

November 14, 1995
Vol. 169, No. 45

Campbellville College Report

See insert

FOR THE RECORD

Now third
Comparison of fall enrollment statistics from the six Southern Baptist seminaries shows Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has lost its place as the convention's second-largest seminary to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. See page 2.

WMU president
Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union has named Peggy Hicks of Louisville its new president. See page 3.

Family Forum
How can I help my two teenagers accept the fact that their father and I will never get back together? We divorced eight months ago and they are still trying to push us to be reunited. See page 4.

Editorial
Truth-telling fuels the engine of Baptist democracy. See page 5.

Dry Witt
Claude Witt, executive director of the Temperance League of Kentucky, recently scored another victory in his campaign against alcohol by helping residents of Elizabethtown keep their town dry. See page 9.

Moving? See page 4 (1114)



QUEEN OF QUILTS Iona Wallace works on another in a long string of quilts she has made and donated to various Kentucky Baptist ministries.

86-year-old woman makes 61 quilts and gives them all away

By Joyce Sweeney Martin
Staff Writer

GREENSBURG—Iona Wallace's fingers may be arthritic and her eyesight dim, but her desire to help others is as strong and bright as ever.

Over the last four years, the 86-year-old member of Trammell Creek Baptist Church has set 61 quilts and made 11 lap ropes and 20 bibs—and given them all away.

Mrs. Wallace's venture into quilting-as-ministry began a few years back when she felt she should go to Oneida Baptist Institute for a week and donate her services.

But when that didn't work out, she figured she'd find another way to help the school. "I thought, 'I can make quilts.'"

After talking with Jerry Pierce, Oneida's business manager who grew up in the Trammell Creek Church, she decided to make quilts to fit the twin beds in the student dorms.

And so she began making the quilts, cutting and sewing and tacking them in the crazy quilt pattern. And she sent "a few along at a time."

In August, she sent the "last batch," bringing her total contribution to 50 quilts.

But those 50 quilts are not all she has made and given away during the past four years.

She also has made eight full-sized quilts: two quilts to send to Jefferson Street Mission in Louisville ("along with some clothes our

mission group collected"), six quilts for a children's home and three quilts for local families who lost their homes in fires.

And true to her unassuming nature, Mrs. Wallace never gives the quilts in her name, according to long-time friend Travis Judd. "She always gives them in the name of Trammell Creek Woman's Missionary Union."

Mrs. Wallace sees nothing unusual about that. After all, she said, the women in WMU furnished most of the supplies.

After her husband's death in 1983, Mrs. Wallace has had more time to be involved in Trammell Creek, according to Judd. "She's been great for our WMU."

Even though she can't drive, Mrs. Wallace regularly visits the sick and the nursing home. Sometimes she plays the piano for Trammell Creek's worship services. "I'm no good at it, but when there's nobody else to play, I play," she said.

And a few weeks ago, when the church had not met its state mission offering goal, she got behind the pulpit on Sunday morning and made a plea for the offering, Judd said.

But now, Mrs. Wallace says she's slowing down a bit.

Will she make more quilts? "I kindly thought I would quit. My old hands don't work so good anymore," she said, but quickly added, "I'm not going to say I won't make any more, because I just might do it."

Retired couple finds labor of love as foster parents

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

LOUISVILLE—Foster parents O.B. and Norma Turnbow haven't pampered themselves much since retirement; they're too busy pampering and caring for newborns.

The couple long ago put away story books and folded up baby bath towels used by their biological children, who are raising their own families.

But for the last 10 years or so, the Turnbows have reclaimed the nursery in their home and in their hearts. They serve as foster parents for infants through Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

Each time they are assigned a new baby, the Turnbows bring the infant home from the hospital about three or four days after birth. They care for him or her until all the legalities for the adoption are put in order—usually about four to six weeks.

"We just thought it sounded like something we could do," Norma Turnbow said, acknowledging the work gave the couple a place of ministry.

The Turnbows have cared for 16

children since accepting the challenge of infant foster parenting. They share duties for all of them, including middle-of-the-night feedings.

"It's a partnership," she said. "Some of the children are more attached to one of us than the other."

And the Turnbows don't work in isolation, she added, noting extended family, friends and their church—Beechmont Baptist in Louisville—all offer support and love.

One grandchild lives too far away to meet the newborns who come in and out of the Turnbow household. She gets involved by helping choose temporary names for them, Turnbow said.

The couple easily becomes attached to their foster children, Turnbow acknowledged.

"When I go to the hospital and change the baby's clothes, I get attached right then," she said. "But we go in knowing this is a temporary situation, ... and at our age we have no illusions" about raising children again. "So we just love them a lot. We just keep them to give them away."

Turnbow recalled one particular child for whom they had provided

□ See Retirees find ..., page 7

Advances in genetics raise moral & religious questions

By Alica Shepard
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—John Velthuis, 39, has colon cancer. So does his 28-year-old niece. So did his father. Cancer killed his older sister, his grandmother and great grandmother.

"It's killed a lot of us," says Velthuis, who runs a modeling agency in northern Virginia.

Doctors have determined that he and his sister were born with the hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal gene. Presence of the gene means a 90 percent chance of getting colon cancer before age 50.

Now, Velthuis naturally is worried about the fate of his two sons, Derek, 10, and Travis, 7.

Until recently, the Velthuis boys might have had to grow up wondering if one day they'd be sick like their dad. But now, for families with a history of this cancer, a simple presymptomatic blood test exists to check for the cancer-causing gene.

If neither boy has the gene, each faces as much a chance of getting colon cancer as the rest of the population. Their parents could stop worrying.

But if either has the gene, nothing

can be done to prevent this kind of colon cancer. It'll be a matter of waiting. In families with the disease, doctors recommend an uncomfortable and expensive colonoscopy test as early as age 25.

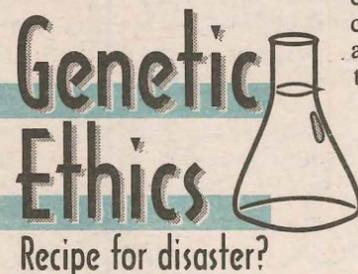
Either way, Velthuis and his ex-wife, Stephanie Kurtz, want to know—even if there's no way to prevent the cancer.

The two young Velthuis boys, who live in Florida with their mother, illustrate some of the vexing ethical, moral and psychological dilemmas associated with gene testing. How young do you test? When do you disclose the results? What are the ramifications of testing so early? Should you even test a child for a disease that's not preventable or has no known cure? What about a child's right not to know?

"It's sort of a selfish thing," admits Velthuis, who was diagnosed with colon cancer three years ago and has survived two debilitating rounds of chemotherapy.

"At this point, realistically it's to alleviate my anxiety and my ex-wife's anxiety and everybody else that cares about the boys. I'm not too concerned about their own level of anxiety. They're too young to understand it.... If they do have it, I'll have

□ See Should results ..., page 12



BAPTIST BITS

■ **Campbell to start divinity school.** Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C., will open a divinity school in 1997, joining a growing number of moderate Baptist schools offering ministers alternative training to conservative seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention. Campbell President Norman Wiggins announced plans for the school at a ceremony Oct. 25 at offices of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina in Cary.

■ **Historical Commission seeks input.** The Southern Baptist Historical Commission has asked the task force that is overseeing the reorganization of the Southern Baptist Convention to open its meetings to a representative of the commission, one of several agencies slated to be dissolved. Robert Reccord, chairman of the task force and a pastor from Norfolk, Va., said his group "looks forward to working with each of the SBC agencies."

■ **Floridians protest Disney's gay policy.** The president of the Florida Baptist Convention and 15 Florida state legislators have joined the protest against a Walt Disney Co. decision to provide health-care insurance for live-in partners of homosexual employees. Ken Whitten, the convention's president, charged Disney has forsaken its clean, pro-family image and has "caved in to political correctness."

