

September 26, 1995
Vol. 169, No. 38**FOR THE RECORD****Restructuring team**

The Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee has appointed a 10-member task force to implement the massive denominational restructuring plan approved by messengers to this year's SBC annual meeting. *See page 2.*

Banner ministry

A recent workshop at Highview Baptist Church in Louisville lifted up banners as an idea for ministry and spiritual development. *See page 3.*

Family Forum

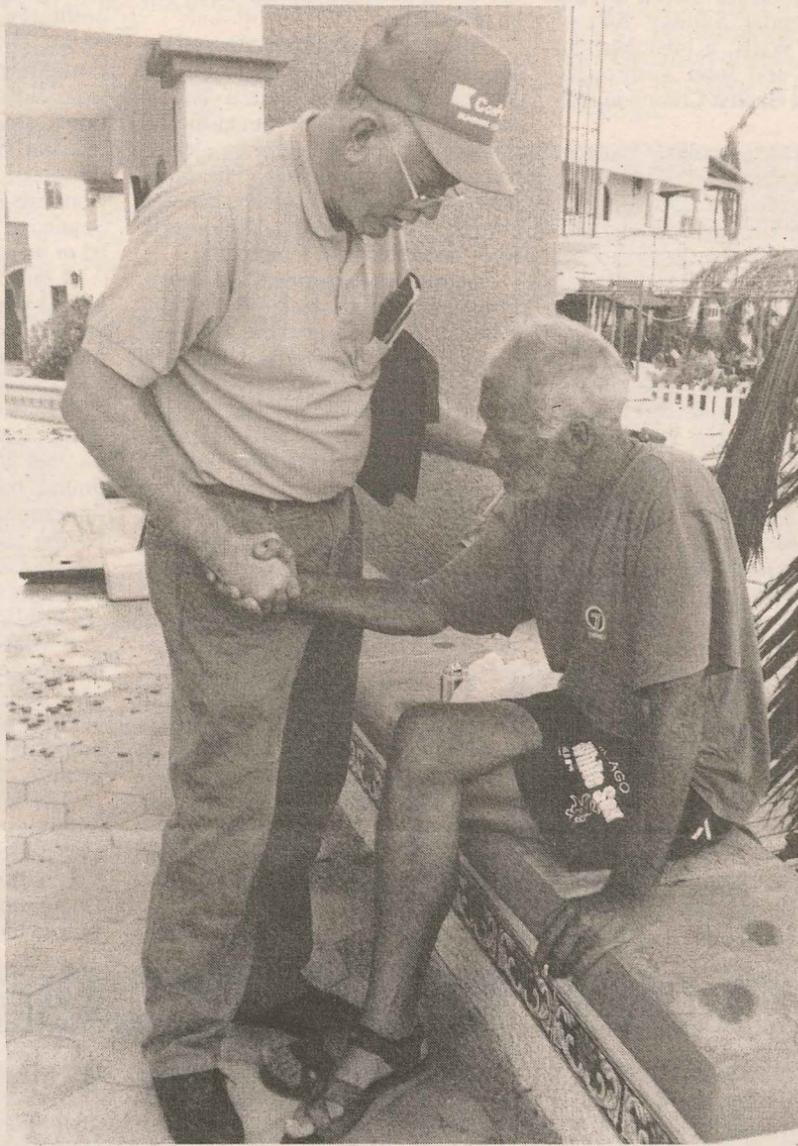
Suggestions to help keep your children safe on the information superhighway. *See page 4.*

Editorial

The plan to sell Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's Carver School of Church Social Work to Samford University represents both good and bad news. *See page 5.*

Financial Forum

Tips for teaching children about money. *See page 9.*

Baptists offer hurricane victims relief

PRAYING HANDS Fred Day (left), a Southern Baptist missionary in the Caribbean, prays with a man on St. Maarten after Hurricane Luis devastated the Dutch/French island. The man, a "cruiser" who lives on his sailboat all year, lost everything except the clothes he was wearing. (BP photo by Ken Touchton)

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua (BP)—Southern Baptists are aiding survivors of one of the worst series of hurricanes to lash the Caribbean this century.

People on St. Maarten and Antigua, islands hit hardest by Hurricane Luis in early September, are receiving food, supplies, shelter and spiritual help through relief efforts sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention's Foreign Mission Board and Brotherhood Commission.

From Sept. 30 to mid-December, about 240 Southern Baptist volunteers are needed to rebuild 140 miles of roads damaged by Luis' 140 mile-per-hour winds. A 12-member team will work simultaneously on each island for two-week stints.

But as the project gets under way, available Southern Baptist disaster funds are dangerously low and hunger relief funds are depleted, according to FMB officials. "The situation is beyond critical," said an FMB human needs official. "We have requests for more money than we have on hand."

So far, about \$214,000 has been approved for the St. Maarten/Antigua project and more money is needed, according to Ronald Wilson, who directs the FMB's work in the Caribbean. But he and other FMB area directors recently learned no additional funds will be released for new or ongoing hunger projects until balances improve. The FMB already has dipped into emergency reserves to pay for immediate relief in the Caribbean and other projects.

"We're moving forward on faith, knowing that this is what God wants us to do—minister to these people who are hurting and need help," said Wilson of the hurricane relief project.

□ *See Baptists offer ... page 6*

Kentucky's Brotherhood aids ministry to Albanians

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

Kentucky Baptists' disaster relief cooking became international fare in August when nine volunteers provided physical and spiritual sustenance during an evangelistic blitz in newly opened Albania.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Campus Crusade for Christ and the Christian Swiss helicopter pilot group Helimissions joined forces to complete project AERO—Albanian Evangelical Outreach—a plan to evangelize the former communist stronghold of Albania.

During the mission, small teams of student missionaries working through Campus Crusade for Christ were air-lifted into remote villages for three days at a time to show the "Jesus" film and witness to residents.

After three days, they were returned to the base camp, where another team of volunteers cooked their meals, listened to their stories and treated physical illnesses.

Kentucky Baptists took their turn with the last team of the summer, operating a support ministry at the base camp in Elbasan Aug. 10-27.

"It was our job to feed, house

□ *See Kentucky's ... page 6*

Most Rwandan killing occurred in churches

By David Anderson
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—When Hutu militia swept through Rwanda last year, killing an estimated 500,000 Tutsi civilians, churches were a particular target for the violence, according to African Rights.

Not only that, Hutu church men and women—including clerics and nuns—sometimes actively participated in the killing of Tutsis, according to a new report by the London-based human rights group.

"Mass graves, rotting corpses, latrines with dead bodies, blood-stained altars, bullet-ridden doors and shattered windows bear testimony to the killers' determination to kill—and to kill the belief of the Rwandese people that the

□ *See Churches became ... page 6*

Carver School likely moving to Samford

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

LOUISVILLE—Samford University will acquire the Carver School of Church Social Work from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary next summer for an undisclosed price, if seminary trustees give their approval Oct. 9-11.

Under terms of the deal, the Carver School would continue to operate on the seminary's Louisville campus through the spring of 1997, although after Aug. 1, 1996, it would be controlled by Samford University rather than Southern Seminary.

Seminary President Al Mohler told students about the transfer during a meeting on the Louisville campus Sept. 21.

Samford's trustees privately voted Sept. 8 to authorize the university's president to finalize the deal, and Southern's trustees are expected to give their consent when they meet next month. The biggest unknown may be whether accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education will transfer with the school.

Mohler said both Samford and Southern have been in conversation with the Council on Social Work Education about the accreditation question, but he acknowledged such a transfer "is something new."

However, Mohler noted that "Samford is very committed to keeping accreditation."

While retaining the Carver School's accreditation isn't certain, it is more likely with the transfer than with keeping the Carver School at Southern, Mohler predicted.

The trustee committee assigned last spring to study the Carver School's future concluded it would be "very difficult" to continue offering an accredited master of social work degree at Southern, Mohler said.

This difficulty is rooted both in the damage done by last spring's Carver School controversy and in the seminary's new faculty hiring policies, Mohler said.

The Carver School controversy erupted last March, when Dean Diana Garland told an assembly of students Mohler's hiring policies were threatening accreditation. Mohler promptly

fired Garland as dean, and students began a prolonged protest.

Trustees subsequently embraced Mohler's more restrictive hiring policies and chastised faculty and staff members who had spoken against Mohler's leadership. The new hiring policies require faculty candidates to agree with certain perspectives on social/theological issues, the most controversial of which is that God does not call women to serve as pastors.

Garland said it would be difficult, if not impossible, to recruit academically qualified faculty candidates in social work who held such restrictive theological positions. Mohler countered that the worldview of social work is "not congruent at all points" with evangelical theology.

In the Sept. 21 meeting with students, Mohler reiterated that there is a "dissonance, a difficulty" between the seminary's values and the standards of social work accreditation.

Despite repeated questions from students, Mohler declined to offer additional specifics about how accreditation for the master of social work

□ *See Carver School ... page 7*

10-member team will guide SBC's restructuring

"The role of the implementation task force is not to rethink the (restructuring) plan but to carry out the plan."

Executive Committee Chairman Ronnie Floyd

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

NASHVILLE—A 10-member task force has been appointed to implement the massive restructuring of Southern Baptist Convention agencies approved by messengers to this year's SBC annual meeting.

Bob Reccord, pastor of First Baptist Church of Norfolk, Va., will chair the committee, which includes one woman and one Hispanic. The seven-member Program and Structure Study Committee, which proposed the restructuring, had been criticized for having no black, ethnic or female representation.

Ronnie Floyd, chairman of the SBC Executive Committee and a member of the Program and Structure Study Committee, nominated the implementation task force, which was approved by the SBC Executive Committee Sept. 18 without dissent or discussion.

The next day, the Executive Committee elected David Hankins, a Louisiana pastor and former Executive Committee chairman, to the new staff position of vice president for convention policy. Hankins will carry the primary staff responsibility for implementing the restructuring, which is expected to take several years.

Other members of the implementation task force are Michael Hamlet, pastor of North Spartanburg First Baptist Church in Spartanburg, S.C.; Rudy Hernandez, a vocational evangelist from Grand Prairie, Texas; Bill Hogue, retired executive director of the California Southern Baptist Con-

vention; Sarah Maddox, a women's ministry consultant from Nashville; T.C. Pinckney, retired U.S. Air Force general from Alexandria, Va.; Joe Reynolds, an attorney from Houston; Ted Warren, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board; Don Wills, a businessman from Dallas; and John Yarbrough, pastor of First Baptist Church in Perry, Ga.

The restructuring, called Covenant for a New Century, will consolidate 19 SBC agencies into 12 by dissolving several entities and merging others. The biggest change will be a merger of the Home Mission Board, Brotherhood Commission and Radio & Television Commission into a new North American Mission Board.

