angolan Christian family," Hatfield said. "Not so much for material things, but emotionally and for security. We could relate when Angolans were afraid a bullet would come into their house, because we feared the same thing."

Now the Hatfields serve Angola from Harare, his base as administrator for mission work in Angola and Mozambique.

Hatfield has committed to work in both countries until the couple's next furlough. But for now, he's sure distance hasn't cut the ties that bind him to the people of Angola.

ARMED AND READY As a security guard for the Baptist Mission in Angola, Elias Augusto packs an AK-47 automatic weapon in one hand and a Bible in the other. (BP photo by Steve Evans)



Missionaries' security guard learns to 'watch and pray'

LUANDA, Angola (BP)—Elias Augusto has trouble sleeping at night.

But it's because he can't sleep that Southern Baptist missionaries in Luanda, Angola's troubled capital city, can do so.

In one way, Augusto, a deacon in Luanda's Good Hope Baptist Church, has learned to apply the biblical principle of "watch and pray." As a security guard for the Baptist Mission in Angola, Augusto packs an AK-47 automatic weapon in one hand, a Bible in the other.

"Bandits know missionaries have cars, food, clothing and other valuables at their homes," Augusto said. "With force, and with weapons, they go after these things."

Augusto has worked for the organization of Foreign Mission Board missionaries in Angola since 1989. In 1993 he became an armed security guard for the mission after a gang en-

tered the mission compound. They looted a missionary home and attacked another home with missionaries Curtis and Betty Dixon inside.

Later the Dixons went to the police to ask about security guards. Police said they would supply the weapons if the mission would provide the personnel.

"Elias wanted to be one of the guards," said Mark Hatfield, a Kentuckian who leads mission work in Angola and Mozambique.

Although Augusto spent eight years in the military and knows how to handle difficult security situations, he depends on his faith in Jesus Christ to get him through.

"I can't do anything without God's help, even in this work of protecting missionaries," he said. "As Christians, we can't have confidence in ourselves, even if we're armed. We must trust God. He's our protector."

One night he was on duty alone. "I saw four armed men enter the compound, and my heart started to beat fast. Each of them had an AK-47. As they began collecting things from the yard, I shot over their heads."

Bullets flew around him as all four returned fire. "Now I know the value of human life and the sanctity of human blood, and I didn't want to defile the ground of this compound by spilling any blood, so I didn't shoot to kill these men," he explained. "I began shooting all around them ... I shot until they fled over the compound wall."

Augusto quickly realized it was a miracle he was alive. "I looked around me and saw bullet holes everywhere—in the water tank, the storage containers, even in the sides of the house. I just began to pray and praise God, because I then knew for sure that he is my protector."

Beijing women's conference draws mixed reviews

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The United Nations conference on women, slated for Sept. 4-15 in Beijing, China, is either a global dialogue on women's rights or a mechanism for a destructive feminist agenda, depending on who offers the assessment.

Add to the mix that China, the host country, is frequently cited for human-rights abuses against women, and the controversy over the conference grows too deep to unite politicians, faith groups and others devoted to democracy.

In the United States, much of the furor has focused on the administration's decision that Hillary Rodham Clinton would lead the U.S. delegation. Women's groups applauded; GOP leaders and pro-family groups complained.

Religious leaders and organizations have been split as well. Orthodox Muslims, the Vatican and some conservative evangelicals have opposed the meeting. Other groups have not.

Among the conference opponents is the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. James Smith, CLC director of government relations, said his agency stands "against the purposes and intent" of the conference because of its "radical agenda" concerning the sanctity of human life, definition of the family, teenage sexual activity and family planning.

The location also indicates the United Nations has a distorted understanding of human rights, he said.

James Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee, said his agency has not taken a position on the conference. But he said he was disturbed by a U.S. State Department

warning that conference delegates could be arrested if they take their Bibles or participate in religious activities while there.

A State Department official, according to news reports, warned Americans planning to attend that the United States would not be able to protect them if they violate the laws of the communist nation.

"The warning to delegates that they should leave their Bibles at home is alarming," Dunn said. "It signals the serious challenges to religious freedom. If there is any human right that is basic, it is the right to freedom of conscience regarding religion."

Robert Parham, executive director of the Baptist Center for Ethics in Nashville, said he had "serious reservations about U.S. government involvement in an international meeting in a nation which so persistently and repugnantly violates basic human rights." And, he added, the location will shape the content.

"I am not certain that the good which will result from this conference will outweigh the legitimacy gained by the Chinese government," Parham said.

Nancy Schaefer of Atlanta, who will represent the SBC Christian Life Commission at the conference, agreed.

"It is ironic that a totalitarian police state like China would host a United Nations conference on women, since women have absolutely no rights there," she said, citing reports of forced abortions, forced sterilizations and other human-rights complaints. But, Schaefer added, the conference already has called attention to such abuses and could bring world-

wide pressure for reform.

If not Beijing, where?, asked Catherine Allen, immediate past president of the women's department of the Baptist World Alliance. "You cannot find many places in the world that do not have a stained reputation in women's rights," said Allen, who worked 26 years with Woman's Missionary Union in Birmingham, Ala.

Even the United States' record in this area is blemished, she said, noting that it is the only world power that has failed to sign a U.N. statement on women's rights.

"Where better to have dialogue?" she asked. Holding the meeting in Beijing "could be helpful to a dialogue process in China," she said.

Allen also discounted criticism that the conference promotes an abortion-rights agenda. Abortion should be discussed in such a setting, she said. And staying home doesn't help, she added. It is important for the United States to have a voice in the abortion debate, even if that voice is unclear, she said.