■ **Parks' son quits FMB.** Three years after Keith Parks retired as president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in a flap with conservative trustees, his son Kent also is resigning from FMB appointment to seek appointment with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The elder Parks now heads the Fellowship's missions efforts. Kent Parks and his wife, Erika, cited philosophical differences with trustees as the reason for their resignation. They said it is inconsistent for the FMB to claim it wants to work with all "Great Commission Christians" while refusing to cooperate with the Fellowship.

■ **Richmond seminary makes offer.** Trustees of Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond voted Oct. 16-17 to offer \$1.9 million to the Presbyterian School of Christian Education to purchase the Baptist school's first permanent facility. The Baptist school would purchase a 33,000-square-foot dormitory and about three acres of property.

■ **Southeastern prof wins council seat.** Daniel Heimbach, a former Bush White House staffer who teaches Christian ethics at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, has won one of three open seats on the town council in Wake Forest, N.C., where the school is located. Heimbach benefited from a voter registration campaign that added several hundred students to the town's registration rolls.

Southern drops to 3rd in SBC ranks

LOUISVILLE—Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville has dropped a notch in the size rankings of Southern Baptist Convention seminaries.

Southern traditionally has been Southern Baptists' second-largest seminary, behind Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

But a 13 percent drop in enrollment pulled Southern below the perennial third-place school, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

The SBC's six seminaries officially compare fall-to-fall enrollment figures in late October. They base their numbers on the "non-duplicating headcount" of students enrolled in baccalaureate programs, basic degree programs and classes for academic credit.

Southern's enrollment fell to 1,621 students this fall, down from last year's count of 1,868 students.

The enrollment decrease arrived after a year in which controversy clouded the campus. In the fall, President Al Mohler began the second year of his tenure by forcing the resignation of Molly Marshall, the school's first female theology professor. In the spring, he fired Diana Garland, dean of the seminary's Carver School of Church Social Work, after Garland told social work students she and Mohler had reached an impasse

over hiring new faculty.

The tumult caused some students to rush their coursework and graduate early, others to leave the seminary without graduating and some potential students to pursue their education elsewhere. This fall, the school did not admit social work students pending determination of the fate of the Carver School.

Southern Seminary's enrollment drop accompanying the early years of Mohler's administration mirrors a similar decline experienced at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., in the late 1980s.

At both schools, new majorities of SBC conservatives dominated the trustee boards and installed presidents who were given mandates to steer their schools sharply to the right.

In that context, the decline in Southern's enrollment came as no surprise, according to close observers.

"We had expected a decrease in total enrollment for this academic year, given issues of transitions and change in academic programs," Mohler said. "Nevertheless, we are very pleased with this enrollment, and we intend to build upon it. God has called together a committed and spirited class of new students."

Mohler may take comfort in the enrollment turn-around seen at Southeastern Seminary under the leadership

of President Paige Patterson.

Southeastern posted the strongest gain this fall among the SBC seminaries. While the school still is smaller than it was in 1987, when conservative trustees provoked the resignation of Randall Lolley as president, its 1,098-student enrollment is 18.7 percent larger than last year's 925 students.

Among the other seminaries:

■ Southwestern remained the largest, but endured a 7 percent decline about a year and a half after conservative trustees fired President Russell Dilday. Southwestern enrolled 3,026 students this fall, down from 3,254 last year.

■ New Orleans grew by 6 percent, to 1,796 students, up from 1,692 in 1994. New Orleans has increased its enrollment by implementing a bachelor's degree program.

■ Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., enrolled 1,142 students.

That enrollment represents an 11.2 percent gain over last year's 1,027.

■ Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., remained the SBC's smallest seminary, although it posted the second-best percentage gain.

Midwestern enrolled 494 students, a 16.5 percent gain over 427 last year.

Written by Editor Marv Knox, from Baptist Press and Western Recorder reports

Clinton's pastor to lead Arkansas Baptists

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (ABP)—President Clinton's pastor, Rex Horne, has been elected president in his own right.

Horne, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock, has been chosen to lead the Arkansas Baptist State Convention during the coming year.

Moderates in Arkansas backed Horne, who won the election 482-398 over conservative candidate Stephen Davis. Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church in Russellville, is a trustee of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Horne succeeds a conservative, Ronnie Rogers, pastor of Lakeside Baptist Church in Hot Springs.

Horne has been criticized by fellow Baptists over Clinton's pro-abortion position and his advocacy of gay rights, although Horne disagrees with the president on those issues.

At the 1993 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, a pastor unsuccessfully challenged the seating of messengers from Horne's church, charging the members of Immanuel were "by their silence, supporting Bill Clinton's endorsement of the homo-

sexual lifestyle." The SBC credentials committee rejected the challenge.

The church has led Arkansas Baptists in giving through the SBC Cooperative Program unified budget for more than 30 years and last year ranked 13th nationwide in giving to the budget.

In addition to electing Horne, Arkansas Baptists adopted resolutions opposing homosexuality and affirming the sanctity of human life. They also honored Don Moore, who will retire in February after 13 years as the state convention's executive director.

Sunday School Board surpasses revenue goal

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Revenues for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board surpassed their goal by almost \$4.5 million last year, rebounding from an \$8.2 million loss a year earlier.

The good news prompted Sunday School Board management to set aside Nov. 3 as "celebration day."

Revenues for the 1994-95 fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30, totaled slightly more than \$247.8 million, reported Ted Warren, the board's executive vice president and chief operating officer.

In September, Warren told Sunday School Board trustees he expected revenues to reach \$244.5 million. The budgeted goal was \$243.4 million.

The final report is great news and a reversal of the dismal situation the giant publishing house faced a year ago, President Jimmy Draper told Sunday School Board employees in Nashville.

"A year ago when I stood before

you, it was probably the unhappiest day of my life. I had to announce to you we had come to an \$8.2 million shortfall. That reflected some great needs and problems, and we began to address those problems."

The board's recent financial success translates "into what we have accomplished in ministry terms," Draper said.

Those ministry successes include: ■ People singing hymns from 3.4 million hymnals published by the board.

■ Videos, such as "Christy" and "Secret Adventures," which have pushed the board to provide wholesome, biblically based entertainment.

■ An average of 1,300 copies of the discipleship book "Experiencing God" provided to people each working day.

■ More than 110,000 people trained this year at Glorieta (N.M.) and Ridgecrest (N.C.) conference centers.

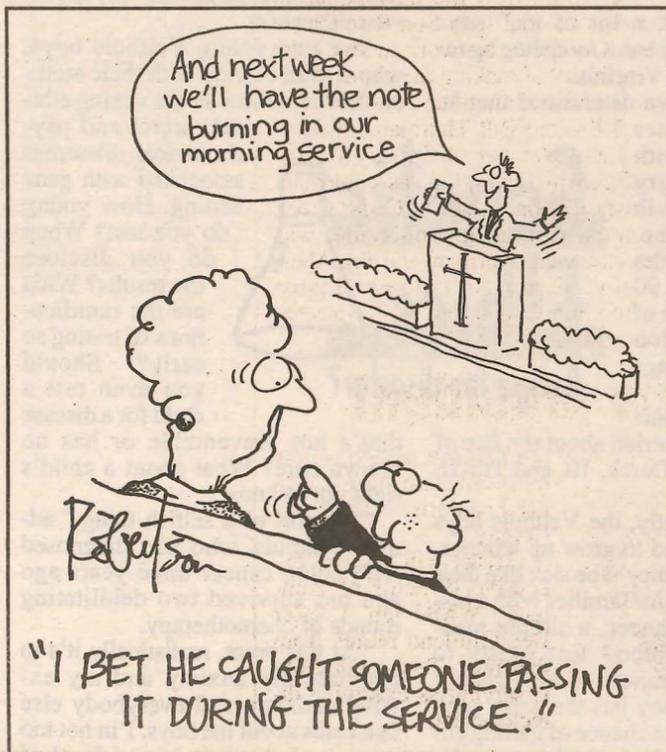
■ More than 3 million customer transactions handled in the national chain of 63 Baptist Book Stores and Lifeway Christian Stores.