Floyd described the purpose of the implementation task force as being "to analyze, study and take actions necessary, including monitoring the transitional actions of all Southern Baptist Convention entities to facilitate the orderly and timely transitions approved by the Southern Baptist Convention in adopting the Covenant for a New Century."

According to an outline Floyd distributed to Executive Committee members, the implementation task force will relate primarily to the Executive Committee but may receive counsel from the Program and Structure Study Committee.

Although trustee boards of the Home Mission Board, Brotherhood Commission and Radio & Television Commission have appointed their own transition teams—reportedly

with the hope of having some influence over the merger of their agencies—Floyd's document makes no provision for any formal input from these trustee committees. Nor does it say how potential conflicts between agency trustees and the task force will be resolved.

Three of the six broad areas of responsibility Floyd outlined for the implementation task force to handle carry instructions to "develop and propose for consideration by elected trustees" certain things. The other three areas apparently will be handled entirely by the implementation task force and Executive Committee.

In response to reporters' questions, Floyd later said the task force will interact with agency trustees "to some degree" but won't adjust the new SBC structure to please trustees.

While the task force will be "fair," he promised, "the role of the implementation task force is not to rethink the (restructuring) plan but to carry out the plan."

The six broad responsibilities Floyd has assigned to the implementation task force are:

- Legal issues, such as dissolution of charters for the Brotherhood Commission, Education Commission, Historical Commission, Stewardship Commission, Home Mission Board and Radio & Television Commission, as well as development of a new charter for the North American Mission Board and revision of charters for the renamed International Mission Board and the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission.

- Financial issues, such as obtain-

ing cost analyses of relocating the Radio & Television Commission and Brotherhood Commission to Atlanta, of relocating personnel and of reducing the total number of SBC trustees.

- Physical assets, such as determining what to do with the property, buildings, furnishing and fixtures owned by the Radio & Television Commission, Brotherhood Commission, Home Mission Board, Education Commission, Historical Commission, Stewardship Commission, Southern Baptist Foundation and Commission on the American Baptist Seminary, which are being eliminated or merged.

- Financial assets, including proposing what to do with the operating capital, endowment funds, investments and financial liabilities of the entities being dissolved or merged.

- Personnel issues, such as developing a compensation plan for employees whose positions are discontinued, paying insurance premiums for retirees of entities being dissolved, paying relocation expenses for personnel asked to move and providing career transition support for employees displaced by the restructuring.

- Ministry assignments, including monitoring the implementation of new ministry assignments already outlined in the restructuring plan and proposing changes in ministry statements as necessary.

The implementation task force is required to report to the Executive Committee each time the Executive Committee meets. And the Executive Committee, in turn, will report each year to the SBC annual meeting.

Henry pledges to include more women & minorities

NASHVILLE (ABP)—A historic Southern Baptist resolution on racial reconciliation must "take on flesh" in the form of new programs and dialogue efforts, Southern Baptist Convention President Jim Henry said Sept. 18.

In remarks to the Executive Committee, the SBC's administrative board, Henry also pledged to include more women in leadership roles and gently chided denominational leaders to move beyond partisan infighting.

Noting that some have criticized the highly publicized statement on racism as "too little, too late," Henry pledged to work with SBC Second Vice President Gary Frost, an African-American, to pursue dialogue with black Baptists and with leaders of the SBC Executive Committee to commit denominational resources to programs that "work on behalf of minorities."

He cited possibilities such as seminary scholarships, church planting and salary support for black pastors.

"This will speak of the nobility of our intentions," Henry said.

While some black leaders said the resolution was motivated less by remorse for past racism than by a desire to enlist more African-Americans into the SBC, Henry said most observers have received the statement well. "We have some distance yet to travel, but we as a body rose to a higher standard, and that has not been lost on those who are objective," he noted.

While the SBC had taken previous stances against racial bigotry, last summer's resolution was the first to acknowledge the role of slavery in the founding of the nation's largest non-Catholic faith group.

Henry said he would ask Executive Committee leaders to "do whatever the due process is" to "help this resolution take on flesh."

Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church of Orlando, Fla., also pledged higher visibility for Southern Baptist women at next year's annual meeting in New Orleans, promising to name a female to chair at least one of the four SBC committees he will appoint.

Many Southern Baptists believe the Bible prohibits women from serving as pastors, but Henry said men and women can work together in churches and the denomination "without violating Scripture." He called on the SBC to "recognize the Proverbs 31 women the Lord is raising up in our convention," alluding to a biblical passage praising the attributes of devout women.

Many women in Baptist churches have broken through the "glass ceiling" in secular careers and bring considerable contributions in finances and ministry to churches, Henry said. "Christ has not placed this resource [women] in our midst for decoration."

Henry touched lightly on rising tensions between the SBC and the Baptist state conventions that contribute to denominational programs. Several moderate-controlled state conventions recently have reduced funding to the national convention, which fell under conservative control during the 1980s.

Henry urged state and national leaders to "avoid this independent spirit" and "appreciate each other at all levels."

"We are family. It is not an I-win/you-lose proposition. It is win-win or lose-lose for all of us," he said.

Miscellaneous business

NASHVILLE (BP)—In miscellaneous action during its Sept. 18-19 meeting, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee:

- Authorized the committee's officers to employ a new vice president for convention relations prior to the Executive Committee's next regular meeting. The post has been vacant since Mark Copenhaver became president of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary during the summer.

- Revised its policy for exhibit space at the SBC annual meeting to make sure the identity of any organization granted exhibit space is "consistent with" the SBC's mission statement and that the organization "does not condone the use of alcoholic beverages in its programs or on its properties."

- Received requests from the current 19 SBC agencies and the Baptist World Alliance for the SBC's 1996-97 budget.

- Declined action on a motion referred from the 1995 annual meeting for using investment assets of SBC agencies to further the convention's moral views. The Executive Committee noted that while agreeing with the recommendation as a moral issue, only a small percent of the SBC's invest-

ment assets have proxy votes, and after considering equity holdings of all agencies and cumulative voting possibilities on those holdings, the effect of directing the votes on those shares would be "so minuscule as to be ineffective."

- Approved a Radio & Television Commission fund-raising campaign for up to \$350,000 annually for its "Covenant" effort to promote Christian values in the media.

- Responded to a motion from the annual meeting calling for an Executive Committee review of the proposed SBC restructuring in light of financial and ministry impact. The committee said such a study is part of the work of the implementation task force it authorized in its Sept. 18 session.

- Responded to a motion that the Executive Committee seek ways to include all Southern Baptists in the fellowship and work of the convention, saying, "While not all interested Southern Baptists can serve on convention boards or committees at any given time, no Southern Baptists are excluded from the fellowship and work of the convention except through the provisions of the SBC constitution's article III titled, 'Membership.'"

KENTUCKY

Banner ministry inspires worship and discipleship

By Joyce Sweeney Martin
Staff Writer

LOUISVILLE—Banners aren't just for the annals of kings, emperors and commanders of armies anymore.

They are catching on as tools to inspire worship and as aids in discipleship training, according to Carolyn Higginbotham. For 11 years, she has directed the "banner ministry" at Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn.

Recently Higginbotham and three other women from Bellevue came to Kentucky to conduct Kentucky Baptists' first "banner ministry" conference at Highview Baptist Church. The conference, which drew more than 60 people from 20 churches, was co-sponsored by Highview and the Kentucky Baptist Convention's church music department.

For participants unfamiliar with a banner ministry, the 14 banners displayed across the front of the sanctuary before the conference began were nothing more than beautiful works of art. Beautiful fabrics embellished with exquisite designs had been fashioned into 9- to 11-foot banners, each featuring a name of God.

But by the time the conference ended, Higginbotham had demonstrated that creating and displaying banners is a bona fide ministry, according to KBC church music director Jim Cordell.

"I was impressed that a banner ministry is not an arts and crafts project which results in objects beautiful to behold," he said. "Rather, it is a real ministry."

Higginbotham said the purpose of the ministry is threefold: to bring glory to God, to aid a congregation in worshipping God and to help those involved in banner-making know God better.

The Bible commands believers to "make his name glorious, and set up

our banners in the name of God," Higginbotham said, quoting from Psalm 66 and Psalm 20. She warned that banners are not icons to be handled with fear, nor pieces of sacred cloth to be revered. They are artistic tools to draw attention to God, she said.

And for a visually-oriented society, banners not only grab attention but also leave a lasting impact, she said. "What you see is something you will remember forever."

Bellevue member Gayle Upton agreed. "When I first saw banners in our church, everything that is in me moved," she said.

And more than one non-believer has professed faith in Christ after encountering a banner, the women said.

Higginbotham recounted how one "vile man" was "hounded by God" with the name Jehovah Jireh—the Lord will provide—for three months after seeing the banner at Bellevue. He is now a believer—and a member of the church's banner ministry.

Not only does a banner ministry draw attention to God, it also draws those involved in making the banners into a closer walk with God, Higginbotham said. Whether a person makes a banner, carries it down the aisle or coordinates the ministry, the focus is getting to know God better and letting God mold and shape a life.

At Bellevue, the whole process is bathed in prayer and Bible study, she said. Before banner makers construct a banner, they are required to spend many hours in prayer and in studying the Scripture.

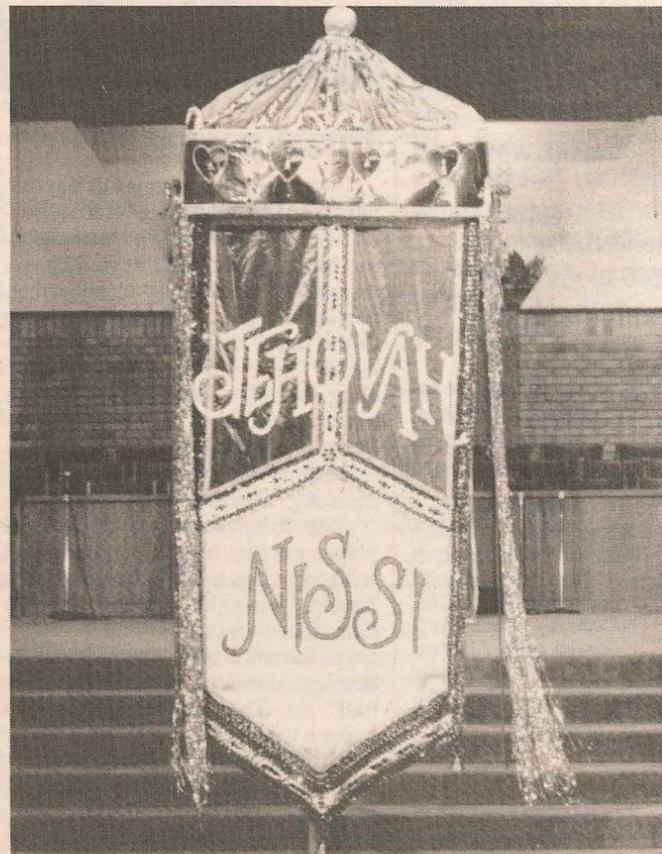
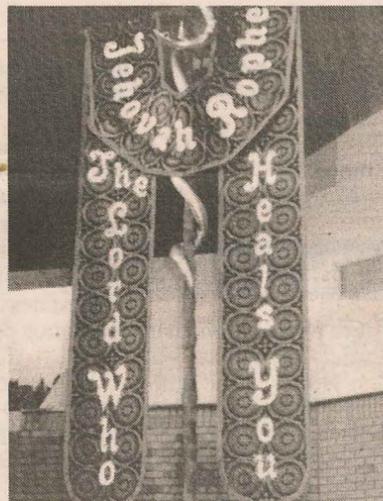
They research the name of God chosen for the banner "from every possible angle," she said. They keep a detailed journal about what they learn. They discuss their banner design ideas and their study of the Scriptures with the church banner coordinator.