Allen listed women's rights as the No. 1 human-rights issue facing the world, adding that the conference focus on it is a breakthrough.

While a conference on women's rights is needed, the official platform statement for the meeting is skewed to favor the causes of "radical feminists," countered Schaefer of the CLC. She said the platform document promotes abortion rights, gender sensitivity training and sexuality outside of marriage.

"Gender may be redefined to include not only male and female but homosexuals, bisexuals and transgender—five genders instead of two,"

said Schaefer, president of the Atlanta-based Family Concerns and a CLC trustee.

"I don't think that is the position of the Southern Baptist Convention or of women around the world," Schaefer said.

The U.S. delegation to the meeting is dominated by "radical feminists" like Bella Abzug, Schaefer charged. Meanwhile, those who hold "pro-family values"—such as the sanctity of human life and parental rights—have little influence over the direction of the meeting, she said.

"Women are suffering in many parts of the world, and I would uphold them being granted rights," Schaefer said. But if the feminist agenda takes centerstage in Beijing, she said, "it could overshadow the true meaning of why this meeting was proposed."

More is at stake in the conference than policies and politics, Catherine Allen said.

"The integrity of the Christian witness for the future is going to be largely determined by what the church has to say about human rights for women," she said. "The world is clearly moving toward rights for women. The church should be leading the way and doing so in the name of Christ."

"Not all things being done and said in the name of rights for women have helped women, because Christians, for the most part, have not found the mind of Christ for treatment of women. Whenever Christianity confronts culture, the role of women is one of the dividing points. I hope, whether in the local pulpit or Beijing, the cross of Christ and the women clustered around it will always be kept in focus."

"I am not certain that the good which will result from this conference will outweigh the legitimacy gained by the Chinese government."
Robert Parham, Baptist Center for Ethics

Procter & Gamble sues over satanism rumor

SALT LAKE CITY (RNS)—The Procter & Gamble Co. has accused a high-ranking distributor of Amway Corp., one of its top competitors, of spreading a longstanding rumor linking Procter & Gamble with satanism.

A suit filed in U.S. District Court in Salt Lake City Aug. 27 named Randy Haugen of Ogden, Utah, as the defendant. Haugen, described as a "diamond-level" distributor and member of the executive committee of the Amway Distributors Association Council, used Amway's voice-mail system to spread the rumor, Procter & Gamble charged.

Haugen could not be reached for comment.

Amway, based in Ada, Mich., said in a statement it "does not condone the spreading of false and malicious rumors against Procter & Gamble or any other company. Despite Amway Corp.'s past efforts to help stop this rumor, unfortunately it appears to have resurfaced."

Procter & Gamble, with sales of about \$30 billion, and Amway, at about \$5 billion, are competitors in the personal-care and household products industry.

"We have been fighting this outrageous rumor for over 15 years," James Johnson, senior vice president and general counsel of Cincinnati-based Procter & Gamble, said in a prepared statement.

"Throughout that time, people associated with Amway have played a role," Johnson claimed. "Amway competes directly with P&G in a number of our product lines, and some Amway distributors have used this rumor to encourage a consumer boycott of P&G products. Over the years, we have had numerous incidents, beyond this lawsuit, linking the spread of the rumor to Amway distributors."

The false stories, which frequently show up in anonymous leaflets in Christian churches, typically claim that the company's trademark, a moon-and-stars logo that dates to the mid-1800s, is a satanic symbol.

The rumors also claim that P&G's president has discussed satanism on Phil Donahue's nationally televised talk show.

Company officials have repeatedly denied both charges and enlisted the aid of such religious leaders as Jerry Falwell and leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention in an effort to dispel the stories.

Procter & Gamble officials estimated the company has answered about 200,000 calls and letters about the rumors over the past 15 years.

In its statement, Amway said it will "continue to cooperate with Procter & Gamble and will continue to enlist the support of independent Amway distributors to stop this rumor."

Johnson, however, said Procter & Gamble is "reviewing other possible legal actions involving Amway distributors."

"Our efforts in the past to get the Amway Corp. itself to put a halt to this illegal business practice by their distributors have obviously proved futile," Johnson said.

Amway, an abbreviation for "American way," often recruits distributors from conservative Christian circles, and meetings of distributors feature prayers and Christian music.

The company uses what is known as a multi-level marketing system. Distributors, especially top-level or "diamond-level distributors," are technically not employees of the company, but independent entrepreneurs.

Distributors earn commissions on sales made by people who have been recruited to sell Amway products. Commissions increase as the chain of recruits grows.



Nation's only school voucher program set back in Wisconsin

MADISON, Wis. (ABP)—The Wisconsin Supreme Court Aug. 25 blocked implementation of the country's only voucher program for religious schools.

The program, touted by Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson, was designed to expand the state's current voucher system to include private religious schools. Currently, low-income students receive vouchers to attend the public or private, non-religious schools of their choice.

Religious-liberty groups argued that state funding of sectarian schools violates the Wisconsin and U.S. constitutions.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin and Americans United for Separation of Church and State have challenged the program.

The state's high court barred implementation until the lawsuit can be resolved.

"The Wisconsin court wisely said no to the blatant attempt to funnel taxpayer dollars to the coffers of sectarian schools to teach religion," said Brent Walker, general counsel of the Baptist Joint Committee.

Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United, said: "This action by the court sends a strong signal that voucher programs violate the separation of church and state. ... If I were a voucher advocate, I would be pretty worried right now."

"This ruling does not bode well for these unconstitutional schemes."

But proponents of the program called the court action a temporary setback and predicted that the final verdict will be in their favor.