■ People in more than 33,000 churches using board-produced Bible study materials and products.

"Good stewardship has enabled us to provide more than \$3 million to the Southern Baptist Convention to help carry the gospel around the world," Draper said of the budget surplus. "Good stewardship in business is necessary for us to provide the resources and services needed by churches and believers in our worldwide ministry."

Revenue above operating costs that funds expanded ministries reached almost \$5.6 million, compared to only \$100,000 budgeted for that assignment and to the previous year's \$8.2 million loss.

In their September meeting, trustees approved a 1995-96 budget of \$266.7 million, with almost \$6.5 million planned for expanded ministries.



National Acteens leaders minister in Williamsburg

WILLIAMSBURG—A group of Acteens workers from across the nation came to Kentucky recently loaded with hammers, nails, lumber, shovels, face paint and balloons.

Though not the usual stuff packed in Acteens workers' bags, these instruments became their avenue for communicating the gospel through a ministry project with Cumberland College.

The Acteens workers, representing eight state conventions and personnel from Woman's Missionary Union's national office, were part of a ministry project called A+ State Activator Team.

The 10-member team worked Oct. 20-21 through two community outreach ministries of Cumberland College to rebuild the porch of a residence, sort clothes for a clothing ministry and entertain more than 100 children during a carnival.

The Acteens leaders borrowed the idea for their project from the short-term volunteer missions program for teenage girls called Acteens Activators. Hundreds of Acteens, WMU's organization for girls in grades 7-12, are involved in similar ministry projects each summer in the U.S. and overseas.

"We promote hands-on missions involvement with Acteens year-round," said Becky Nelson, youth products editor at WMU. "This was our opportunity to be a part of what we ask others to do."

Fellowship was another important factor in the project, added Jan Turrentine, design editor for WMU's magazines for Acteens and their advisers, Accent and Accent Leadership.

"The leaders who work with Acteens at the state level do not have a lot of opportunities to spend time together," Turrentine noted. "The project allowed them a time to visit and share ideas and do something positive for someone else at the same time."

The Activators worked in two groups: one did children's activities while the other did construction. Julie Keith, Kentucky Acteens consultant, coordinated the weekend with Cumberland College and divided her time between both groups.

Three women worked with Appalachian Ministries, a 20-year-old children's ministry sponsored by Cumberland College's Baptist Student Union. The on-going ministry sponsors four Bible clubs each week in Williamsburg and surrounding communities and two recreation events for special education children in area schools.

The Oct. 21 carnival brought together children involved in the Bible clubs for a few hours of fun and games and for a hot meal. The Acteens leaders used their talents at clowning to entertain the children. Among their duties for the day were creating animals out of balloons, painting various figurines on the children's faces and leading a group time with storytelling.

"The women were a wonderful asset to the carnival," said Wyndee Holbrook, director of campus ministries for Cumberland. "Their artistic abilities in clowning and storytelling provided great entertainment for the children."

"However," she added, "it was evident that they did not come here just to perform. They were here to minister."

The other women worked with Mountain Outreach, a home-improvement ministry sponsored by the college. The ministry, started in 1982, involves students and other volun-



MISSIONS ACTION Julie Keith (right), Kentucky Acteens consultant, visits with Mitch Holbrook during an Oct. 21 carnival sponsored by Cumberland College's Appalachian Ministries. Keith was among 10 Acteens leaders from across the nation who participated in hands-on ministry projects in Williamsburg recently. Holbrook's wife, Wyndee, is campus minister at Cumberland. (Photo by Teresa Dickens)

teers in repairing and building homes for low-income families as well as furnishing clothes and home furnishings for the needy.

Al Laird, Mountain Outreach director, assigned the Acteens leaders to a project at the home of Dallas Vest, one of Mountain Outreach's "success" stories.

In the summer of 1990, a team of volunteers built a home for Vest and his family. The normal procedure for Mountain Outreach, Laird explained, is that the ministry loans applicants the money to buy materials for their new homes. The loans are repaid through monthly installments and by "earning" a \$5 credit for every hour they work as a volunteer on other projects. Vest, disabled in an accidental shooting, repaid his loan in three years, mostly by serving as a volun-

teer on other projects, Laird said.

"He and his family became Christians. Evangelism is one of the goals of these projects," he added.

The project at the Vest home involving the Acteens leaders called for replacement of the porch originally built in 1990. The women began by razing the old porch then building a new one. A couple of the team members also worked at digging a drainage ditch. Much of the work was done in drizzling rain, which was followed by a drop in temperature.

"The women were hard and fast workers," Laird said, noting that they probably would have finished on the first day if it had not poured rain.

"I admired their commitment to the project," he said. "The rain and cold did not dampen their spirits at all."

Wingfield named interim editor of Western Recorder

Mark Wingfield, news director of the Western Recorder since 1991, has been named the newspaper's interim editor effective Nov. 27.

Wingfield, 33, will assume interim duties upon the departure of Marv Knox, who has been editor since 1990. Knox has resigned to return to his native state of Texas, where he will be associate editor of the Baptist Standard, the weekly newspaper of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

The interim arrangement will enable the Western Recorder's board of directors "to be sure we analyze fully

the credentials of all persons who might be interested in or recommended for the editorship," reported Frank Hatfield, a layperson from Shepherdsville and chair of the board's editor-search committee.

The search committee hopes an editor will be elected by late spring, Hatfield said.

According to the covenant agreement between the Western Recorder and the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the newspaper's board nominates the editor, who is elected by the KBC Executive Board. The Executive Board will meet May 6-7.



Wingfield

Kentucky WMU executive board names Hicks new president

Peggy Greene Hicks of Louisville has been elected president of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, replacing Kay Trisler, who resigned the post when elected executive director of the organization.

According to the constitution and bylaws of Kentucky WMU, the WMU executive board has responsibility for electing a new president should the current president no longer be able to serve.

The WMU executive board elected Hicks unanimously.

"The committee felt Peggy Hicks was the ideal one to serve during this transitional period," said Kathleen Hall, chair of the nominating committee. "She grew up in the missions organizations, beginning with Sunbeams. As a GA she felt the call to missions and later was appointed to

serve with her husband, Bryant, as a missionary to the Philippines."

Hicks previously served as president of Kentucky WMU from 1985 to 1989. She also served as a vice president of the national WMU organization during that period.

She and her husband



Hicks

ville, where he has helped strengthen outreach efforts and establish a contemporary worship service.

In other business, the Western Recorder board:

■ Authorized the newspaper to conduct a trial with Son Rise Christian Computer Network to study the feasibility of making the paper available online though the network.

■ Elected Bill Thurman, an attorney and member of Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington, as chairman. Rusty Ellison, pastor of Cedar Creek Baptist Church in Louisville, was elected vice chairman, and Jim Abernathy, pastor of Latonia Baptist Church in Covington, was re-elected secretary.

currently are helping launch a new multi-housing ministry in northeastern Jefferson County.

Trisler will become executive director of Kentucky WMU Jan. 1, after Dee Gilliland retires from that post. Trisler currently is serving as executive director-elect.

BLUEGRASS BURGOO

■ Cumberland College will host "Quest '95," an annual event for youth, Nov. 17-18. Program personalities include musicians Paul Guffey, Dick and Mel Tunney, the Imperials and Abundance, as well as the drama duo Hicks and Cohagan and speaker Rick Caldwell. For registration information, call (800) 343-1609.

■ Mike Konopski has been named admissions director for Georgetown College. Konopski previously was associate director of admissions at D'Youville College in Buffalo, N.Y.

■ Kentucky Baptists' three liberal arts colleges are among 124 schools nationwide named to this year's Templeton Honor Roll for Character Building Colleges. The honor roll, which recognizes schools that promote character development, names Campbellsville College, Cumberland College and Georgetown College.