They learn that "it's one thing to make a banner, but another to have a

growing knowledge of the God the banner represents," she said.

And as beautiful to the eye and as heartening to the spirit as banners are, it is not the banners which are of utmost importance to God, she said.

The banners are merely by-products, for in the process of banner-making, "God makes the maker to be a banner," to be displayed for God's glory, she said.



NAMES OF GOD Banners on display at Highview Baptist Church during the Banner Conference highlighted the various biblical names of God.

New Christian school opens in West Kentucky

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

MURRAY—Students at a new Christian academy sponsored by Blood River Baptist Association are learning the "Three Rs" while minding their Christian Ps and Qs.

Eight students in five grades enrolled in Emmanuel Baptist Academy's opening session Aug. 17, where even the reading, writing and arithmetic are taught from a Christian purview.

Every day at the school—which meets at Sinking Spring Baptist Church in Murray—begins with devotions and prayer. The schedule includes a daily Bible class and weekly chapel. All the curriculum is Christian-based.

"I'm thrilled to death with the school," said Jimmy Slack, a chief organizer and president of the school's board of directors. While acknowledging he would like to see more students, he added: "The ones that are here are getting a tremendous academic education. And it's being taught from a biblical, Christian background. ... What's important here is

what we're teaching and why we're teaching it."

Two teachers are responsible for classroom instruction of students ranging from first through sixth grades.

"This is not something that's going to take place overnight," Slack said. "But a child educated with a Christian education will learn to think with a Christian mind as opposed to a secular one. In the long run, these children will be a tremendous witness to the Lord when they grow up."

"Our goal is to help the family and church teach these children to be effective witnesses to the Lord," Slack said.

Sharon Seibold, a teacher and member of the steering committee to form the school, noted the committee's biggest hurdle was educating local churches and communities about Christian education.

"We've had to do a lot of educating about Christian education," she said. "We just have a vision for a school where Christ is glorified first, and where children are taught that God is a priority not just on Sundays. "Somehow (Christians) have de-

cidated over the decades that it's OK for our children to have that excluded six to seven hours a day," she explained.

However, Seibold and others emphasized they do not discount the public education system.

"This is not an anti-public school campaign," said Terry Sills, director of missions for Blood River Baptist Association. "In Western Kentucky, we're more fortunate than some; we have some fine Christian teachers and administrators in our public schools."

Although the school isn't a budget item for Blood River association, many churches in the association support the school financially, to supplement student tuition.

The association is closely aligned with the school in other ways as well. It appointed the steering committee to create the school; it also approved all documents of operation and the members who now serve on the school's governing board.

Sills said the association's vision for the school is that it eventually will move to its own campus. In the meantime, students, teachers and supporters are eager to see the school succeed.

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Best to speak at seminary.** Harold Best, dean of the Conservatory of Music at Wheaton College, will deliver the Hugh T. McElrath Lectures at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's Church Music Institute Oct. 17-20. Best will speak about the function of music in worship. For registration information, call (502) 897-4115.

■ **Scholarship established.** Georgetown College has established a scholarship in memory of Marnel Moorman Sr., who was president of the Kentucky Education Association when he died in an automobile accident last year. The primary purpose of the fund will be to provide funds for qualified African-American students who wish to pursue a career in teaching.

■ **Campbellsville sets record.** Campbellsville College has set another enrollment record, with 1,366 students enrolled this fall. That represents an 8 percent increase over last fall, according to President Kenneth Winters. It also is the eighth consecutive increase in fall enrollment for the Baptist college.

■ **Estate planning seminar offered.** Georgetown College and Walnut Street Baptist Church Foundation of Louisville will offer a seminar on estate planning at noon Oct. 12 at Walnut Street Baptist Church. The speaker will be attorney James Hargrove. To register for the free luncheon, call (502) 589-5290.

WESTERN RECORDER

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

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

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

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BAPTIST FORUM

Trivial pursuit

Two sterling examples of the trivialization of Christian (or at least Baptist) beliefs appeared in the same issue of the paper (WR, Sept. 12).

Southern Seminary President Al Mohler's urging of students to "cling to the faith" trivialized God's promise to "never let go." One doesn't cling to faith. One simply has faith. Worship of faith is akin to worship of Scripture, each being misplaced, since only the worship of God has meaning. God does the clinging.

The other example deals with player-prayers on the football field, such exercises initially banned by the National Collegiate Athletic Association, since they draw attention to players in the same way "taunting, showboating, dancing, spiking the football" do. That referees must now make a judgment as to when a player is showboating (not allowed) or "spontaneously" praying (allowed) trivializes prayer, an exercise Jesus favored as occurring in private.

Embrace the future

Many Kentucky Baptist churches pre-date the Southern Baptist Convention. As the history of our convention is rich with accomplishment and faithfulness, so are our churches. Indeed, we should honor such a history.

However, if we are to keep being what God has called us to be, we must move beyond the legacy into a future full of opportunity and ministry.

One of the dangers of any organization with such a rich history is to

Should a referee be trained in a seminary to know the difference? Indeed, prayer seems a bit odd in a context in which young men attempt to beat each other's brains out.

President Mohler would do well to urge students to relax in their bailiwick of redemption, but toil conscientiously in working out their salvation. Jesus condemned the hypocrites (Pharisees) for their long-winded, street-corner, showboating prayers (Matthew 6:5). This should be instructive for football coaches. Prayer may be appropriate for the battlefield; but for the football field?

*J.L. Clark
Danville*

Letter was wrong

The deacons of Broadway Baptist Church disagree with Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin's letter of Aug. 25.

The FMB confirmed the cost (approximately \$11,000) of this mailing came from their budget. To use mission funds to rebuke Woman's Missionary Union for providing missions literature for all Southern Baptists is unacceptable.

The first WMU in Kentucky was organized at this church in 1878 and has been "On Mission with God" ever since. The national WMU is a coal-

ition of local organizations dedicated to work for missions. These groups have always supported many projects in their own communities and states and through the Southern Baptist Convention. Their dedication to missions has never been one of "exclusive support to SBC mission agencies."

We believe the men who lead the SBC are trying to eliminate leadership roles for women, who make up more than half the membership of SBC churches. The SBC reorganization committee is all male, and on all other boards and committees women have only token representation. Now the SBC seeks to control WMU.

Surely at "a time of unprecedented growth, evangelistic harvest and unlimited opportunities overseas" there cannot be too many missionaries. To insist the WMU limit their mission efforts to those controlled by the SBC violates both our understanding of the Great Commission and the historic principles of these women of faith.

We encourage Dr. Rankin to publicly apologize to the WMU for this divisive action and affirm the right of WMU to determine and follow God's leadership.

*Claudia Wells, chairman of deacons
Broadway Baptist Church
Louisville*

get lost in the past. However, one can no more relive history than one can rewrite it.

History has been written, but our future has not. This is where we must concentrate our efforts—honor the past, thank God for a legacy of faithfulness, then move beyond it in expectation of what God still has yet to do.

How will the history book record our efforts? Will it record us as a people who could not get beyond our rich history and always found ourselves talking about yesterday?

Or will history record us as a people who honored the past and then moved on because we saw a need and embraced it with our lives? Will it record us as a people who lived in the glory of the past, or moved beyond the legacy into the future?

We have surveyed the land, and it indeed flows with milk and honey. Yet we are called to go forward in faith to possess new lands. Let us therefore go, not to erect memorials to human achievement, but monuments to God's grace.

*Johnny W. Collett, pastor
Mount Vernon Baptist Church
Waddy*

MINISTERIALLY SPEAKING

screamed: "Daddy's home!" In a moment, I was on my knees hugging the children and looking up into the glad face of their mother. It was one of those unforgettable moments of Alice's and my journey together.

Not many days ago, we were visiting our grandchildren (and, of course, their parents) in Nashville where they have moved as a result of Steve's employment with Columbia/HCA. (I have refrained from sending a poison letter to Rick Scott, Columbia's CEO who moved the company from Louisville!)

Alice was helping Sharon wallpaper, 4-year-old Marshall was watching Sesame Street and I was charged with keeping 17-month-old Sarah out of their mess.

I had taken her for a walk around the house. Although the unevenness of the lawn assured her frequent stumbling, she steadfastly refused my extended hand.

When a neighbor's dog appeared in the adjacent lot, Sarah squealed for my protection. Nothing feels better than a tiny girl who wants to snuggle

against a granddad's neck, never mind her motivation!

After several trips around the house, she discovered the pleasure of going up and down the front steps, first on her knees, then with the help of the iron railing. Tiring of this, she inched over to sit beside me.

As I looked out across the lawn toward the road, I knew her daddy's car would soon appear. And I thought about all the times the mother of my children waited for me to come home; sometimes after two- and three-week journeys all over the Middle East. My eyes clouded as I revisited the price she paid to enable me to do my job. Why must men so often become granddads before they really get in touch with what their children's mothers really gave them and their families?

Sarah and I were walking again, together, toward the driveway when her daddy turned the corner. And I said to her: "Look, Sarah, daddy's home!"

And though she is not yet talking, her excited little body told me she understood.

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

Daddy's home!

After several days of lost contact with my family during the 1972 war between West and East Pakistan, I was among the Americans evacuated from Karachi to Tehran, Iran.

In vain, I tried to connect with my family in Cyprus to let them know I was safe and that I would arrive the following day.

When I disembarked at the Nicosia airport, I tried again to call home. No answer. I took a taxi home only to discover that they had gone to the green market. Given this opportunity, I couldn't resist the temptation to surprise them.