PEOPLE

Zondervan welcomes Dave's home office with a Top 10 list

Sociologist sees 'golden rule Christians'

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Mainstream Christians have shed the sectarianism of their forebears to become what sociologist Nancy Ammerman calls "golden rule Christians." Across the spectrum, people say that "what Christianity was supposed to be was that people should be good to one another," said Ammerman, president-elect of the Association for the Sociology of Religion.

Doctrine means less to them than being good to their families and "doing good deeds to provide care and comfort to people in need." "Golden rule Christians" have a level of tolerance that accounts for the ease with which they move from one church to another without regard for denominational loyalty, Ammerman said.

Her newest research is the subject of a forthcoming book, "Congregations and Community." She bases her conclusions on the pervasiveness of "golden rule Christians" on a survey she made of 1,995 people in 23 congregations, including in-depth interviews with 300 individuals. She studied Roman Catholics and Protestants, including conservative evangelicals, liberals and African-Americans.

About 29 percent of those she interviewed were evangelicals who said praying, witnessing and studying the Bible were most important things for a Christian. Another 20 percent were activists who said striving for social justice had priority. "But the big middle—51 percent—are these 'golden rule Christians' who 'do not think it essential to define oneself in terms of strict religiosity.'"

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (EP)—When David Letterman moved his fictional "home office" from Sioux City, Iowa, to Grand Rapids, Mich., recently, the Christian firm Zondervan Publishing was there to greet him.

Letterman refers to his "home office" as the source of his nightly "Top Ten" lists, a highlight of his late-night talk show.

Zondervan joined nearly 100 other area companies in sending Letterman a 648-pound welcome package of products produced in the Grand Rapids area.

Zondervan also sent a separate package to Letterman with various humor books, including Lee Strobel's "What Would Jesus Say to ...," which speculates on what Jesus would say to various public figures today. Strobel is a minister at Willow Creek Community Church in Chicago.

Strobel's book includes his own list of the "Top 10 Things Jesus Would Say to David Letterman":

10. "Sorry, Johnny gets the 11:30 slot for eternity."

9. "Thanks for not leaving New York City. Contrary to popular opin-

ion, God hasn't either."

8. "In hell, that woman breaks into your house every night."

7. "Some things are just plain hard to explain, even for me. Predestination vs. free will, for instance. And your hair."

6. "When I talk about King David, I'm not always referring to your ratings."

5. "Behave yourself, or I'll reveal to the world that you were Chip on 'My Three Sons.'"

4. "No, Dave, I won't fix it so you get free HBO."

3. "Let's face it: You owe God some credit for coming up with history's first Top Ten list."

2. "You think it's fun to be omniscient? Hey, every once in a while I'd like to hear a punch line that I didn't already know."

1. "No, God isn't dead; he's just banned from the networks."

GROUP SKIING
Specializing in Church Youth Groups

Weekend Packages starting at **\$79** per person

NC, VA, WV, NORTHEAST, WEST

25 Years Experience

1-800-285-7273

Steeple & Baptistries

From the world's largest manufacturer of fiberglass church products

- Steeples
- Krinkligas
- Baptistries
- Windows
- Lighted Wall Crosses
- Baptistry Heaters

Call or write for our free catalog

1-800-527-1459
P.O. Box 1340
Henderson, TX 75653-1340

FIBERGLASS SPECIALTIES INCORPORATED

BAPTIST HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

Helping you help your family and the ministries you love ...

Building your estate takes hard work, financial discipline, and wise planning. Unless you complete proper estate planning, your life's work could be reduced significantly by taxes, never fully benefitting your loved ones or the ministries and other worthwhile causes you cherish.

Since 1984, Baptist Healthcare Foundation has provided important financial planning information to friends across Kentucky. At the same time, Baptist Healthcare Foundation works closely with

Baptist Healthcare System to support its ongoing ministries to patients and families.

By securing, investing, and managing charitable gifts to five Baptist hospitals in Kentucky, the Foundation impacts a wide-range of caregiving areas.

To learn more about how you can help your family and the organizations you love, contact: Baptist Healthcare Foundation
4007 Kresge Way
Louisville, KY 40207
(502) 896-5035, (800) 224-4745



FOUNDATION STAFF Charles W. Cox Jr., (seated) president; (standing left to right) Holly Morris and Betty Jessie, administrative assistants; Robin Oldham, director.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

NEEDED: Small, country church in need of a pastor. Contact Canmer Baptist Church, P.O. Box 27, Canmer, KY 42722.

SEEKING: Part-time song leader; Sunday services and adult choir. Contact Irvington Baptist Church, Box 371, Irvington, KY 40146; phone (502) 547-4705.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of youth and music. Send resume to: First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 756, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, Attention: Search Committee.

FOR RENT: Two-bedroom/loft house with basement and deck. Convenient location—close to seminar-ies. \$650. (502) 895-4922.

SEEKING: The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary is seeking candidates for the position of accounting supervisor with general ledger and payroll responsibilities. B.S. in accounting with 4+ years experience preferred. Send resume and salary history to Personnel Services, Box 82396, Louisville, KY 40280-2396.

FOR SALE: 22 padded church pews, 3 choir pews, pulpit and altar rail. Call (502) 358-3876.

NEEDED: Russell Cave Road Baptist Church in Lexington is in need of a part-time pianist. Contact Gene King at (606) 299-4611 or Veronica Tichenor at (606) 293-1478.

SECURITY: Need security at church, business or home? Call Bob at ADT Security Systems, Lexington, (606) 254-0837 or (502) 343-4056.