■ Correction: Last week's Recorder incorrectly listed the address for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children's home page address on the World Wide Web. The correct address is <http://www.iglou.com/kbhc/>.

WESTERN RECORDER

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

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BAPTIST FORUM

Church charity

"Ambassador to Vatican questions GOP" (WR, Oct. 10) suggested congressional conservatives are engineering social changes contrary to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

This all appears similar to the liberation theology that got the Catholic Church in big trouble in South America.

A vehicle already exists apart from the state for charitable welfare. Perhaps the pope and Ambassador Flynn have heard of it—the church.

Are Protestant churches off the hook? To the contrary. We have be-

come as lazy as the Catholics, looking to government to do our jobs for us.

Also, if the government stopped confiscating our wealth, we Christians would have more money to do the job ourselves and in a godly manner. God works through the church, not government.

*Chuck Estridge
Williamstown*

Wrong again

The premise of your editorial on welfare reform (WR, Oct. 24) is false.

First, the assumption that people who do not want to provide assistance to the needy via the federal government are not compassionate is false. Secondly, millions have achieved self-sufficiency in spite of the current welfare system. Thirdly, children are getting "hit" now to a great degree, and if nothing changes, they will suffer even worse.

*Curtis Kenimer
Paris*

KBC's elected leaders seek Christ's mind

It was Thursday, Nov. 2, and the Kentucky Baptist committee on nominations had assembled to finish its remaining work of preparing the lists of nominees for the trustees of our colleges, schools and agencies, as well as select nominees for the convention's Executive Board.

With an easy flow of decision-making, the group finished its formal agenda in 46 minutes.

Someone said, "So what do we do with the extra time?" Another said, "I've got a sermon in my pocket." The entire committee laughed down that idea. Then chairperson Ken Graham said, "Let's just have a time of prayer."

One by one, the members and staff began to share stories. Stories of

prayers answered for a daughter's cancer being successfully treated. A grandchild who died after an unusual illness and God's grace enabled the family to endure it. A pastor's mother in her last days of cancer unwilling to be treated and the anguish of a son who wants her to live.

Pastors grateful for congregations who support them in these painful days. A pastor's prayers of gratitude about the ways God surprises us with leaders who allow God to create visions that engage the people of God known as Kentucky Baptists and we experience the challenge and joy of ministries we never dreamed we could do. Prayers that reminded us how often our Lord has done the marvelous loving thing in us in spite of our inconsistent faithfulness. Prayers

of gratitude that a committee could have such a challenging pattern of serious work in such a harmonious spirit. And when our spoken prayers ended, we glanced at our watches only to be amazed that we had spent more time in the fellowship of prayer than we had on the day's agenda. The group broke into spontaneous singing.

Kentucky Baptists need to know the folks they elect to serve in their behalf seek the mind of Christ in decisions that may seem bureaucratic on the surface, but are decisions drawn out of a context of genuine fellowship in Christ.

I left that meeting with a runny nose and wet eyes—and silently prayed God would give us such fellowship in Owensboro.

*Jim Hawkins, executive associate
KBC Executive Board
Louisville*

VIEWPOINT

God talk

"I acted alone on God's orders, and I have no regrets." In scores of languages across our world, millions of people have heard this statement from the Israeli Jew who assassinated Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Editorials have delivered thousands of words reflecting the multiple facets of this international tragedy. Neither can I resist, for there are warning signals Kentucky Baptists need to hear.

I suppose it is correct to label me a "Christian religionist," if by that one means a person who has spent most of his life as a practitioner, however stumblingly, of the Christian faith.

My experience as "clergy" has provided me an arena for understanding what is sometimes referred to as "God talk." Most laypersons still recognize a religious language they often hear from preachers like me as being somewhat different from their own. And I often have wondered what laypersons think when a minister, in the midst of a leadership struggle, pulls out the trump card by declaring, "God told me that this is what the church should

do!" How can laypersons be as sure as the minister seems to be?

During my early years in the personnel department of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, I had the tender and holy responsibility of working with those who felt "called of God" to serve overseas. Because such a call is so personal and subjective, the Foreign Mission Board's process included 16 specific references. It was believed that a person's call to missions should have the affirming testimony of that person's community of faith. Usually, when the candidate's declaration of call was confirmed by others, and there were no significant medical disabilities, they were appointed.

I remember my first experience with a candidate who was turned down because his references reflected a pattern of spouse abuse, immaturity and short temper. Meeting him personally to convey this word was met with an anger which, had it not been for my own 200-pound frame, might have meant a fist in my face. His words linger: "God has called me to missions, and you and the FMB will not stop me." I never heard from him again.

More recently I have been remind-

ed of the possible problems of declaring publicly to know the mind of God on a matter. I have been present when two persons nominating a different person for office both used the phrase, in slightly different variations, "God has led me to nominate so and do." Since only one of the two was elected, did it mean that one understood the will of God and the other did not; that one was "God's man" and the other was not? We who are ministers of the gospel should guard ourselves from devaluing the God of our faith by using God's name in inappropriate ways. That's dangerous stuff!

We live in a time when some religious groups and leaders seem determined to have their will and call it "God's will." Regrettably, among the humble who want to see revival take place; who want government to be "kinder, gentler and more honest"; who truly want the love of God to be experienced by every person in the world—there are those who, at any cost, must have their way.

These are they from whom we must turn away and look to the One who has taught us—without coercion, for he would have none of it—how the kingdom will come.

And it will not be by might!

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



FAMILY FORUM

Teens need help handling divorce

By Wade Rowatt

Q How can I help my two teenagers accept the fact that their father and I will never get back together? We divorced eight months ago, and they are still trying to push us to be reunited.

A Your teens are not all that unusual in their interest in restoring their parents' marriage. Divorce shatters their world of parental safety and support.

Teens hurt, grieve and adjust just like you. Their attempts perhaps are misguided, but they are expressions of care for you and concern for their own well-being.

First, tell them clearly that the marriage is over. Let them ask questions that may be bothering them. Explain that there is no way you and their father will get back into marriage with each other. If that is not the case, tell them you and their father, not them, will work out any plans for reconciliation.

Second, let them discuss their dreams about the family. They are looking for something they do not have. Perhaps they fantasize that all problems would disappear if you reconciled. They may have more personal reasons for their wish, like getting to move back into the old neighborhood and seeing old friends.

Third, explain that you are still their mother and their father is still their father. You did not divorce them. Set clear guidelines for how they are to relate to both of you apart and together.

Fourth, deal with any guilt that might be lingering in their minds. Often, offspring will blame themselves for the divorce. They might think things like, "If I had not caused so many problems, they might still be together." They borrow and make guilt around themselves. The truth will set them free. If they were to have contributed to the divorce, that is a matter for forgiveness. When they are free from guilt, then they can stop manipulating you two.

Finally, work to maintain a working friendship with their father so that you two can cooperate in the task of parenting. You still share the responsibility for guiding them into maturity and launching them into adulthood. Ephesians 6:4 applies to all parents—divorce does not set one free from the commitment of parenting by grace.

Wade Rowatt is director of the St. Matthews Pastoral Counseling Center in Louisville.

Truth-telling fuels the engine of Baptist democracy

Truth is a lot like gasoline. It's precious and important; dangerous, yet helpful. It ought to be abundant, and everybody should have access to it.

And truth—accurate information about what's happening, what's about to happen, what might happen, and why—fuels the engine of democracy. Whether it's a government, a congregational denomination or a local church, a democratic organization relies upon participation by informed, responsible citizen/members. If they are denied a free flow of accurate information, the democratic decisions that shape their common life are suspect at best and tyrannically manipulated at worst.

In Baptist life, the glory of liberty hinges upon the ability to speak and write freely and truthfully. That's because the way Baptists receive and process their corporate knowledge provides the foundation for the democratic liberty they hold dear. If this foundation fails, then the integrity of their structural relationship fails. Congregational polity, like democracy, is a sham if individual members do not have sufficient knowledge upon which to base their participation.