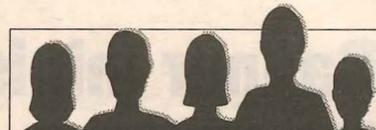
I had purchased a small oriental carpet from a dealer who also was evacuating. Unloading it from my large suitcase, I placed it on the floor directly in front of the door, impossible for them to miss. I hid in the next room.

Soon the jingle of keys against the door announced their arrival, and the door opened. After agonizing seconds of silence, seeing the carpet, Alice

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall



FAMILY FORUM

The info highway & child safety

By Jewell Nelson

Sexual and violent materials could be made available to your child in both written and graphic forms through the "information superhighway."

Your child may provide information or arrange an encounter that could risk his or her safety or the safety of other family members.

Your child may encounter E-mail or bulletin board messages that are harassing, demeaning or belligerent.

Go over the information in this column with your computer-wise children. Cut out the following guidelines. Keep them attached to your home computer.

Rules for online safety:

■ I will not give out personal information such as my address, telephone number, parents' work number or address, or name/address of my school without my parents' permission.

■ I will tell my parents right away if I come across information that makes me feel uncomfortable.

■ I will never agree to get together with someone I "meet online" without first checking with my parents. If they agree, I will then be sure it is in a public place and one of my parents is with me.

■ I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents.

■ I will not respond to any messages that are mean or make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that, and if I do I will tell my parents immediately so they can contact our online service.

■ I will always talk with my parents so we can set up rules for going online. We will decide upon the time of day and length of time I can be online and the appropriate areas I can visit. I will not access any information I have not been OK'd to use.

(This information is used by permission from ECHO Soundings, an available-free newsletter from the Exploited Children's Help Organization, Tropus Building, 2440 Grinstead Dr., Louisville, Ky. 40204-2304.)

Jewell Nelson is associate director of the KBC's Sunday school department.

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

Proposed sale of Carver School: Good news & bad

The plan to sell Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's Carver School of Church Social Work to Samford University represents both good and bad news. The plan is good news for the Carver School, Samford and Alabama. It's bad news for Southern Seminary, Kentucky Baptists and the Kentucky-Indiana region.

The Carver School has been embroiled in controversy since March, when Southern's president, Al Mohler, fired the school's dean, Diana Garland. They had reached an impasse over selection of Carver School faculty, with Mohler laying down rigid guidelines and Garland telling him she could not find qualified candidates who also met all his requirements. When Garland expressed her frustration to students, Mohler fired her for "pre-emption of official administrative structures." Students protested, and Mohler told them, "The culture of social work and the culture of theological education are not congruent." Afterward, the Carver School's accreditation was imperiled, and even Mohler said he wasn't sure if the school could survive.

So, the proposed sale to Samford is great news for the Carver School. It opens the possibility of transferring the school to one of the South's most progressive private universities, with strong ties to Baptists. The school can find a home where it is wanted, where its disciplines can be nurtured and its contributions appreciated.

The sale also is good news for Samford. The Alabama Baptist university, which already operates several professional schools, will receive a renowned social work school. The expansion will strengthen the depth and breadth of an already-strong institution.

It's good news for Alabama too. The Carver School will add a new dimension to the state, as students travel from far and wide to live and study in Birmingham. The unique distinctives of the school, particularly grace, compassion and Christ-centered care, will enrich the state and minister to its citizens.

Unfortunately, the proposal is bad news for Southern Seminary. In the short term, the proposal and sale may still some of the seminary's troubled waters. Carver School foes can celebrate its departure, while its supporters can console themselves that the school did not die. In the longer term, however, Southern will sorely miss its social work school. The loss of the Carver School's voice on behalf of practical, needs-based ministry will truncate the gospel the seminary seeks to proclaim. Without Carver, Southern will not be whole.

Kentucky Baptists will lose out as well. We have benefited by retaining a disproportionate number of Carver School graduates in our midst. They will remain, but their successors will be elsewhere. The steady flow of gifted, caring and giving ministers will diminish. What a loss.

Finally, residents of Kentucky and Southern Indiana will miss the Carver School. Its students have enabled Christian social ministries and human-services agencies in the area to minister far beyond their means. Many helping organizations will face huge personnel shortages. Worse, many people in need will not have helpers to help them.

The transfer of the Carver School to Samford may be the best resolution of a bad situation. But it's still a tragic shame.

Marv Knox

The transfer of the Carver School of Church Social Work from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary to Samford University probably is the best resolution of a bad situation. But it's still a tragic shame.

'Prosperity of fools' won't make restitution for foolish mistakes

In my work as a prison chaplain, I get to meet all sorts of fascinating people. What I find particularly intriguing is how "normal" many inmates seem to be.

This should not be surprising. After all, those who are incarcerated were not born in prison. Many led lives that were interesting—even successful—prior to their convictions.

Those I've served include physicians, stockbrokers and businessmen, along with an array of others whose talents have never been fully explored. For example, I have in my possession the assorted works of several inmate artists, works of incredible beauty that will never be appreciated by the outside world.

The temptation is to shake one's head and say: "Tsk, Tsk. What a waste." And it is a waste. It's tragic to

think of the songs that will never be recorded and the poetry that will never be published, all because the author is behind bars.

Yet among many who are repentant there is a feeling that, despite its inherent hardships, prison has nonetheless been a godsend. Why? Because through it they have come to comprehend what the Bible terms "the prosperity of fools."

In the Book of Proverbs, the term speaks of an individual who believes his scheme is working for him. Divine wisdom has sought to divert his attention and persuade him to embrace her truth.

The fool, however, rejects wisdom, preferring to pursue his own agenda. The inevitable consequence of such a decision, of course, is disaster: "Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled

with their own devices. For the turning away of the wicked shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. But who so hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil" (Proverbs 1:31-33).

For many of the men and women I've pastored, prison has served as both a fulfillment of wisdom's prophecy and, perhaps, as a final wake-up call. As a result, some have embraced wisdom and truly begun life anew. They have become committed Christians and established successful lives since being released from prison.

Yet the reality is that prison is but one form of punishment, a house of reproach shielding us from the worst in ourselves. Thus, while we applaud the victories of the newly released, we should remember that we, too, sometimes reject wisdom's call.

Often in ways that are subtle, even imperceptible—except to our con-

science—we shade the truth, perform dishonest acts and engage in schemes that we know are improper. And because nobody appears to be the wiser, we think we've gotten away with something.

What we don't realize is that the damage we've done to our sense of ethics, our understanding of right and wrong, is incalculable. Scripture once again proves true: The apparent success of our schemes has a destructive effect on our character. Moreover, this effect is multiplied in the examples we set before our children, co-workers and friends.

The bottom line is that God reserves the right to divert our concentration from our own plans and focus our attention on him. Once that happens, the prosperity of fools won't seem so attractive.

Samuel K. Atchison
Religion News Service
Trenton, N.J.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Realist daughter does halfway decent job of consoling dual-nature dad

Do you ever feel like you and your body are different people?

This happens to me quite often, especially at dessert time, and particularly if we're eating out.

The waiter comes up and asks, "Would anyone here care for dessert?"

My brain remembers how the numbers roll up when I step on the scales and starts to answer, "No, thanks." But my tongue, which loves sweetness, blurts out, "What do you have in chocolate?"

This isn't a fair fight, since my tongue, which actually gets to taste the chocolate, has a conflict of interest and also a definite advantage in answering for my whole body.

A similar battle erupts when I see pic-

tures of people my age, especially non-movie-star people—whose bodies look their age. Like last week, when the newspaper ran a picture of a guy just a year older than I.

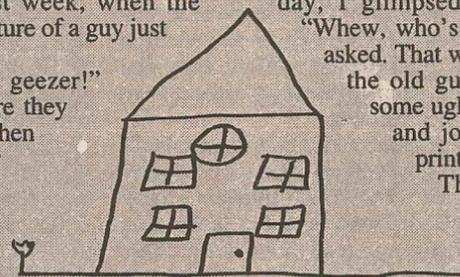
"Whew, what a geezer!" my eyes said, before they saw how old he is. Then my eyes and my brain argued over whether someone my age could look so old.

The problem is, the part of me that feels what I'm like wants to think I'm about 19. Unfortunately, my 39-year-old body keeps acting its

own age. How inconsiderate.

And embarrassing too. Just the other day, I glimpsed a photo of myself. "Whew, who's the geezer?" my eyes asked. That was before they realized the old guy was me. They said some ugly things to my hairline and jowls, things you can't print in a family newspaper.

Then my jowls and what's left of my hair got even. They reminded my eyes they were the first to go—way back in the eighth grade, when I first got glasses and Cris Newton dumped me for Rex Beall, who didn't need glasses.



down home

Marv Knox

Kentucky's Brotherhood supports Albanian ministry

"We have not prepared ourselves educationally for some work, like teaching or medical missions. But certainly we could cook, clean, do dishes."
Volunteer Barbara Sharp

Continued from page 1

and care for the youth—both physically and spiritually," said John Lott, Kentucky Baptist Convention Brotherhood associate and director of the Kentucky team.

"We washed heads for lice, washed their clothing—basically helped them get back on their feet" before going out again three days later, Lott said.

Students shared their experiences and prayed together for God's direction in their next endeavors. They also played volleyball for recreational exercise and fellowship while at the base camp.

About half of the students were Albanians studying at the University of Tirana, the capital of Albania, Lott said. Others included Swiss, German, Hungarian and British students.

Project AERO has been conducted two consecutive summers. A similar arrangement last summer exposed more than 20,000 Albanians to the gospel message. This year's totals are not available yet, but Foreign Mission Board leaders expect similar tallies.

Through AERO and Southern

Baptist missionaries and long-term volunteers serving in Albania, churches are developing quickly, Lott said. Some consider Albania to be one of the countries in the world most open to the gospel, according to literature published by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission.

"Last year at the state Brotherhood convention, we felt the Lord spoke to us ... to go worldwide," Lott explained. The first overseas team helped drill wells in Haiti in 1994. The support team to Albania is the second.

"We had the largest team of any state" to participate in Albania this summer, Lott said. "And we were one of the few teams with our own nurse."

Under Lott's direction, team members worked together to ensure the camp's smooth operation.

Don Kannady, a bivocational pastor and registered nurse from Glencoe, provided medical support.

Bill Hinton, a veteran of disaster relief work and a Mission Service Corps volunteer from Hopkinsville, served as head cook. He was assisted by Paul and Barbara Sharp of Louis-

ville.

Dovie Smallwood from Mariba purchased food at the market each day and handled the team's finances.

Paul Dodson of Nancy and Ron Flowers of Wickliffe were charged with purification of the camp's water system. Dodson, a retired state trooper, also was assigned the task of providing security.