NEEDED: Associate pastor in education and outreach. Principal function: The associate pastor will be responsible to the senior pastor for planning, organizing, implementing and evaluating a comprehensive program of education and outreach for the church and community. Preferred qualifications: 1) Clear articulation of conversion experience, subsequent faith journey and previous commitment to and involvement in a Southern Baptist church; 2) Graduate of a nationally recognized and accredited seminary or divinity school; 3) Two to five years of directly applicable experience; 4) Effective interpersonal skills; 5) Strong organizational and managerial skills; 6) Computer literate; 7) Knowledgeable of educational trends and age-group teaching/learning processes. If interested, please submit a resume and a cover letter that addresses the preferred qualifications. Send to: Associate Pastor Search Committee, Georgetown Baptist Church, 207 South Hamilton St., Georgetown, KY 40324. All inquiries will be handled in strict confidence.

FOR RENT: Sanibel Island, Florida: 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo available for vacation rental. Large pool, tennis courts, bikes, canoe, kayak, screened porch, lovely secluded beach. Weekly rates August-December 16, \$550. Call Pat Owen, (502) 895-8752.

It's Round-Up Time!



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

NEEDED ITEMS INCLUDE:

Canned fruit, pie filling, fruit juice, vegetable or corn oil, salad dressing, mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, cereal, syrup, jam, jelly, pickles, spices and seasonings, soup, spaghetti sauce, dried pasta, tuna, drink mix, cake and brownie mix, frosting, sugar, casserole mix, foil and plastic wrap. Also, personal care items such as soap, shampoo and toothpaste.*

*Health regulations prohibit us from receiving home-canned foods or dented cans.

Please pack in sturdy boxes.

CALL 1-800-456-1386 FOR MORE INFORMATION



PEOPLE



FINANCIAL FORUM

Why should a Christian tithe?

By Doug Strader

"Preacher, I guess you have already been told that I do not believe in tithing."

I was serving as pastor of my first church when these words were spoken by one of the church leaders.

He continued, though, by saying he was a generous supporter of the church with his finances, even giving beyond his tithe.

Ever since that day, I have been in process of studying my beliefs of tithing in relation to what the Bible teaches.

Why should a Christian tithe?

First, because tithing (giving one-tenth of my income to the church) recognizes that God is the owner of everything.

See Psalm 24:1-2 and Genesis 1:1, which says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

The second reason a Christian should tithe is because humans are stewards of God's creation.

A steward manages the possessions of another. A steward has the freedom to manage, but is accountable for the manner in which the possessions are managed (Matthew 25:14-30).

Everything I have is a gift from God.

The fact that Jesus commended the Pharisees for tithing, even in a legalistic way, is a third reason for tithing.

In Matthew 23:23, Jesus reminded the Pharisees that just because they were tithing did not excuse them from the more significant matters of justice, mercy, faith and love of God. But neither did he excuse them from tithing.

Another reason to tithe is to express our love to God.

We do not tithe to gain God's love; we tithe because of God's love (2 Corinthians 8:1-7).

Jesus gave his life for his bride, the church. Then he commissioned the church to do his work, and the voluntary giving of the tithe is God's way of financially supporting the work of the church.

When we give our tithes to the church, we are helping our church do God's work in our community, state, nation and around the world.

Doug Strader is stewardship director for the Kentucky Baptist Convention

Baptist man settles lawsuit on Sunday work

Continued from page 1

Subsequent meetings with the manager failed to remedy the situation, Hamby said. After discussing the situation with his wife, his pastor and others, Hamby realized he had been compromising his convictions.

In November 1993, Hamby filed suit against Wal-Mart Stores Inc. His lawyer, Jay Kirksey of Bolivar, asked for \$5 million in damages. At the time, Hamby said, he didn't realize any punitive damages were involved. "All I wanted to do was stop Wal-Mart," he said.

The settlement Hamby reached with Wal-Mart Stores July 28 called for the company to pay Hamby an undisclosed amount for damages. Both parties in the settlement agreed

to keep the amount confidential.

Kirksey said the case had the potential for a multi-million-dollar jury verdict against Wal-Mart. "But our purpose was not the money, it was to prevent this from happening to someone else," he said.

Hamby acknowledged some of the people he consulted with while trying to decide whether to sue advised him not to do so. Some Christians have criticized him since the settlement, citing the apostle Paul's injunction in 1 Corinthians 6 against Christians suing their brothers.

His answer: "Wal-Mart is not my brother."

The dismissal order states Wal-Mart Stores Inc. denies any liability or wrongdoing in the case. Spokes-

woman Jane Bockholt said the company agreed to a settlement because its local store manager had made a mistake.

Bockholt said the corporation was complying with the settlement agreement by providing training in religious discrimination at its fall merchandise meetings in Kansas City.

The settlement first was reported by the Bolivar Herald-Free Press, where Hamby's wife is a reporter. The Wall Street Journal carried a report Aug. 22. Hamby also has been interviewed by National Public Radio and other media.

Reporters have asked him if he still shops at Wal-Mart. The answer is yes. "What's life without Wal-Mart?" he explained, chuckling.

The person doing the scheduling testified the manager told her to "schedule Scott on Sunday until he quits."

Impact of settlement predicted to be far-reaching

BOLIVAR, Mo. (BP)—Scott Hamby's settlement in a labor dispute with Wal-Mart Stores Inc. should have far-reaching impact on religious discrimination, according to Hamby's attorney.

"It looks like this will be the case that will catapult religious discrimination into the public awareness," said attorney Jay Kirksey.

Title VII of the federal civil rights laws deals with discrimination on the basis of race, sex or religion, he pointed out, but religious discrimination has received less attention than the other two types.

The law says if a person has a bona fide religious conviction pertaining to some aspect of work, an employer must reasonably accommodate the employee's needs, if that can be done without undue hardship to the employer. In lay-

man's terms, that means the employer should use common sense, Kirksey explained.