For example: Did anybody respect the "democratic" Iron Curtain governments? Even if they were free to vote their consciences, people fed a steady diet of propaganda did not have knowledge upon which to make sensible decisions.

The importance of freedom and truth-telling for the integrity of Baptist Christianity rests upon the doctrine of the priesthood of the believer, which begins with the Bible's account of creation. God created human beings in God's own image, so they might have a loving relationship with God. In order for that loving relationship to be authentic, God endowed human beings with free will. They could have been "programmed" to exhibit loving actions toward God, but if that love were not freely offered, it would not be true love, and it would not reflect a true relationship. Instead, being truly human means having a self will that can accept or reject God's love. Only in that context is God's love authentically reciprocated.

Consequently, individuals do not need another person, or priest, to mediate their relationships with God. As each person is free, each person is accountable for the relationship she or he maintains with God. And just as with human relationships, the divine/human relationship is built upon intimate knowledge. For that relationship to grow and develop, it must be informed through prayer, Bible study and reflection.

Intimate Christian relationships do not, however, exist in a vacuum. Believers bring their personal relationships with God as they worship, fellowship and cooperate in churches and denominations. That's why, to have integrity, Baptists must honor the "priest" that dwells within the heart of each believer. Otherwise, we violate the primary relationship. Baptists historically have honored that relationship by affirming individual convictions, interpretations and beliefs, which collectively are manifested through democratic decision-making.

On the local level, Baptist life typically is intimate enough so that adequate information is shared through natural structures. We go to meetings, listen to announcements and read our church newsletters. We also talk among our friends and find out what's going on.

In the larger spheres of Baptist life, communication is a complex and demanding enterprise. State and national conventions are too large for participants to gather all the information they need simply by participating in convention programs and organizations. Individuals cannot know everyone else and glean sufficient knowledge through announcements and networking.

Nevertheless, Baptist conventions still function through essentially the same democratic processes as do congregations. Participants, as messengers, gather in annual session to conduct the business of the convention. They also contribute a portion of their tithes and offerings to support its ongoing work. And they volunteer their time, talents and efforts to conduct its ministries and fulfill its mission. In order for the convention's constituency to participate effectively and commit themselves fully, they must be well-informed regarding events, issues and challenges which confront and impact the convention. And in order for the democratic process to have integrity, their information must be accurate, fair and thorough. This requires a free and unfettered press.

The denominational press in the convention plays a role similar to secular media in the nation. Just as citizens must understand public issues, members of Baptist churches must know the details behind de-

nominal developments and convention proposals. If any democracy is to function with integrity, the people must have access to accurate information upon which they make up their minds, cast their votes and determine to commit themselves. Control of the press thwarts any democracy, because decisions based on phony information do not authentically reflect the will of the people. The contrived outcomes of political processes shaped by propaganda reflect tyranny, not of the press, but of those who depend upon it for their information. Even if manipulators of the news succeed in winning votes, they risk losing support of constituents who lose trust in a non-credible system.

Fortunately, Baptists are beneficiaries of a long history of free speech and truth-telling. Thomas Helwys, one of Baptists' celebrated forebears, was jailed and died in an English prison for penning a tract on religious freedom. Early American Baptists helped secure the First Amendment—which protects freedom of religion and of the press—to the U.S. Constitution. Early Baptist newspapers were privately owned, rambunctious, opinionated—but free.

Unfortunately, recent years have been hard on Baptist truth-telling. But truth-telling always has been costly. Prophets were imprisoned for telling the truth. Apostles were martyred for telling the truth. Jesus hung on a cross because he told the Ultimate Truth. So, we shouldn't be surprised when truth tellers suffer.

Our problem started before we even knew it. Back in the good-ol' days—the early decades of this century, when efficiency and expediency dictated that the denomination, through the national and state conventions, acquire the press. State conventions bought their papers, and the SBC Executive Committee created Baptist Press. The system worked pretty well during times of consensus. However, with few exceptions, the Southern Baptist news operation was a company store. And when politics overtook the company and politicians tended the store, freedom and truth-telling were taken off the shelves.

We could spend more time talking about that, for truth-telling is crucial to the integrity of any denomination that claims to be democratic. We should advocate truth-telling and demand freedom to report the truth. That is good and noble work. But it is only part of the job.

We also must advocate and participate in truth-telling much closer to home. If truth-telling ever ceases to be a hallmark of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the KBC will have lost its credibility. If our churches ever stop being places where people are free to seek and speak the truth, no longer will they possess integrity.

Pastors must be free to preach the unfettered word of God as revealed by the Holy Spirit. Likewise, laypeople must be free to interpret Scripture and express their convictions, as the Holy Spirit leads.

We also must be free to:

■ State who we are, what we stand for and where we understand God is leading us.

■ Tell the truth about what is working—and not working—in our churches.

■ Talk about race—about how so many of us who are white interpreted the O.J. Simpson trial and the Million Man March so differently from African Americans. And why.

■ Speak openly among ourselves and seek solutions to the problems facing our nation, including—but not limited to—the widening gap between rich and poor, teen pregnancy, fatherlessness, youth violence, drug abuse, incivility, greed, apathy, covetousness, illiteracy and poverty, abortion, euthanasia, epidemic gambling, callousness and boredom.

■ Seek and express biblical answers to all contemporary challenges, and acknowledge that people will find different biblical answers.

■ Disagree over hymns vs. praise choruses.

■ Proclaim God created all people—men and women; "red, brown, yellow, black and white"—as equals.

■ Dig in and study, discuss, debate, work on, do, undo, redo, try and try, try again to tackle all the issues that are important to the spiritual, emotional and physical lives of God's children.

■ Seek the truth, wherever truth leads us.

Truth may be as explosive and dangerous as gasoline. But entrusted to God-loving, Christ-honoring brothers and sisters, it's just as powerful too. It's the fuel that sets us free.

Marv Knox

Baptists' congregational polity, like any democracy, becomes a sham if individual members do not have sufficient knowledge upon which to base their participation. In such a context—devoid of a free flow of accurate information—the integrity of any democratic organization crumbles.



Children's home work growing by leaps & bounds

"I see a child hurting desperately. I see a family about to fall apart. As Kentucky Baptists, we've got to find a way to respond."

Curtis Mooney, president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

LOUISVILLE—Much like the thousands of young people the agency serves, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children is growing by leaps and bounds.

During the 1994-95 fiscal year, more than 2,200 people received care through the agency's 126-year-old ministry. According to President Curtis Mooney's annual report, this figure represents a 206 percent increase over the 1992-93 year.

The area of most noticeable growth occurred through Cornerstone Counseling, a professional Christian counseling ministry dedicated to helping individuals, couples and families solve problems.

With 15 offices across Kentucky, Cornerstone counselors were able to counsel 1,329 individuals or families this year, up from only 151 in 1992-1993.

Also in the 1994-95 year:

- Residential living provided homes for 630 children and youth—offering a total of 69,530 days of care through seven residential homes and numerous foster homes around the state.

- Family foster care specialists from Pikeville to Paducah worked with 100 children.

- First Step Pregnancy Counseling and Adoption provided counseling for 104 birth parents. Through this program, 10 children found permanent homes through adoption.

- The Center for Independence helped 51 youth through its independent living skills program. Twenty-five individuals were served through the college and career ministry; nine others participated in the transitional living apartment program.

- The family preservation program, aimed at helping families stay

together while working through problems, began in southern Kentucky.

And the numbers include spiritual growth as well, the agency reports: During the 1994-1995 year, 67 young people publicly professed their faith in Jesus Christ through the agency's ministry, while 23 rededicated their lives to Christ.

Brenda Gray, vice president for development and communication, attributed the agency's growth to the commitment and vision for ministry shared by Mooney and the board of directors.