Gary King, a pastor in Waynesburg, assisted with water purification and provided spiritual counsel and led devotions and worship for the group.

A camp outside Elbasan built during World War II offered primitive living conditions at best, which required careful sanitation efforts and numerous precautions, Lott noted.

"The hardest part was the initial shock," said veteran volunteer Barbara Sharp, who served in Haiti last year. "When I first saw it, I remember thinking, 'This place makes Haiti look like a palace. ... We can't do this.'"

"But I'd go back in a minute," she added.

Lott acknowledged that mice in the barracks and rats and weevils in

the food were common nuisances. "We slept in Sevin dust the last week because the bed bugs were so bad," he said. Water difficulties caused dysentery.

Despite the conditions, "No one complained," said Hinton, the cook. "When you think about how the Lord could suffer for us, we could surely endure a few inconveniences for a few weeks on his behalf."

Neither did the volunteers mind their support role of ministering behind the scenes.

"We made it possible for (the students) to witness," Barbara Sharp said, noting the 800 professions of faith in Jesus Christ that resulted. "We have not prepared ourselves educationally for some work, like teaching or medical missions. But certainly we could cook, clean, do dishes."

King, the pastor from Waynesburg, said he was most struck by the joint effort between Southern Baptists and others. "I'm glad to see the cooperation" between the three Christian groups, he said. "All God's people are going to have to work together if we're going to accomplish anything."

Churches became bloody victims in Rwanda's massacre

Continued from page 1

church can protect the innocent," African Rights said.

More Rwandans died in Catholic and Protestant church and parish buildings than anywhere else during the killing frenzy, which began in early April 1994 and lasted through June of that year, the report said.

While it breaks little new ground, the 1,200-page report, "Rwanda: Death, Despair and Defiance," is an exhaustive examination of the Rwandan slaughter. It is based on research, including eyewitness accounts and interviews with survivors and accused killers, begun while the killings were going on.

Its 19 chapters chronicle the grisly details of the massacre, torture and

rape of men, women and children—most of them Tutsis—by Rwanda's Hutu majority.

Some of the report's most devastating accounts are in a 68-page chapter on the churches.

"The killers did not merely kill people in churches," the report said. "They killed church people—priests, nuns, seminarians and lay staff of the church. Many of Rwanda's finest priests and nuns died."

"In addition, the killers deliberately desecrated the churches, attacking the moral and spiritual fabric of the community," it said. "The aim was annihilation."

Even as the report spotlighted the victims, it also underscored what it called "the moral failure" of Catholic

and Anglican church leaders, most of whom were Hutus. It also singled out the moral courage of priests, pastors and nuns who stood against the genocide.

"They (church leaders) have failed to condemn what has happened and they have neglected to offer solace and support to the victims," the report said.

Church leaders could have played a role in preventing the genocide, the report said. "But they stayed silent. Such surrender in the face of evil was nothing less than an abandonment of pastoral duties and moral obligations in favor of the rewards of an intimate relationship with a (Hutu) government responsible for genocide."

The churches in Rwanda "must

answer for the active complicity of some of its priests, pastors and nuns in the genocide," the report said. It named many of those accused of participating in the killing, including four nuns. Some of the accused have been jailed, while others remain suspects.

The report also found, however, that some priests, pastors and nuns "redeemed the church" by hiding the hunted and vulnerable, tending the wounded, feeding the hungry and confronting the authorities.

"Above all, it has been the Rwandese priests and nuns who have been in the front line, their courage all the more remarkable in the face of the moral and physical cowardice of the most senior figures in the hierarchy of their churches," the report said.

Baptists offer hurricane relief

Continued from page 1

"We're asking Southern Baptists to respond in a tremendous way."

The first wave of Southern Baptist response started just hours after Luis hit, as FMB missionaries worked with island Baptists to meet emergency needs.

Then—just a few days after the storm—a team of Southern Baptist relief planners arrived on the island to assess needs and deliver about 3,500 pounds of food and relief supplies.

"Our key was rapid response," said Wilson, a relief assessment team member. "We arrived within 72 hours of the storm and were able to support missionaries, meet church leaders and contact government officials about possibilities for ministry."

While the eastern Caribbean still reels from more destruction from Hurricane Marilyn in mid-September, more aid shipments are expected to arrive on St. Maarten and Antigua the week of Sept. 17. That includes 225 tarps to shelter people who lost roofs, two water purification units and

40,000 pounds of food and supplies. FMB family ministry consultant Kenn Shirley also flew to the islands Sept. 18 to counsel survivors struggling to cope with losses.

Meanwhile, Southern Baptists have opened a "second front" in their hurricane relief efforts.

An Airbus A-300 jetliner chartered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency was scheduled to leave Atlanta Sept. 18 en route to St. Thomas and St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, hit by Hurricane Marilyn Sept. 16. That storm left at least nine people dead, while many others were reported missing.

The plane carried two airlift kitchens and volunteers to operate them for the next two weeks, plus an American Red Cross advance team. The kitchens, one readied by Texas Baptist Men and the other by the Alabama Baptist Convention's Brotherhood department, will provide support at American Red Cross shelters. Each unit is capable of providing up to 10,000 meals per day.

SBC representative regains credentials

BEIJING (BP)—Christian Life Commission trustee Nancy Schaefer and six other women regained their credentials to attend the World Conference on Women Sept. 14, two days after the credentials were confiscated by authorities.

At the close of a Sept. 12 press briefing by the official United States delegation to the conference, Schaefer and the other women silently raised a banner which read "U.S. Delegation Ignores Pro-family U.S. Women." A United Nations security guard escorted them to a holding room, where he confiscated their credentials.

The women believe the confiscation and withholding of their credentials "was merely an effort to silence the conservative voice," said Schaefer, who lives in Atlanta. "It is our belief that if

common-sense Americans knew what the U.S. delegation is proposing for the women and children of the United States and unsuspecting and aid-dependent countries around the world, they would be outraged."

U.N. security failed to halt a protest by lesbians who shouted and unfurled banners at another meeting, according to a report by Family News in Focus, a radio network of Focus on the Family.

Among the women whose credentials were confiscated along with Schaefer's were Wanda Miller, Schaefer's assistant at Family Concerns Inc. in Atlanta; Karen McNeil of Life Choices Inc. in Memphis, Tenn.; and Brenda Alexander, also of Memphis, representing Black Americans for Life. The other three women were not identified.

How to help

- To volunteer for the hurricane relief project, contact Beth Huneycutt at the Brotherhood Commission, (800) 280-1891.
- Financial contributions may be sent to the human needs department, Foreign Mission Board, Box 6767, Richmond, Va. 23230-0767, or the Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104.

Carver School likely moving to Samford University

Continued from page 1

degree conflicts with conservative evangelical theology.

Last spring's controversies and trustee actions prompted three accrediting agencies—the Council on Social Work Education, the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools—to schedule a joint site visit to Southern this fall. The seminary faces the possibility of warnings or even probation from the accrediting agencies.

However, resolving questions about the Carver School's future before the Nov. 8-10 accrediting team visit could lessen the likelihood of sanctions, according to sources familiar with the accreditation process.

Transferring the Carver School to Samford is "a very positive and constructive proposal" that will protect the interests of both the seminary and current social work students, while ensuring the future of the Carver School, Mohler said.

Janet Spessart, acting dean of the Carver School, agreed that the transfer may be the best possible option under the circumstances.

"I agree that it's a constructive plan," she said. "I'm keenly disap-

pointed that we cannot continue here as part of this seminary community. But the plan offers a hope and future for the school."

While some Carver School students expressed disappointment that the school will not continue as a part of the seminary, others said Samford will be an excellent location.

Terri Cox, a student from Richmond, Mo., said she is "very excited" about the Samford move because she believes Samford is a progressive school with an outstanding reputation.

The proposed transfer should allow most students currently enrolled in the Carver School to finish their degrees in Louisville. The master of social work is a three-year degree, and no new students were admitted to the program this fall.

Mohler said one term of the transfer agreement is that Samford will not charge current Carver School students fees any higher than the seminary's current rates.

Another term, he said, is that Samford must offer employment in the first year to faculty members currently employed in the Carver School. Only two full-time faculty members remain in the school—Garland and Spessart—and they have not announced their future plans.

As part of the deal, Samford will acquire the Carver School's name and assets, including 5,200 books, 700 bound periodicals, a list of graduates, names of prospective students and accreditation documents.

Mohler said the seminary will continue to offer a social work concentration within the master of divinity degree program.

However, losing the Carver School could cause the seminary's overall enrollment to take a further hit. The seminary's enrollment took its biggest dip in recent history this fall, on the heels of last spring's controversy.

Carver School enrollment was 117 last year and is down to about 70 students this fall, Spessart said.

Samford officials said they foresee a bright future for the Carver School in Birmingham.

"Relocation of the Carver School to Samford holds the promise of strengthening the Christian social conscience of our university community, training and credentialing dedicated people to serve our Lord, his children and his church," said Samford President Thomas Cortis.

The Carver School could "realize its brightest future under our sponsorship," added Samford Provost Will-

iam Hull. "We would want to continue very strongly a program of social work education for both church and denominational agencies."

At the same time, Samford may develop additional programs within the Carver School, Hull added. For example, an emphasis in medical social work might be appropriate, in conjunction with the large medical education community currently in Birmingham, he said.

If the transfer is approved, Samford will be the fourth entity to sponsor the Carver School. It began in 1907 as part of the Woman's Missionary Union Training School. The Training School was renamed the Carver School of Missions and Social Work in 1952. In 1957, WMU transferred ownership of the Carver School to the Southern Baptist Convention due to a funding crisis. In 1962, Southern Seminary assumed full responsibility for the school.

Under Southern's umbrella, the Carver School developed into one of five major schools within the seminary. In 1984, the seminary obtained accreditation to offer the master of social work degree. Since that time, the Carver School has been the nation's only accredited social work program in a theological seminary.

"I agree that it's a constructive plan. I'm keenly disappointed that we cannot continue here as part of this seminary community. But the plan offers a hope and future for the school."

Acting Dean Janet Spessart

Celebrating Missions and Ministry 1995 Fall Gathering of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship Buechel Park Baptist Church, Louisville

Friday, Oct. 6 *Celebrating Missions*
6:30 p.m. Registration and Missions Fair
Worship with Keith Parks, Global Missions Staff and CBF Missionaries
Fellowship following worship

Saturday, Oct. 7 *Celebrating Ministry*
8 a.m. Missions Breakfast (buffet) \$6 per person
Reservations required—use form at right
9 a.m. Worship with Dr. Suzanne Coyle
10 a.m. Breakout sessions on new church starts, CBF missions educational materials, migrant ministry and KBF partnership missions project
11 a.m. Breakout sessions repeated
Adjournment prior to lunch

Childcare provided (birth-preschool) Friday and Saturday

Hotel Reservations?