In Hamby's case, for example, there was no need for the Bolivar, Mo., Wal-Mart store to force Hamby to work Sundays because it had plenty of other employees who were willing to do so.

Kirksey, who specializes in labor law, said typically a worker opposed to working on Sundays for religious reasons is either not hired, is fired or has his or her hours cut. This forces workers to choose between their religious convictions and feeding their families.

"Title VII says that doesn't have to occur," he declared.

Baptist religious liberty advocates welcomed the Wal-Mart settlement.

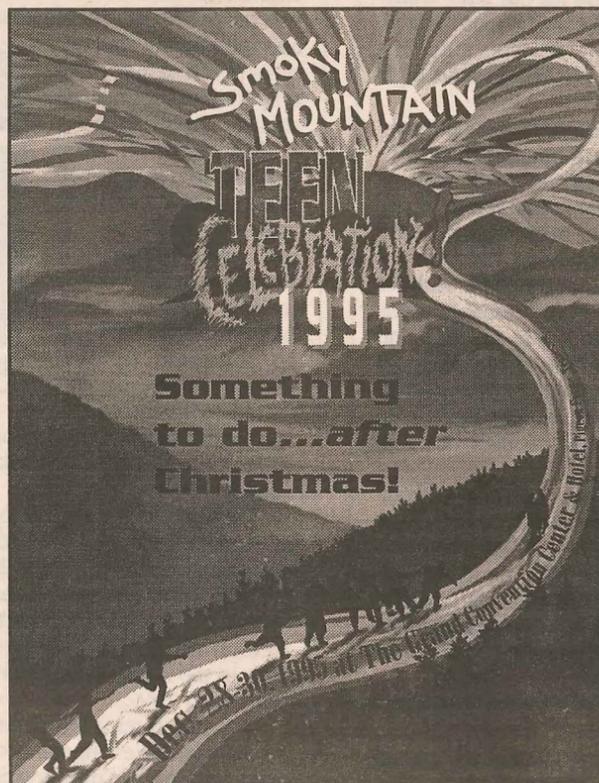
"We certainly endorse the prin-

ciple of strengthening religious liberty in the workplace," said Michael Whitehead, general counsel for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. He characterized the outcome of Hamby's case as "a non-legislative move in the right direction."

Brent Walker, general counsel for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, said proposed legislation called the Work Place Religious Freedom Act would counteract two United States Supreme Court rulings in the late 1980s that weakened the religious freedom of employees.

The BJC supports the legislation, which Walker said would go hand-in-glove with the Wal-Mart settlement and a similar settlement involving Dillard's Department Stores.

Coming in December!



as low as
\$69
per person!

FEATURING!

- ◆ Josh McDowell
- ◆ Point of Grace
- ◆ NewSong
- ◆ Al Holley
- ◆ Ike Reighard



DEC. 28-30

at the GRAND CONVENTION

CENTER & HOTEL

Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

TOLL FREE! 1-800-475-0819

PEOPLE

PRAYER PARTNERS

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

- The Kentucky construction team going to Vyborg, Russia, Sept. 6-20.
- The Kentucky women's work team going to Novosibirsk, Russia, Sept. 26-Oct. 11.
- The Christmas gift project for Russian children.
- Churches and individuals planning projects for the 1996 Boston partnership.
- The staff and members of the Greater Boston Baptist Association as they plan their upcoming October annual meeting.
- September Mega Focus Cities strategy planning in Greater Boston Baptist Association.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **CORBIN**—Paul Sims celebrated his 12th anniversary as minister of music and education at First Church. A surprise reception was held in his honor Aug. 28.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Melbourne Heights Church called Joy Wallace, a native of Cold Spring, as minister of music. She will enroll at the University of Louisville in pursuit of a master's degree in music education.

Carlisle Avenue Church held a surprise anniversary celebration and reception for Ferrill and Lou Rae Gardner Sept. 3. Gardner has served as pastor for 20 years.

Hurstbourne Church will celebrate its 25th anniversary at 9:45 a.m. Oct. 1. A reception will be held in the fellowship hall at 11:15 a.m.

Carol Heinz has been named as-

sociate director of personnel services at Southern Seminary. Heinz is a member of the Louisville Society for Human Resource Management and the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans.

■ **MIDDLESBORO**—First Church will ordain Bill Johnson, Charles Sigmon Jr. and Jay Shoffner as deacons Sept. 10.

■ **MOUNT WASHINGTON**—Art Turner resigned as minister to youth and young adults at Mount Washington Church.

■ **OWENSBORO**—Third Church began its year-long centennial celebration Aug. 13. A special event every third Sunday will continue through August 1996. Call (502) 683-0269 for more information.

■ **PADUCAH**—First Church called

Keevil Judy, longtime state leader, dies at 90

HENDERSON—Keevil Judy, former president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, died Aug. 26 after a heart attack. He was 90.

Judy was active in Kentucky Baptist life for nearly 70 years, serving as a pastor and educator.

Under his leadership, the KBC conducted a drive in 1963 to raise \$9 million for Baptist educational institutions.

Judy was a graduate of Georgetown College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as

pastor of churches in Henderson, Newport, Harlan, Paducah and Owensboro.

He also was principal of Harrison County High School in Cynthiana. He served as a trustee of Georgetown College and of Henderson Community Methodist Hospital.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Lois Judy; a daughter, Ruth Otey of Jackson, Tenn.; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held Aug. 27 at First Baptist Church of Henderson.

Tony Whitfield as minister of music. He will begin his new ministry Sept. 17.