"My vision is that Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children be a ministry that addresses needs across Kentucky in whatever ways we can," Mooney said. "I see a child hurting desperately. I see a family about to fall apart. As Kentucky Baptists, we've got to find a way to respond."

Mooney credited staff members invested in and committed to their work as an important reason for the agency's growth.

"We are extremely fortunate and blessed to have people who really want to work here," Mooney said. These are people who have the calling and the skills for professional Christian ministry, he explained.

Another reason for the growth lies in the intentional effort to expand the ministry regionally—to make a continuum of care accessible to a broad range of people in every geographic region of the state, Gray said.

Of course, the growth also depends upon continued support for the agency's work by churches and individuals across the state, Gray and Mooney said.

"The bottom line is: Kentucky Baptists care about children and families," Mooney said.

The Cornerstone Counseling offices exemplify the commitment of agency leadership to offer care across



CORNERSTONE COUNSELING Key figures in the Cornerstone Counseling center in Owensboro include Jane Parker, director of Cornerstone Counseling; Joe Bob Pierce, counselor at the Owensboro center; and Tony Rodgers, a minister at Yellow Creek Baptist Church and chair of the center's advisory committee.

the state, and they represent a unique partnership between Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children and various local groups.

The local groups, mostly Baptist associations, provide office space, volunteer receptionists and scholarship funds to ensure counseling is available to everyone with a need. Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children provides professional counselors and clinical management.

Joe Bob Pierce, one of the few full-time counselors working through Cornerstone Counseling, said his work at the Owensboro center created an ideal match.

"This was an interest to me because it had a lot of advantages for me as a pastor and counselor," said Pierce, who merged his private practice after agreeing to staff the Cornerstone Counseling office. "It gave me an institutional base in Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children" and provided a way to offer services to people based on their ability to pay, he said.

"Ever since we opened the office, it's been real exciting and real hectic," Pierce added. "We've already added one counselor, and this is only our third month."

Tremendous growth also is occurring through children's and youth services in the state's southern region, where George Page is director.

The first facility in the southern region developed when Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children obtained a small, private treatment shelter in Somerset that otherwise would have closed. The shelter now serves up to 12 boys and girls who need care outside their own homes.

The next step, Page said, was to hire a foster care specialist. Three families in the Somerset area currently serve as foster families, and four more are completing training, he said.

Two new programs now underway have generated tremendous enthusiasm, Page explained: the family preservation program and wilderness camping.

Family preservation is designed to help families who are at high risk of having one or more children removed from their homes. Through the program, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children staff member help the families overcome problems and learn new skills in an effort to build a healthy home environment.

Workers spend about 20 hours a week with the families in their homes. They help clean and cook, discuss parenting and communication skills and refer families to agencies who can help with more specific problems.

"This is the first time a Christian agency has been awarded this type of contract with the state," said Page, who formerly worked in social services through the state of Kentucky. "This gives us a chance to witness and share our faith as well as help them through a crisis."

Wilderness camping is a 24-bed residential treatment program for teenagers that helps them overcome troubled pasts through outdoor-living activities to build self-confidence and various types of professional counseling.

The needs of today's children differ vastly from the youth Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children helped 125 years ago, Gray said.

When the agency began, children needed a home because they had been orphaned by the Civil War or were in danger from poverty. Today's children represent far different needs—many stemming from abuse, neglect or family crises such as drug problems or domestic violence.

"And we are building a continuum of care to meet their needs," Gray explained.

"We get support from every county in the state, and from 1,800 churches," Mooney explained. "We feel like we need to offer help in as many of those areas as we can."

"We've grown very fast," Gray echoed. "We've stretched our resources to the limit, and we've taken real risks. ... We're dependent on the commitment of others."

Prayers, material items of need and money donated by Kentucky Baptists keep the ministry going, Gray explained. One crucial aspect of the agency's support is its annual Thanksgiving offering observed each November around the state.

The theme for this year's offering—"All God's Children"—underscores the philosophy of ministry offered through Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, Gray said.

"For me, just as they're all God's children, they're also all my children, and they're also all your children," she said. "We are God's arms, reaching out to them with love and care."

LISTENING EAR Curtis Mooney, president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, strolls across one of the children's home campuses with two youths.



Once-childless couple now has 16 children

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

GRAND RIVERS—Two years ago, Mark and Debbie Gill had decided children were not part of God's plan for their lives. Now they have become parents 16 times, through Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children's foster parent program.

"We were physically unable to have children," Debbie Gill said. And despite their sincere desire, all attempts to adopt a child during their 20 years of marriage had collapsed.

On one occasion, the Kentucky Baptist couple traveled all the way to Oklahoma to realize their dream of adopting. After signing the legal documents, they spent the day shopping at the mall, proudly carrying their new son and beginning to think of themselves as parents.

But the next day, before they could check out of the hotel and return to Kentucky, the birth mother and her attorney met them to tell them she had changed her mind.

Heartbroken, the couple had to return the child.

After such disappointment, the Gills were ready to give up. That was when they saw a newspaper ad placed by Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children inviting adults to attend an informational meeting concerning foster parenting. They decided to go.

"Once we got into the training and assessed our own strengths and needs, we felt like it was the right thing to do," she said.

They were licensed in October 1993, and their first children arrived in January 1994.

The Gills' world immediately un-



Mark and Debbie Gill

derwent revolutionary changes.

"We were frightened at first. After 20 years with no children, we've had to make a lot of adjustments," Gill acknowledged.

"We went from sitting on the couch at 10 o'clock and saying 'Let's go out for a piece of pie'—to just hoping we'd make it to 10 o'clock," she said in a tone of exhaustion.

In less than two years, the couple has served as a foster family for 16 children, ranging in age from 1 to 16.

"It's the hardest thing I've ever done," Gill said. "But I can't imagine going back."

Their days begin early, helping children get ready for school. And every afternoon presents a different schedule for counseling, tutoring and extra-curricular activities.

The children also receive lots of love and attention from their church, Grand Rivers Baptist, where Mark Gill is pastor.

One of the biggest adjustments was learning parenting skills. "Not having had children, the training seemed confusing," Debbie Gill said. "Just listening, some of it didn't make sense. But now, we're using it every

day."

Gill said most children come to them petrified after sustaining such problems as abuse, neglect, broken homes or death in the family. Many have behavioral problems and will "push and push and push" against the boundaries set by the parents. Often it takes time before they trust the Gills.

However, after months of consistent parental love and care, offering them a chance to heal and be heard, without fear of being hurt, the children begin to come to grips with their own emotions, she said.

Slowly, the children show signs of self confidence. Their entire outlook changes as they improve at school, learn responsible behavior and find happiness.

"There's nothing any greater than seeing them make those major steps," Gill said. "You've had a part in giving a child an opportunity to live."

The Gills capitalize on the support and continuing education offered through Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, always looking for ways to improve their skills.

"Kids need a mom and a dad," Gill said. "That's what we are."

An unexpected twist to the Gills' journey is that they currently are in the process of adopting two of the children for whom they have been foster parents. They will continue offering foster care even after the adoption.

"It's a double miracle from God," Gill said of the adoption option. "We didn't go into foster care expecting to be able to adopt."

"Mark and I are so blessed. We have good friends and a strong support system. It would be a shame for us not to do it."

Retirees find labor of love as foster parents

Continued from page 1

care much longer than usual—about six months. Through mutual friends, they and the adoptive couple became acquainted before the placement was finalized.

"We had named the little girl Amy," Turnbow explained. "But we found out that the adoptive couple was going to name the girl Hope. So for the last month she was with us, we called her 'Amy-Hope' to help her get used to hearing her new name."

"We still call her that today, and she's 8 years old now," Turnbow said through tears. "When the family adopted the little girl, they adopted us too." The two families spend time together regularly, she said.

Facing "placement day"—the day the Turnbows present their foster child to his or her new parents—creates mixed feelings, Turnbow said.