(Be sure to tell them you are with the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship)

Holiday Inn Southeast
Watterson & Bardstown Road
\$49 flat rate—reservations by 9/22
(502) 454-0451

Ramada Hotel Airport East
Watterson & Newburg Road
\$49 flat rate up to 4 people
(502) 456-4411

Directions?

Buechel Park is located at 2403 Hikes Lane, Louisville

From Lexington: I-64 to Watterson Expressway West; exit south on Bardstown Road (Holiday Inn is at this exit); continue south on Bardstown Road to Hikes Lane; left on Hikes Lane; two blocks to church on left

From Elizabethtown: I-65 north to Gene Snyder East; follow Gene Snyder to Bardstown Road exit; left (north) at end of exit ramp; continue north on Bardstown Road to Hikes Lane (7 miles); right on Hikes Lane; two blocks to church on left

Registration and Breakfast Reservation Form

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
City & ZIP _____
Church _____
_____ breakfast reservations @ \$6 each = \$ _____
Enclose check and names for all reservations by Oct. 2; mail to KBF, P.O. Box 11160, Lexington, KY 40574-1160
Questions: call (502) 863-2329
Childcare needed for _____ children, ages _____

Student to appeal ruling on religious harassment case

Presidential candidate visits Baptist seminary

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)—Republican presidential candidate Alan Keyes made a surprise stop at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, breaking off his campaign schedule in North Carolina to visit the Wake Forest school Sept. 14.

"There are so many people who think we are going to build material success in America by what we do with the taxes and what we do with the budget and what we do with the structure of government," said

Keyes, a former ambassador to the U.N. Economic and Social Council. He suggested the only lasting solution rests not in human institutions nor money, "but how right we are with God."

Keyes, who holds a Ph.D. in government from Harvard University, was introduced by Southeastern President Paige Patterson, who reminded the Binkley Chapel audience the seminary does not endorse people for public office: "Any presidential candidate who wants to come here and speak to us is as welcome as he can be."

SALT LAKE CITY (RNS)—A Jewish student who thought her Salt Lake City public high school violated her constitutional rights by including religious songs in the school choir's repertoire will appeal a judge's dismissal of her suit against the school.

In May, Rachel Bauchman, a junior at West High School, accused the school, its administrators and her choir teacher of religious harassment after she challenged the practice of singing religious songs and performing in churches.

U.S. District Judge Thomas Greene ruled Sept. 12 that devotional music sung in school is not an "explicit religious exercise."

"Despite reference in some songs to 'God' and the 'Lord,' as well as language in the songs reflecting a supplication to deity, the songs with religious content are not ... the equivalent of prayers," Greene wrote. "Public schools are not required to delete from the curriculum all materials that may offend any religious sensibility."

Bauchman's supporters maintain that school officials violated her rights. She was required to sing the songs as a member of the school's

choir class, a course for which she received a grade, they have noted.

"Schools are supposed to focus on keeping themselves neutral and not in any way making the learning environment hostile to children who aren't part of a majority group," said Lisa Thureau, executive director of the New York-based National Committee for Public Education and Religious Liberty, which helped Bauchman find a lawyer for her suit.

Thureau claims that Bauchman, who filed suit with her mother, Cheryl, was harassed by choir teacher Richard Torgerson after she objected to singing religious songs and performing in religious places. The choir performed at Christian churches and Salt Lake City's Temple Square, a Mormon site.

In a separate but related case, Greene is scheduled to consider Oct. 25 whether West High School violated a court injunction against the performance of the song "Friends" at the school's June graduation ceremony. The injunction, which stemmed from Bauchman's suit, ordered the school not to perform "Friends" and another religious song at the graduation.

NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Methodist identity crisis.** United Methodism in the United States may be in the midst of an identity crisis because the church lacks any definite theological boundaries, according to preliminary results of a four-year study funded by the Lilly Endowment. "One of the most serious problems for United Methodism is the perception that there are no theological norms, no bounds beyond which it is impossible to go and still be a Methodist," said Dennis Campbell, one of the study's authors.

■ **Ohio bans abortion procedure.** Ohio became the first state to ban a specific abortion procedure, when in August Gov. George Voinovich signed a law against dilation and extraction, a late-term abortion procedure. The law requires a viability test on all unborn children older than 21 weeks before an abortion may be performed. It forbids the abortion of

unborn babies who could survive outside the mother's womb.

■ **Divorce painful for adult children.** Divorce occurring after children reach adulthood causes strain in parent-child relations, with a negative effect greater than that caused by widowhood, according to a study recently published in the Journal of Marriage and the Family. The study of 3,200 young adults between 19 and 34 revealed that those whose parents divorced after the children left home tended to have poorer relationships with both parents and tended to contact them less often.

■ **Cohabiting a divorce factor.** Couples who live together before marriage are twice as likely to divorce as couples who do not, according to a recent Canadian study. The only characteristic that carried a greater risk for divorce was the presence of stepchildren.



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Firstbourne Baptist Church
invites you to
celebrate 25 years of
ministry at an
Anniversary Service
Sunday, October 1,
9:45-11:00 a.m.

Reception following the
worship service will be
held in Fellowship Hall.
All former members
and staff are invited.

8800 Shelbyville Road
Louisville, Kentucky



Preserving families

John Naisbitt, in his book Megatrends, used an illustration which has stuck with me for many years.

Naisbitt noted that the railroad industry was the largest player in our economy less than 100 years ago. Unfortunately those in management saw their business as railroading and not transportation. With the advent of highways and air transportation, they saw other industries replace them as economic leaders.

Historically Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children has seen its mission as caring for children who have been hurt. But in recent years we have begun to see that our business is not as much "child care" as it is "family care."

We've learned that to really have an impact on a society where children are being abused and neglected in increasing numbers, we must not only provide care for those children who have already been hurt, but must also find ways to strengthen families so that children never become victims in the first place.

Cornerstone Counseling, which has grown to 15 offices in just three years, has been one way we have begun to help families in

a preventive way. And this past summer, through a program called Family Preservation, we have begun working intensively with struggling families.

This latter program is made possible by a grant from the Department for Social Services and involves a 10-county area in southern Kentucky. Through it, a case worker spends up to 10 hours

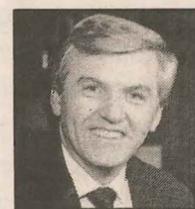
per week in the home of a family that needs help.

They roll up their sleeves and help clean the house if that's necessary. They help see that repairs to the home are made. They help families learn to communicate. They help families plan meals and manage budgets.

In short, they exemplify Christian ministry in the best possible way by following Jesus' example of helping people where they are.

I am excited about this new work. It will help us to learn more about helping families stay together and about reuniting families. Pray for us!

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

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



FINANCIAL FORUM

Teaching kids about money

By Doug Strader

I cannot remember when I first learned the meaning of tithing. But I can vividly remember going to Sunday school with my offering tied up in the corner of a handkerchief. I never once thought about keeping that money for myself; it was my offering that I was to give to God.

It is important to begin teaching children very early in life how to use money.

1 Corinthians 4:2 says, "It is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful." Children need to learn that everything we have is a gift from God. Nothing is really ours; it all belongs to God. This includes our life, time, abilities, talents and money.

Our beliefs about money—how to make it, spend it and save it—invariably are tied to our value system. It is very important that parents demonstrate a healthy view of money in their lifestyle. If we demonstrate to our children a lifestyle that is incompatible with our teachings about money, they will get mixed messages about our values.

For instance, if parents try to teach their children to tithe (give one-tenth) of their income, but the parents do not tithe themselves, children are given a mixed message.

Children should be encouraged to do things to earn money. Allowances can be given for chores performed. Children can learn the value of working to make money, how to save money and how to spend their money. When children are given money for special occasions such as birthdays, Christmas and other holidays, parents have an opportunity to teach their children the wise use of money.

Children need to be taught that they can manage their own money. If they want some special things for which they do not have the money, teach them to save until they have the money.

The practice of just giving money to children to buy whatever they want whenever they want it is not wise.

My parents were teaching me about giving money to God when they gave me money tied in the corner of my handkerchief.

For further suggestions on teaching children about money, I recommend a book available from Baptist Book Store called "Using Good Cents."

Doug Strader is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's stewardship department

Annuity Board criticizes new IRS ruling

DALLAS (BP)—A recent decision by the Internal Revenue Service to consider retired ministers' housing allowance as subject to self-employment tax is drawing fire from leaders at the Southern Baptist Annuity Board.

Paul Powell, Annuity Board president, said the IRS action is "contrary to" previous IRS policy, such as those stated in private letter rulings and IRS Publication 517.

"It is the opinion of the Annuity Board ... that a housing allowance, as part of one's retirement benefit, is not 'net earnings' and is not subject to the burdensome SECA tax for Social Security that ordained ministers pay while employed," Powell wrote in "A Pastoral Letter" mailed Aug. 25 to the board's ministerial participants.

The recent IRS action came with

the long-awaited public release of a manual that instructs IRS examiners on how to audit ministers. The audit manual was released as part of the IRS's "Market Segment Specialization Program" in which ministers are one of 31 "industries" targeted for special scrutiny.

The IRS position on this point is "most unfortunate," according to an article in the Church Law & Tax Report, edited by Richard Hammar, author of the Annuity Board's annual tax guide. "Most retired ministers and retirement plans do not presently follow this rule," the article noted.

In his letter, Powell urged readers to express support for pending national legislation that would remedy the problem.

"I have never before asked you to write your representative in the Con-

gress," Powell wrote. "I believe this is a matter of such long-term significance that you need to express yourself, ... if you agree with me that the housing allowance in retirement should not be subject to the heavy taxation for Social Security."

The bills, according to Powell, are Senate Bill 881 and companion legislation in the House, HR 528, titled the Church Retirement Benefits Simplification Act of 1995.

Thomas Miller, senior vice president for public relations at the Annuity Board, said the impact of the new IRS policy would be widely felt.

One reason for the confusion, Miller said, is "the IRS often doesn't know what to do with churches. Sometimes we have to operate on what the law doesn't say rather than what the law does say."

Church-state issues cited in welfare bill

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The U.S. Senate took steps Sept. 13 to preserve church-state separation in a plan that would involve churches in welfare programs.

The sweeping welfare-reform package under debate in the Senate contained a proposal by Sen. John Ashcroft, R-Mo., that would allow churches to use federal funds to provide "sectarian worship and instruction" along with day care, hot meals and other services.

Ashcroft and proposal supporters said churches are better equipped than federal bureaucracies to run food programs and house the poor.

Critics said the Ashcroft proposal would have unconstitutionally entangled church and state.