■ **PROVIDENCE**—First Church called Desmond Hargis of Madisonville as pastor. He began his new ministry Aug. 13.

■ **SHELBYVILLE**—First Church called interim minister of music David Hedrick as minister of music. He

began his new ministry Sept. 1.

■ **SHEPHERDSVILLE**—Bardstown Junction Church honored Ray Hayes for 25 years in the ministry Aug. 6. Also, Ivan Shely was called as minister of praise and worship, Gene Smith was called as interim minister of youth and Philip Drake resigned to become full-time minister of youth at Lancaster Church.

POSITION OPENING



President and Chief Executive Officer Kentucky Baptist Foundation

The Presidential Search Committee of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation is seeking applications from interested persons.

Anyone interested in being considered should send a current resumé by September 22, 1995, to:

Charles D. Barnes, Chairman
Kentucky Baptist Foundation
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville KY 40253-0433

Saturday morning

Normally when young people think of Saturday morning, they think of sleeping in or watching cartoons. Not so at Oneida. Very few of our students get to sleep in on Saturday.

As I walked across the campus this morning, I saw about 30 girls in the Sparks gym practicing volleyball.

As I left the gym I could hear the sound of the mowing crew. Few schools have a more attractive campus than ours. Our boys work every day after school and on the weekends to keep it looking good. We also have several flower beds which are cared for by our girls.

As I looked over the hillside I saw about ten boys raking grass from the athletic fields. While they were raking the grass into piles, still other boys were walking behind a tractor and trailer picking up the 50 or so grass piles.

I heard Martin, the farm manager, call on the FM radio for one of our deans to go and check on a farm boy who had overslept. No one said it was easy to get up on Saturday morning.

During my senior year here at Oneida, I was on the morning milk crew. We had our own milk cows back in those days. Three other boys and I would get up at 4:30 every morning to milk those blessed cows. I am not sure how I got on that crew. I think someone told me about the advantages of not having chores after school. Since I was a senior there was really no excuse for being so gullible.

I remember well those mornings in January and February. We had to walk nearly a mile to the farm. Needless to say, it was still dark and very cold most mornings. I don't think those cows were any happier to see us than we were to see them.

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

While we do not have milk cows today, we do raise nearly all of our beef cattle. We also have an outstanding hog facility. We raise about 1,600 pigs a year. We will butcher about 300-400 per year for our use and sell the others.

I could also hear the roar of weed eaters. Boys love to use weed eaters and will cut down about anything in their path. We try to keep them away from the flower beds! The boys were busy trimming around fences, buildings and other areas.

It was so exciting to see the girls' soccer team practicing. This is the first year for our girls' team. We have had boys' soccer for many years. It will take some time to develop a quality program for the girls, but we have high hopes.

The boys' and girls' cross country teams also were running this morning. We have had a strong cross country program for many years. Some of our best runners have been students who had not been involved in this sport before. Many potentially good athletes were discouraged back home because it was difficult to get to practice and they feared being "cut" from a team. It is no problem getting to our practice since the students live here, and we do

not "cut" kids as long as they do their best and follow the rules.

As I came back to my office, I saw boys cleaning this area. Students clean all of our buildings. It is always exciting to me to watch a young boy or girl be exposed to "work" for the first time. Sometimes during the interview with a new student, he or she says "I like everything about Oneida except the work. I have never worked before and I am not sure I want to!"

In almost no time at all, they learn. Even on a Saturday morning.

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

God works through stability and storm

Third-year student family Travis and Robin Smalley returned from vacation Bible school to find a tree in their living room. A summer storm toppled two trees near their Hemlock Heights duplex. They were grateful for a quick response from campus workers. "When we got home, everything was taken care of. Our furniture was moved to prevent rain damage, and we already had another place to live. Our only loss was a glass salt shaker," Robin said.

This is their third place to live since coming to campus in 1993, and they hope to stay put until graduation. Family stability characterizes both of their backgrounds. "We are so fortunate to have Christian parents who reared us in the church

and totally support everything God wants us to do," Smalley acknowledged.

The Smalleys grew up together in Goshen, Ohio, and were converted as children in Hillstation Baptist Church. 1949 alumnus Elmo Testerman baptized both of them. After high school, Travis had a tour of duty in the Army. They married in December 1992.

The call to ministry came at age 16 at a youth evangelism conference, but Travis, "didn't want to do

what God wanted." He thought he could serve God and reach youth as a police officer with the DARE program. "I finally gave up my plans for ministry and gave my life to God's direction."

When the Smalleys married, they determined to "do it ourselves," and finances got very tight. "It was a humbling but growing experience," Smalley recalls. "We found we couldn't do it ourselves, but God taught me how to receive love and help."

Smalley works as youth minister at Lynn Camp Baptist Church in Knox County. With joy at being used by the Lord, he told of a teenage girl who trusted Christ, her mother also was saved and her father rededicated his life.

"I never applied myself in high school," Smalley confesses. "I was lazy and had very little confidence. I came to Clear Creek with some worry about how I would do. I realized it was God's work, and I could do it through Christ. Now I am an avid reader and maintain good grades. It is wonderful to see how God works in the lives of people here at school and in the church."

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Sunday school classes either Velcro or Teflon

When it comes to relating to prospects, Keith Lowry believes Sunday school classes are either like Velcro or Teflon.

"Class members play one of the greatest roles in determining whether prospects will stay around. If we're like Velcro, we make things stick to us, but if we're like Teflon, things slide away," Lowry explained during a Small Sunday School Conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

Lowry, minister of education at First Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, La., said the main reason classes remain like Teflon instead of Velcro is "they don't have a plan for making visitors feel welcome so they'll want to come back."