"We usually start out the day by giving the baby a bath and putting on the prettiest clothes we have," she said. "We usually get to the children's home a little early so we can go on in" before the adoptive couple arrives.

After the documents have been signed, the Turnbows present the child to the new parents. A brief ceremony of dedication follows.

"It's a lot of excitement," she said. "There are tears, but they're tears of joy, not sadness."

However, Turnbow did acknowl-

edge the house seems uncomfortably quiet when they return from placement day. "It's a bitter-sweet day," she concluded.

On Hope's placement day, the Turnbows had to drive from Western Kentucky, where Turnbow's mother-in-law had just died, to Middletown to present the child to her new parents. Afterward, they immediately returned

to Western Kentucky to participate in the funeral.

Turnbow said the adoptive couple told them later how worried they were for the Turnbows, "because we had experienced two losses in one day," she said. "Our response to that was there was so much love in that room when we gave Hope to her parents that it was not a loss."



FAMILY OUTING Foster parents O.B. and Norma Turnbow enjoy a picnic with a foster child and other foster families affiliated with Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

Dana: A positive influence

FRANKFORT—Receiving a positive influence from Glen Dale Children's Home has led Dana Stewart to become a positive influence for children.

Stewart, 21, lived at Glen Dale for two-and-a-half years. Now she is a junior at Kentucky State University, majoring in elementary education. She plans to teach young children after she graduates in 1997.



Stewart

"I was so scared, walking into that cottage with 10 other girls," Stewart recalled of her first arrival at Glen Dale. "It's real scary to know you're going to have to live with all those girls."

But after she adjusted to the rules and got to know the others in the cottage, she decided it was "really nice," she said. "I always had a friend, someone to talk to."

Stewart said she stayed busy at Glen Dale—learning crafts, caring for animals, even baling hay.

"Glen Dale made me a stronger person," Stewart said. "Before I went there, I was weak. I could be influenced real easy. But going through that program, I learned I had to do for Dana. It gave me self-confidence."

Stewart participated in the Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children's Center for Independence to prepare for life on her own after high school. She learned skills for managing money, obtaining a job, preparing menus and cooking.

During her senior year of high school, Stewart lived with two other girls in an apartment on the edge of campus, where they put their new skills to work in a freer but still supervised environment.

Now that she's on her own, Stewart said she always will remember the caring and love she received at Glen Dale.

"It was amazing to see other people care about kids who weren't their own," she said. "I didn't think anybody was like that until I came to Glen Dale."

Recale: New opportunities

LOUISVILLE—Spring Meadows Children's Home in Louisville offered a young man named Recale opportunities he never thought he'd have.

A singer and football player at his high school, Recale was named No. 1 in the district in wrestling this year. He's also working hard to maintain good grades and is active in the youth group at First Baptist Church in Middletown.

But more than that, Spring Meadows offered him a place to live where he would know people cared about him.

"When I first came here, I had a lot of anger built up inside," said the 17-year-old, who arrived at Spring Meadows as a 12-year-old. "But now I know how to control my anger."

"It's a good place for you here," Recale said, noting he gets along well with the boys in his cottage and respects and appreciates his house parents.

"They cheer you up when you're down," he said. "I know they care about me."

Recale recognizes that learning the value of hard work and self-control can continue to pay dividends long after he graduates from high school.

"I want to go to college and get an education," he said. "I just want to do good. I just want to make it."

Buck Run Church produces an entire family of ministers

By Joyce Sweeney Martin
Staff Writer

FRANKFORT—When the Z.T. and Vivian Lester family gathers for Thanksgiving dinner this year, they will count among their blessings the events of Nov. 5.

That night, three members of their family were ordained to the gospel ministry at Buck Run Baptist Church—father Z.T. and sons Todd and Jerry. Two other sons participated in the ordination service.

The evening not only was a celebration of family but of church, according to son Terry, who is pastor of First Baptist Church in London. He preached the ordination sermon.

"We dedicated each of our four sons to God before they were born," Vivian said. "I feel very humble and grateful to God for using my husband and sons in his service."

Z.T. and Vivian Lester gave their sons "firm spiritual foundations," Terry Lester said. And they expected the family to be in church "all the time."

The Lesters not only taught their children to "put God before anyone and anything," but they modeled a "ministry team," Terry Lester said.

"My mom most likely will never have 'Rev.' placed before her name, but God already has stamped 'Real Minister' beside her name," he said in the ordination sermon.

Buck Run and Pastor Bob Jackson in particular have been "our spiritual family for a long time," both Vivian and Terry Lester said.

To illustrate:

■ Terry Lester was ordained by Buck Run in 1978.

■ Z.T. Lester, a retired public school administrator, has served as minister of music at the church since 1971.

■ Todd Lester has served as minister of youth at Buck Run for seven years. After graduation from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary last May, he became the minister to students, seniors and recreation at the church.

■ Jerry Lester, minister of music at First Baptist Church in Danville, made public his call to ministry at Buck Run.

■ A fourth son, Tim Lester, also spent his formative years at Buck Run. Today, he is a composer and recording artist. During the ordination service, he and his wife, Maria, sang a song which Tim composed for the occasion. Maria is minister of music at First United Methodist Church in Versailles.

■ Vivian Lester has served as pianist at Buck Run and has worked with her husband in the music ministry.

Church, pastor grow together in 26 years

By Joyce Sweeney Martin
Staff Writer

GRAY HAWK—When Ronald Rose first laid eyes on Gray Hawk Baptist Church, he thought it was "the most God-forsaken place" he had ever seen.

And when, a few weeks later, the church in rural Jackson County called Rose as pastor, Kentucky Baptist Convention Mountain Missions Director Bob Jones had serious doubts the youthful Rose could make it.

But that was almost 26 years ago, and both Rose and Jones have had plenty of time to change their minds.

In fact, it only took a walk through the front door of the run-down building for Rose to adjust his thinking.

"I found people who were so warm, loving and kind. I had a wonderful time," he said. He came to love the people so much he accepted the call to be their pastor not once but twice.

And Jones changed his mind as soon as he met Rose. "Once I caught his spirit, my doubts were allayed. He had exceptional skills for such a young man."

When a pastor and people have been together for almost a quarter-century, they tell stories of their years together as if they happened yesterday. One of those stories is about how Rose came to be pastor of the church the second time.

After serving the Gray Hawk church for more than four years, Rose moved to a church in Owensboro, where he stayed for three years.

One night at 2 a.m., he received a phone call from Billy Wright, the chairman of the pastor search committee at Gray Hawk. It seemed that at 11:30 p.m. the previous night, Wright had called together the pastor search committee and they had agreed to ask Rose to return to Gray Hawk.

Wright told Rose, "I've lost four nights sleep over you, and I'm not los-

ing any more."

"When I hung up the phone, a peace rolled over me," Rose said.

When Rose got back to Gray Hawk, he found an "almost entirely different church" than the one he had left three years before. And, he too, had changed.

Both he and the church had been through some tough times; both had experienced "growing pains," he said.

Both had "a new vision of the Lord's work."

And so began another story—the vision of a new house of worship. For several years, lack of space had hampered growth. Attendance would reach 70 to 80 and then slide.

About six months after Rose returned, the church formed a building committee. For nine months the building committee met monthly to do "nothing but pray and seek the leadership of the Lord," Rose said.

After they felt secure in God's leadership, they began looking for land. Although land adjacent to the church was their first choice, it was not available. So they took an option on 12 acres up the road.

When the elderly woman who owned the land adjacent to the church learned about that, she asked the church not to exercise the option until she talked with her daughters.

That weekend, she told the church she would sell them what they needed. They marked off an acre and paid her \$15,000.

Then there are the stories of building. Rose remembers well the business meeting when the church considered building.

"I didn't have the faith the people had," he confessed. "I pointed out that if we voted to build, the interest payments would be bigger than our present income."