On a 59-41 vote, the Senate agreed to an amendment by Sen. William Cohen, R-Maine, that lessened those church-state concerns.

Cohen's amendment stipulated that churches could participate as benefit providers so long as the "programs are implemented consistent with the establishment clause" of the First Amendment. It also struck a federal mandate that would have barred states from requiring churches to establish separate non-sectarian entities to administer the programs.

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WANTED: 15-passenger van in good condition to buy for church. (502) 477-2047.

SEEKING: Minister to children at Broadway Baptist Church. Part-time position. Please send resumé to: Children's Minister Search Committee, Broadway Baptist Church, 4000 Brownsboro Rd., Louisville, KY 40207.

WANTED: Blood River Baptist Association is searching for a director of missions. Please send resumé to: Blood River Association, P.O. Box 18, Hardin, KY 42048, Attn: Search Committee.

SEEKING: Part-time music/youth director (will consider someone interested in just the music position). Send resumé to First Baptist Church, P.O. 577, Lebanon Junction, KY 40150; phone (502) 833-4954.

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

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

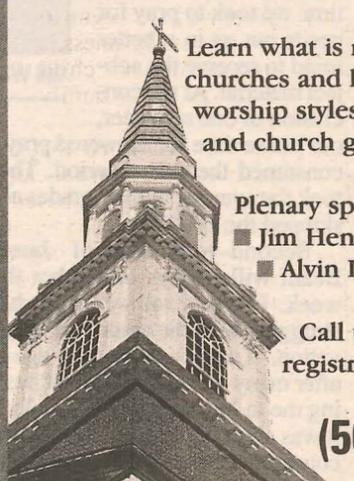
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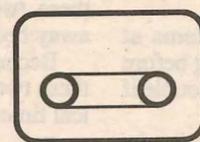
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■ Planning for 1996 partnerships projects in St. Petersburg, Russia.

■ Twenty-one Kentuckians who will form three simultaneous evangelism crusade teams in St. Petersburg, Russia, Sept. 27-Oct. 11.

■ The Kentucky women's work team going to Novosibirsk, Russia, Sept. 26-Oct. 11.

■ Michelle St. Clair, International Service Corps volunteer in Penza, Russia, who is experiencing physical problems.

■ Marti Williams of Henderson, Ky., who is teaching English in Dubna, Russia.

■ Director of Missions Ignatius Meimaris and the staff of the Greater Boston Baptist Association.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **BOWLING GREEN**—Burton Memorial Church will celebrate its 145th anniversary Oct. 1. Former Pastor **Richard Wakefield** will be the guest speaker at 10:30 a.m. A potluck lunch will be shared at noon, followed by fellowship and singing at 2 p.m.

■ **CALVERT CITY**—**Billy Hurt** will retire as pastor of First Church Sept. 30. Hurt has served churches in Tennessee, Missouri and Kentucky for 43 years. After his retirement, he may be reached at 217 Wood Trace, Benton, Ky. 42025.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—**Kenneth Bolin Sr.**, 60, died Aug. 26 after a brief illness. Bolin was a graduate of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College and Campbellsville College. He was pastor of several churches in Kentucky, including Cane Valley Church and

Mount Olivet Church.

■ **FISHERVILLE**—Green Hills Church called **Bill Rogers** as interim pastor.

■ **JAMESTOWN**—First Church ordained **Brian Thornton**, **Robert Lamb** and **Kenneth Hammond** as deacons Sept. 10.

■ **LEITCHFIELD**—Grayson County Association's 25th anniversary celebration was held at First Church Sept. 24. **George Smith** was speaker. Music was provided by a choir composed of singers from all churches in the association.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Baptist Tabernacle celebrated its 10th anniversary of family life ministry Sept. 24 with **Diana Garland** of Southern Seminary speaking. A family life ministry fair was at 6 p.m. Also, "Family Focus,"

Russia missionaries appeal for prayer

TAMBOV, Russia—International Service Corps missionaries **Clay** and **Connie Cartwright**, who work closely with the Kentucky-Russia partnership, have issued an urgent prayer request.

The Cartwrights are experiencing unusual difficulty getting their visas renewed. As of Sept. 18, the visas had been expired three weeks and requests for renewal had not been granted.

In an e-mail message to Baptists in the United States, Cartwright said he believes the process has been stalled by a leader of the Russian Orthodox Church who has accused Baptists of introducing "alien religious practices."

"We need to trust in God to get us through this storm," Cartwright said. "In the meantime, please bring this before the churches as a matter of prayer."



NEW TRUSTEES Al Mohler (left), president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, greets two new Kentucky trustees who attended a recent orientation session. The new trustees are Byron Boyer (center) and Ron Fellemende. Boyer is a member of Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville. Fellemende is pastor of Gardenside Baptist Church in Lexington. (Photos by Gibbs Frazier)

Oct. 1, 8 and 15 at 6 p.m., will focus on "Christian Commitment in the Age of AIDS," with **Chip** and **Nancy Miller** as speakers.

Carlisle Avenue Church ordained **Rick Gnau**, **Kevin Kaelin** and **David Bradford** as deacons Sept. 17.

Jeffersonton Church's 150th anniversary celebration Oct. 12-15 will include **Rollin Burhans**, **Chip Miller** and **Thurmond Coleman** as speakers. Call (502) 267-1123 for information.

Hurstbourne Church will celebrate its 25th anniversary Oct. 1.

■ **OWENSBORO**—**Dan Stallard** resigned as pastor of Pleasant Memorial Church Aug. 25 to begin his new ministry in the Naval Chaplaincy Corps in Yokosuka, Japan.

■ **PARIS**—Central Church will celebrate part of its year-long 50th anniversary Oct. 15. Former Pastor **Harry Wainscott** of Hudson, Fla., will be guest speaker. Also, former Pastor **Don Carroll** will be guest speaker Nov. 12. Carroll is pastor at White Sulphur Church in Georgetown.

■ **RUSSELL SPRINGS**—**Bill Clement** resigned as pastor at Liberty Church Aug. 27.

Valda Cooper, 74, longtime pastor and associational clerk for 29 years at Russell County Association, died Aug. 16.

Gilbert Larimore resigned as pastor at Clear Fork Church.

Sano Church recently called **Paul Hart** as pastor. He also serves as pastor at Providence Church.

What to do?

This is Sunday afternoon, and I have just interviewed two boys who are considering coming to Oneida. One is from Kentucky and the other is from Tennessee. We are often criticized for having orientation and interviews on Sunday. We would love to take Sunday off as a day of rest and worship. There are several reasons we take new students on Sunday, but the most critical one is that it is the best day to get both parents here. The number of students who are growing up in single parent families is staggering. While divorce is not new to America, it is certainly out of control today.

Even though we do this on Sunday for the benefit of the parents, neither boy today had a father with him.

The first one has a father, but has very little contact with him. His mother is doing the best she can to raise this lad, but has begun to lose control of him. He was recently in trouble for vandalism. The story the boy told me was one that I hear all of the time: "I really did not do anything. It was the boys I was with who tore everything up." I nearly always respond to a statement like that by saying that you cannot soar like an eagle if you run with a bunch of turkeys. This young man is also having trouble in school. His principal feels that he can do the work, but is not putting forth much effort in his studies. Since mom works, there is not much time or energy to help with homework, or to make sure it gets done at all.

There have been other minor problems at school and at home, but it will not be long before this eighth grader gets into more serious trouble if these problems are not taken care of.

This young man wants to come to Oneida. As is so often the case, this mother cannot pay our

modest room, board and tuition. While we could condemn her for a broken marriage, I somehow feel that Jesus would be more understanding than many of us. If we are going to take this young man, and we are, he will have to be on nearly a full scholarship. This will be done not because we have a large surplus of funds, but because of the generosity of Kentucky Baptists and many other wonderful friends.

The second young man will be a junior and is 16 years old. Just like the other boy, he is experiencing the pain that comes from divorce. He is confused and saddened over the actions of his parents. He does not understand why his parents are doing this, or why they cannot work things out. He is emotionally hurt over the hateful things the parents are saying about each other.

A friend told the mother about us and said that Oneida would be the best place for this boy until his parents took care of their personal affairs. This lad had also gotten into some trouble with the law. Like the first boy, he said that he really had not done anything, but

was with the boys when they got caught. During the interview with this boy, he told me that his father was not happy about his coming to Oneida. The mother said that she could not count on the father's financial help, so her son is on a substantial scholarship also.

Would you have given up your Sunday to help these two boys? Would you have turned them away because they could not pay?

Because of your support, we are able to help these two students and many others during a critical time in their lives. Thank you for your help.

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

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Seeking the mind of Christ

"I believe we are in the last times and God wants this message out so the bride will be prepared for the wedding," is the motivation T.W. Hunt gave for his continuing ministry with "The Mind of Christ" seminars.

While in South America this summer, Hunt became ill. Clear Creek was his first assignment after seven weeks of recuperation.

Monday through Wednesday he spoke about prayer in classes. He told a faculty meeting about his experiences of praying for students. He responded to a question about the push for time to cover assigned material: "The time we took to pray for needs put us in a better mind to receive the subject material. At the conclusion of one semester,

our praise time for answered prayer consumed the entire period. They took the average of their grades and skipped the final."

Second-year student James Beam will always remember this week. For several weeks he had struggled with the assurance of salvation. "I made a decision at age 18 after many of my friends kept pushing me to 'get saved,' but I realized it was all in my head." In a pastoral counseling class, Beam came under more conviction. The class period

followed chapel and, according to professor Charles Rice, "We never got to the syllabus assignment. We prayed and became honest with God and each other."

On Thursday evening Hunt spoke on the resurrection and the lordship of Christ. "When he said Christ is our advocate but also would be our judge, I knew I was in trouble," Beam said. Hunt followed his message at the piano playing "He is Lord." Many came to the altar in surrender to Christ's will—James was among them. Hunt prayed a benediction, but the Lord wasn't finished. We stayed for almost 30 more minutes singing hymns and praise choruses.

"I've been speaking on college campuses for 20 years. I've been to our Bible colleges and seminaries. I don't think I've ever found a spirit like I've found here. You really are a family in a remarkable kind of way. The whole Southern Baptist Convention needs to know about you."

Thanks to Dr. Hunt for that encouragement. Join him in prayer that we shall have the mind of Christ.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Baptist port ministries stretch from coast to coast

By David Winfrey
SBC Home Mission Board

SEATTLE (BP)—Foreign shipping vessels often export more than the products in their hulls. Scattered around America's ports, Southern Baptist seafarer ministries witness to shipping crews, who in turn carry the gospel around the globe.

"The Lord is bringing the people of the world to our port, and we're able to minister to them," said Carlos Abeyta, a port minister in Everett, Wash., north of Seattle.