Lowry said it also is important for class members to remember not everyone has the same comfort zone when it comes to meeting and greeting strangers.

"People have all different kinds of personalities, and we have to respect that. That's why it is good to have people as greeters who have the gift of hospitality and discernment," he said. "They can tailor (the welcome) to the person."

Building relationships is the key to turning prospects into members, Lowry said, adding "that doesn't happen in a worship service. It happens through one-on-one relationships."

Prayer gives power to Sunday school

How important is prayer to the health and ministry of a Sunday school class?

Val Harvey can answer that question in one direct sentence: "A prayerless Sunday school class will be a weak class in service, love and giving."

A freelance writer and conference leader based in Franklin, Tenn., Harvey is co-author of the workbook "Lord, Teach Us to Pray" with her husband, James.

"Sometimes as Christians we continue to act like babes in Christ. If we develop our prayer life, it will help us grow out of our childish habits, and it will definitely help our Sunday school classes," she said.

Harvey also said every Sunday school class and church needs a prayer leader to set the ministry in motion and keep it going. In addition, she suggested forming "prayer warrior classes" composed of homebound adults.

Harvey cites six keys to unlock the Bible in study

Six keys will unlock the Bible for profitable study, according to James Harvey, general leadership growth

consultant for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

He said Bible study should focus on the geography of the passage (where it is taking place?); the biography (who wrote the passage?); the chronology (when did it happen?); the theology (what does the passage say about God?); the "do-ology" (how should we respond/apply it to our lives?); and the Christology (realizing only Christ can open the truths of Scripture).

Bible teaching makes for strong churches, Draper declares

Southern Baptists have remained strong as a denomination for 150 years because of their emphasis on the Bible, according to Jimmy Draper, president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Draper spoke during Small Sunday School Conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

Draper said he is convinced "there will never be a great church that does not have great Bible teaching."

An effective Bible study program, he added, is in line with a biblical pattern every New Testament church must follow: "You must hear the truth, understand the truth and then communicate it to others. Good news was never meant to be kept to yourself. There is nothing more important than studying the word of God and passing on what we receive."

Prayer called essential to personal development

Nothing is as fundamentally essential to a Christian's growth and ministry as personal fellowship with Jesus Christ, James Harvey told church workers attending a prayer seminar at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

Harvey, general leadership growth consultant at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and co-author of "Lord, Teach Us to Pray," shared several suggestions for developing a private prayer life:

- Choose the best time. "Some people are morning people and some people are night owls. But I believe we need to be more biblical about our timing. ... Spiritual warfare starts the moment we awaken, so that's when we need to begin putting on the armor of God through reading of the word and prayer."

- Select a quiet place.
- Collect devotional materials. "But remember," Harvey said, "there is only one Bible and no other book feeds your spirit and equips you for service like the word of God. Don't let helpful devotional books replace Scripture."
- Follow a plan.

Youth need to be challenged before they 'rust out'

Many teenagers "rust out" in their faith because it doesn't get used enough, Daryl Watts believes.

"That's why we have to find ways to challenge our youth, to get them involved in ministry," said Watts, director of the youth ministries department for the California Southern Baptist Convention.

Youth Sunday schools that are alive and growing involve youth in the planning process, he said, adding one of the latest ministry methods uses "lead teams" composed of an adult youth worker, a parent of a youth and a teenager.

"You have

to enable and equip others to do the ministry. You can't do it all yourselves," Watts told youth workers at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

Team planning is the No. 1 characteristic of growing youth Sunday schools, he said.

Blackaby: 'Seek God or be left out'

Southern Baptists must lay aside their "busyness" and seek God's heart for a lost world or be left out of one of the greatest movements of God's Spirit in human history, Henry Blackaby said at two annual Jericho missions festivals in August.

Blackaby, author of "Experiencing God" and "Fresh Encounter" materials, was featured at the conferences at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center and Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

Blackaby challenged Baptists to focus on God-and watch for ministry opportunities he gives daily.

Too many Christians are "radically self-centered," asking God to bless what they choose to do, Blackaby said. Preoccupied with their own agenda instead of God's, they often dismiss God's opportunities as interruptions.

"We're in the midst of one of the

greatest movements of God's Spirit in human history," he said, ticking off worldwide renewal and revival examples. "But you can never join God on mission if you don't know what he's doing.

"The key isn't whether God will be with you, but whether you'll be with him," Blackaby said.

No right to say 'I won't' to God, Lewis says

Christians have no right to say "I won't" to God's call to service, Larry Lewis told participants in the Jericho missions festival at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

"Swarms of people live in government housing projects, mobile home parks, ethnic communities and high-rise apartment buildings" in need of the gospel, said Lewis, president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. "Experiencing God through missions is finding the door God is holding open and stepping through it with the gospel."

The biblical Great Commission mandate to make disciples of all people groups is based on Jesus' authority as Lord and carries his promise to provide strength for the task, Lewis said.

"We have no right to say, 'I won't,' because Jesus is Lord," Lewis declared. "We dare not say, 'I can't,' because God is all the resource you need.

"Jesus says, 'Lift up your eyes and look on the fields that are white for harvest.' Don't say, 'I can't' or 'I won't' or 'later.' Say, 'Here I am, Lord; send me.'"

Look for God at work all around you, Willis says

Many Christians just can't see that God is at work all around them every day, so they leave him out of their everyday lives, Avery Willis told a conference group at a Jericho missions festival.

"The average Christian doesn't see God at work around him and concludes God only shows up at church on Sunday," said Willis, Foreign Mission Board senior vice president and author of the MasterLife discipleship materials. "He doesn't see how God relates to his workaday world and to his family, finances and relationships."

Yet the Scriptures teach both that God constantly works to restore people's broken relationships with himself and that he intends for his people to join him in that mission, Willis said.

"God is at work all around you every day, all the time. He wants to involve you in his work," Willis said. "The problem is that we're often so busy with our own work that we miss out on God's work. We think God's appointments are interruptions."

Summer Sampler

Tips from Ridgecrest & Glorieta conferences

ministry methods uses "lead teams" composed of an adult youth worker, a parent of a youth and a teenager.

"You have

to enable and equip others to do the

ministry. You can't do it all yourselves,"

Watts told youth workers at Glorieta

Baptist Conference Center.

Team planning is the No. 1

characteristic of growing youth Sunday

schools, he said.

Southern Baptists must lay aside their

"busyness" and seek God's heart for a

lost world or be left out of one of the

greatest movements of God's Spirit in

human history, Henry Blackaby said at

two annual Jericho missions festivals in

August.

Blackaby, author of "Experiencing God"

and "Fresh Encounter" materials, was

featured at the conferences at Glorieta

(N.M.) Baptist Conference Center and

Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference

Center.

Blackaby challenged Baptists to focus

on God-and watch for ministry

opportunities he gives daily.

Too many Christians are "radically self-

centered," asking God to bless what they

choose to do, Blackaby said. Preoccupied

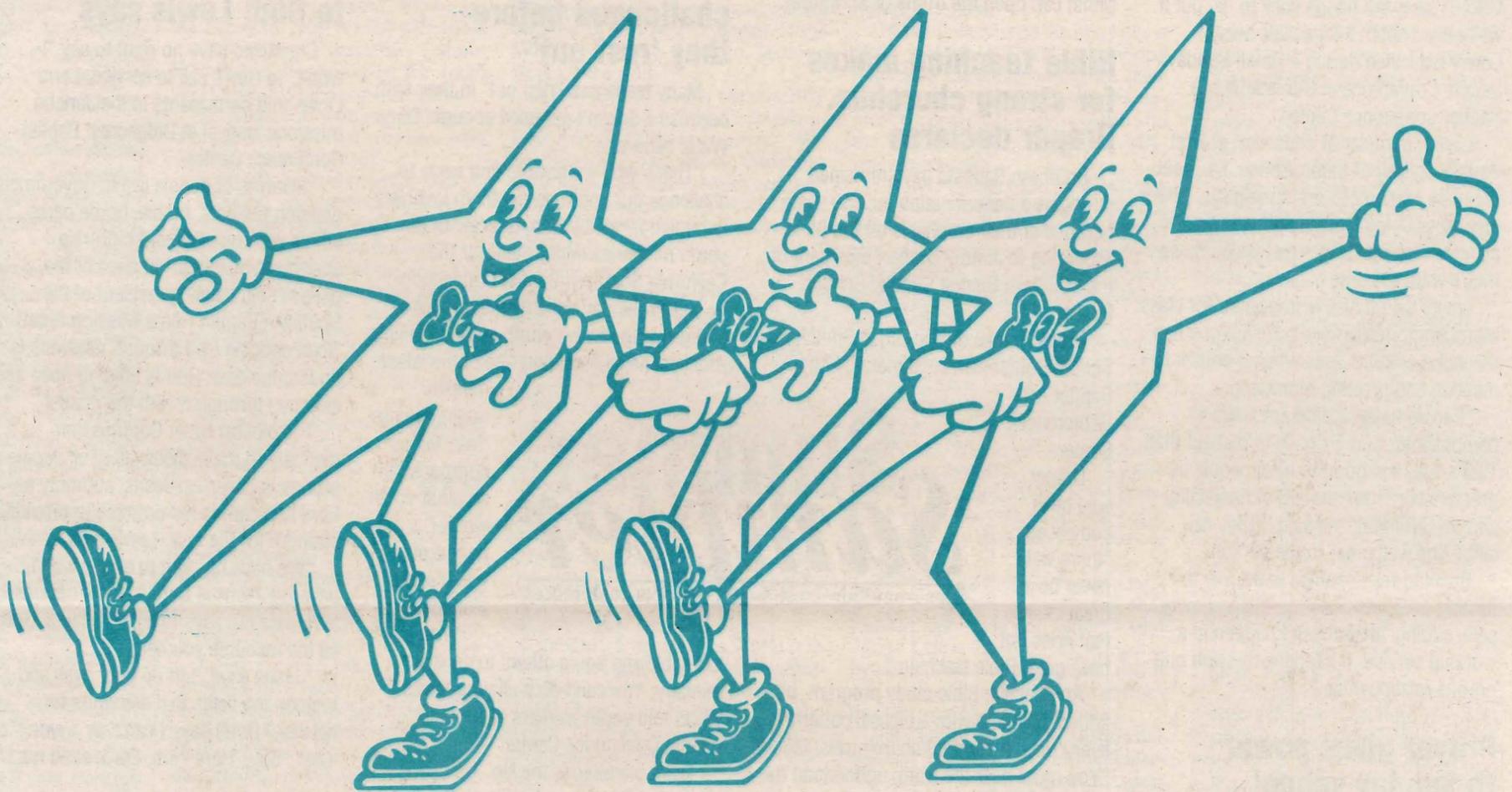
with their own agenda instead of God's,

they often dismiss God's opportunities as

interruptions.

"We're in the midst of one of the

We're bending over backward to serve you



Now you can print your church newsletter
on the outside of the Western Recorder.

A good deal just got better.
Call (502) 244-6473 today
and ask about the new
Reverse Fold Newspaper

Western Recorder

Practical Resources for Christian Living