Port ministries offer a variety of services, from Scripture distribution and worship opportunities to phone calls back home and visits into town. Along the way, port ministers share Christ's love as the motivation behind their service. Many directors are home missionaries; others are pastors or volunteers who have developed a heart for this ministry.

Such work dates back to 1779, when the Naval and Military Bible Society was formed in England, said Roald Kverndal, co-founder and president of the International Association for the Study of Maritime Mission. "We call it the Lord's original mission—entrusting the gospel to the seafarers. John, James, Andrew, Peter."

Southern Baptists trace their heritage in this field to the late 19th century when Annie Armstrong worked

in Baltimore, said Joel Land, associate director of the Home Mission Board's special ministries department, which works with port ministers.

Little was being done by Southern Baptists in recent history, however, until a New Orleans minister felt the calling in 1962. John Vandercook, then pastor at Third Street Baptist Church, said he was walking along the Mississippi River one Sunday afternoon as a banana boat was being tied down.

A Dutch crew member asked Vandercook if he knew a church where he and his co-workers could attend that night. The boat had recently signed a six-month contract bringing it to New Orleans each week, and the crew started attending Vandercook's church.

On the last Sunday night service of the boat's contract, Vandercook preached on missions. When he drove the crew members back to the boat, Vandercook recounted, one stayed in the van and asked whether he believed what he preached.

"He said he couldn't understand why we'd sent missionaries all over the world and then when the world came to the United States (as seamen), we didn't even see them," Vandercook said.

Before leaving, the two men prayed and the seaman thanked God

for calling Vandercook into port ministry work, but he had not yet agreed to become involved.

"Before daylight, Catherine and I had committed ourselves to this ministry," said Vandercook, who 33 years later still gets teary recalling the story. "The next Sunday I resigned from the church and told them the first of September I was going into this ministry full time."

Southern Baptists currently operate 40 port ministries, but others are needed, said Land, noting, "Several new ports need to be opened in Florida." Also, New England states comprise the only Baptist convention on the coastline without a ministry. Nationwide, about 5 million air and sea crew members visit American ports each year, he said.

Changes in the shipping industry are forcing seaport ministers to adjust, said Marshal Bundren, a home missionary port minister in Gary, Ind. Pre-packed container vessels take four to seven hours to unload—a job that previously would have taken days. That means ministries have less time to interact with seamen. Many ministries are considering relocating from buildings far from port to trailers or motor homes they can drive to the ship, Bundren said.

Automation also is requiring fewer seamen. Advances in communication technology could make the radio

man obsolete before the turn of the century, Bundren predicted.

Likewise, the growing use of cellular phones could eliminate one of the port ministries' main draws—calling home from the center, he added.

Despite the changes, Vandercook remains optimistic about the future. "It's always going to be a vital ministry because shipping's here to stay," he said.

Carlos Abeyta, a research scientist for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, discovered the need in his community in 1982. He said he had felt a calling to foreign missions since he was a Royal Ambassador.

It wasn't until he was grown and living near Seattle, however, that he discovered how God was using Southern Baptists in foreign missions work through port ministries. That year, he and his wife were the only couple in Seattle to attend a seminar about the ministry operated in Tacoma by US-2 missionaries.

As a volunteer, Abeyta visits about six ships a month. "Sometimes you work with a whole crew; sometimes you just work with one man," he explained.

"We're involved in a ministry where you don't know what's going to happen. We have to trust in God that he will work through that act of service," Abeyta said. "I guess that's just what faith is all about."

Southern Baptists currently operate 40 port ministries, but others are needed, particularly in Florida and New England.

Serving two churches keeps pastor on run

By David Winfrey
SBC Home Mission Board

MONROE, Wash. (BP)—It's 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, and Lester Turner is a pastor on the go.

After preaching at the early service of First Baptist Church of Monroe, Wash., Turner lets other members handle the invitation so he can hurry eight miles south to Duvall, where they are sponsoring a new church.

"Are you ready to run?" he asks, walking out the door toward his car. This hectic schedule requires driving to Duvall, preaching at the new church and then returning just in time to preach at Monroe's 11 a.m. service.

While driving to Duvall, he explains how the Monroe church got in such a unique situation.

Monroe and Duvall are old farming towns that have become booming bedroom communities to metropolitan Seattle. They are a half-hour drive from Seattle except during rush hour, when it takes an hour, Turner says. The population of Monroe has grown 50 percent in the last year, from 4,000 to 6,000.

Members at the Monroe church saw a need for a ministry in Duvall. First, they started a Bible study in the basement of Duvall's Catholic church but only attracted one person.

After praying more about the Duvall work, they decided God was calling them to start a congregation. "By Wednesday, we had a place and the money pledged," Turner says. "It was all lined up in three days' time."

Arriving in Duvall, Turner drives behind the storefronts on Main Street and pulls behind Pioneer Community

Church's meeting place—a saddle shop between a bookstore and the town library.

A deacon in Monroe who rides horses linked the shopkeeper with the church, Turner says. "She made us a deal on the rent that is unbelievable. She said that God had given her the business and now she's able to use the business to serve God."

The first Sunday, six people came. A week later, attendance doubled.

While many churches display pictures of Jesus or biblical scenes, this meeting place features John Wayne and local horse riders. Amid the smell of leather, visitors sit on folding chairs and sing hymns accompanied by music from a portable stereo.

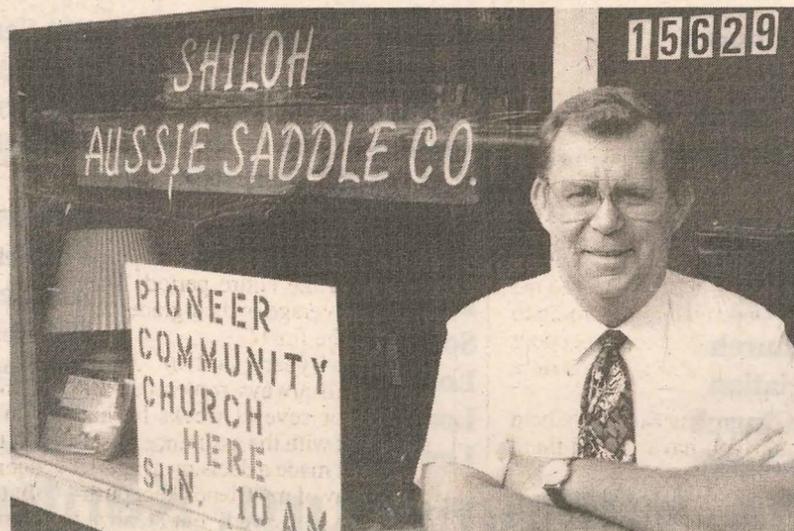
Driving back to Monroe, he notes

growth likely will be slow. The Northwest is one of the least-churched regions in the country, according to the Glenmary Research Center, which tracks church membership.

Before entering the Monroe church, he puts on his jacket and a wireless microphone. The microphone has a range of 12 blocks, and Turner has threatened to begin preaching from the car if the Duvall service runs too late.

He said he hopes the Duvall congregation has a lay preacher within six months so the Monroe church can go to Gold Bar, nine miles away, and start another work.

"You're never too small or too big," Turner explains. "You just do what God tells you to do."



IN THE SADDLE Pastor Lester Turner stands outside the Duvall, Wash., saddle shop where he preaches every Sunday, in between early and late services at First Baptist Church of Monroe, Wash. (BP photo by David Winfrey)

Worship ends with everyone in congregation choked up

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)—While many a worship service has elicited tears from the congregation, members of a Mississippi church recently were so overcome they had to abandon the service.

The Aug. 20 worship service at Woodville Heights Church in Jackson, Miss., was moving along pretty much as planned until an 8-year-old boy sitting with his mother discovered a small container of mace spray on her key ring.

Exercising all the curiosity of an 8-year-old boy, he sprayed it.

In just a couple of seconds the air conditioning system, running full blast in the midday August heat, had spread the fumes throughout the room.

"I was five minutes into the message when I saw the mother walk out of the sanctuary with her son. Then others began to cough and leave, and I remember thinking, 'There seems to be a lot of allergies out there this morning,'" said Pastor Wayne Kimbrough.

People on the entire right side of the sanctuary were wheezing when Kimbrough noticed a frantic usher at the rear of the room trying to get his attention.

"He was running his finger across his throat in one of those 'cut it off!' motions, so I decided we'd better have a prayer and dismiss," Kimbrough said.

The message that Sunday was on the subject of stewardship, leaving the pastor to ponder just how far people will go to get out of a sermon on money.

"The boy's mother called me on Sunday afternoon; she was most apologetic. It had all cleared out by the evening service," Kimbrough explained.

The ushers were taking one additional precaution for the evening service, however.

"They were telling folks as they came in, 'Please check your mace at the door,'" Kimbrough said.

Cumberland College invites you to meet ABUNDANCE

ABUNDANCE, begun three years ago, is an outreach ministry and a public relations tool of Cumberland College. Students with Abundance travel through Kentucky and the surrounding states, sharing their music and testimonies, revealing the advantages of attending a private, church-related college, and providing ministry through music.



Under the direction of Rick Fleenor, Abundance performers include (Back Row L-R) : Todd Hughes, son of T. Russell and Nancy Hughes, Jacksonville, FL; Kaleen Roberts, daughter of Wayne and Kathy Roberts, Milford, OH; Dana Junker, daughter of Daniel and Linda Junker, Corbin, KY; Steven McKelvy, son of Michael and Betty McKelvy, Ketchikan, AK; (Front Row L-R) Jerry Kemper, son of Don and Charlette Kemper, Verona, KY; and Chris Wilder, son of Doyle and Doris Wilder, Waynesburg, KY. Chad Wetherill, son of Royce and Marjorie Wetherill, Forest, OH, serves as the Musical Director for the group.

ABUNDANCE TRAVEL SCHEDULE IN KENTUCKY

September 30 & October 1	New Bethel Baptist Church	Verona	PM Service
October 22	Berea Baptist Church	Berea	AM Service
October 22	Cynthiana Baptist Church	Cynthiana	PM Service
November 5	Camp Ground Baptist Church	Somerset	PM Service
November 17 & 18	QUEST	CUMBERLAND COLLEGE	
December 3	West Corbin Baptist Church	Corbin	PM Service
January 21	Dry Ridge Baptist Church	Dry Ridge	PM Service
February 4	Corinth Baptist Church	London	AM Service
February 4	Somerset Baptist Church	Somerset	PM Service
March 9	Laurel River Association	London	PM Service
March 10	Lick Fork Baptist Church	London	AM Service
March 31	Lewisport Baptist Church	Lewisport	AM Service

Cumberland College, Williamsburg, Kentucky 40769