And then Deacon Ernest Chuck put it all in perspective. "Brother Ron," he said. "I don't want to be smart, but cost has nothing to do with

it. It wouldn't matter if it cost a million dollars. We've got to determine if it is the will of the Lord."

Rose melted. "I stand corrected," he told his congregation. It was "like the Holy Spirit invaded the place," Rose said.

Deacon Bob Smith stood to speak. "I was on the grounds when this church was organized," the 80-year-old said. "I saw every one of my kids make professions of faith in Christ here. I remember when times were so hard we had to bring coal and wood from home to fill the pot-bellied stove."

With tear-filled eyes, Smith turned to look at the congregation, "This building means so much to me, but brothers and sisters, it's time to move on. I move that we build."

Moderator Tye Brumback went row by row, asking if each member would pledge their attendance, prayers and financial support. The vote to build was unanimous.

Two years later, in November 1980, the building was dedicated. The church quickly grew to more than 170 in worship. The first year in the building, baptisms rose from the usual four or five per year to 29.

By 1990, the \$200,000 debt plus \$100,000 interest had been paid in full. The annual budget had increased to \$63,000. And the church which had received more than three-fourths of its financial support from the Kentucky Baptist Convention since 1951 now was fully self-supporting.

Today, the church still averages about 170 in attendance, partly due to the large number of people who leave the county each year to find employment.

But Gray Hawk is not a church fixated on its past. It is fashioning a vision for the future. "We want to be more responsive to our community," Rose said. In a county where 70 percent of the population is unchurched, there is still plenty of work to be done.

Federal lawsuit could threaten Kentucky Baptist agencies

By Marv Knox
Editor

A federal lawsuit challenging the right of charitable organizations to issue gift annuities has been ruled a class action, a determination that could have billion-dollar ramifications for charities, including Kentucky Baptist institutions.

In response, leaders of charities are asking Baptists and other people of faith to promote proposed laws that would protect those charities from hostile suits.

U.S. District Judge Joe Kendall of Wichita Falls, Texas, has sided with a woman who has sued to prevent her great aunt from donating the aunt's estate to a Lutheran foundation.

Attorneys for Dorothy Ozee of Wichita Falls contend a charitable gift annuity is a "commercial" arrangement that should be regulated by state banking and insurance laws.

Charitable gift annuities have been used to raise money for non-profit organizations for about 150 years. They are arrangements that allow donors to

give money to charities and receive income in return, usually at a tax advantage, until death. After death, the gift is the property of the charity.

Ozee's suit claims the distribution of actuarial tables by the American Council on Gift Annuities violates antitrust laws. The council's tables are used by most U.S. charities to calculate payment rates for the annuities.

According to the suit, charities that use the same tables to determine their payment rates engage in price-fixing. Consequently, Ozee's attorneys asked Kendall to declare the suit a class action in order to impact the full range of charitable organizations that cooperate with the council.

Kendall's ruling broadened the case to cover all charities that have been sponsors of the council and have issued charitable gift annuities or "other life income products" since Dec. 30, 1990, whose payout rates were the rates set by the council.

His decision means charities may be required to return billions of dollars in contributions, as well as pay damages equal to triple the amount of

original contributions.

With the judge's action "American philanthropy was thrust into what assuredly is its darkest hour," claimed Terry Simmons, president of Charitable Accord, an organization formed to promote state and federal legislation that will protect charities against possible harm from the lawsuit and subsequent suits.

The effect of the suit potentially could reach deep into Kentucky Baptist life, added Laurie Valentine, trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

"Statewide, it could have a major impact," Valentine said, noting charitable gift annuities have been popular fund-raising devices for many years.

Charitable Accord, the coalition of charities, has asked supporters of charitable organizations to promote legislation designed to protect the charities.

Sens. Kay Bailey Hutchison and Christopher Dodd have introduced the Charitable Giving Protection Act of 1995 (S. 978) in the Senate. In the House of Representatives, Reps. Hen-

ry Hyde and John Conyers have introduced the Charitable Gift Annuity Antitrust Relief Act of 1995 (H.R. 2525), and Reps. Jack Fields, Thomas Bliley, Edward Markey and John Dingell have sponsored the Philanthropy Protection Act of 1995 (H.R. 2519).

The proposed legislation "will provide the tools necessary to terminate the current litigation and make it possible for charitable organizations to once again freely offer gift annuities," Hyde predicted.

Support for these bills is needed desperately, noted Charles Barnes of Louisville, chairman of the board of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

Both Barnes and Charitable Accord's Simmons have asked Baptists to contact their senators and representatives, requesting them to support these bills.

The address for senators is United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. The address for representatives is United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

Elizabethtown dry vote boosts temperance movement

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

LOUISVILLE (BP)—When voters in Elizabethtown turned back a recent effort to legalize liquor sales, it marked Claude Witt's sixth victory in seven tries during the 1990s.

The Temperance League of Kentucky executive director was nowhere near the voting booth Oct. 3 in Elizabethtown, located 45 miles south of Louisville. Yet he helped map out organization and strategy for the volunteer force that convinced 59 percent of the voters to keep the city dry.

Arguing about liquor sales might seem a moot issue more than 60 years after Congress repealed Prohibition. Not to Witt, program chairman for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission and a member of Louisville's Farmdale Baptist Church.

"I don't think it's been lost," he said of the temperance movement's campaign to turn Americans away from the bottle. "Every time I'm successful in winning a wet-dry vote, I've won a victory for the Lord."

"I don't know how many people would lose their lives, families or jobs if a community goes wet," he said. "In Elizabethtown, there could have been 34 package stores. I know from past battles that the town would have needed increased jail space and police, and seen more court cases and emergency room visits."

That is a message spread nationwide by a federation of 36 state temperance organizations and 22 denominations in the American Council on Alcohol Problems. It has century-old roots in the temperance and anti-saloon leagues, the male counterparts to the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Based in St. Louis, Mo., ACAP has strong Southern Baptist involvement; 19 of the 36 statewide temperance or-

ganizations are headed by Southern Baptist pastors, for example.

"Prohibition wasn't a failure," said Curt Scarborough, ACAP's executive director since 1987 and president of the Christian Civic Foundation, which fights booze in Missouri. He cited statistics showing per-capita alcohol consumption dropped from 2.6 gallons the year before Prohibition began to about half a gallon in the midst of the 12-year-long dry period.

"The consumption rate and crime rate went down drastically," Scarborough said. "The reality of what happened and how it's been portrayed are two different things because of the number the media has done on us. Diseases like cirrhosis of the liver and the numbers of people in prison and mental hospitals all went down."

A member of suburban First Baptist Church of O'Fallon, Mo., Scarborough was a pastor in three states over a 20-year period before joining the temperance movement in 1975. He got involved through writing curriculum, with education remaining one of ACAP's primary thrusts.

Since approximately 80 percent of the American public uses alcohol, temperance groups don't advocate a return to Prohibition. Instead, they stress abstinence as the best lifestyle, Scarborough said, while working on legislative remedies to reduce public outlets for beer, wine and liquor.

Among its victories are restoration of the drinking age nationally to 21, the 1993 increase in federal excise taxes on beer and wine and passage of legislation mandating warning labels on alcohol packaging, the ACAP leader said.

The federation is now pushing to restrict television advertising aimed at underage drinkers, a fight Scarborough said can be won. At heart, though, he would like to see beer and wine ads go the way of cigarette ad-

vertising, which were banned from the airwaves 25 years ago.

The group also supports decreasing the blood-alcohol levels that constitute drunk driving. While most states set between .08 and .10 percent content as the legal limit, ACAP argues it should be lowered to .04.

That could be done federally by withholding highway funding, the method used to raise the drinking age, Scarborough said. But he sees that as unlikely because of the current political trend against federal mandates to states.

The group also works to enlist and unite churches in opposing liquor. Approximately 60 temperance and denominational leaders—including Richard Land, executive director of the Christian Life Commission—met in St. Louis in September for its summit on alcohol problems.

The group drafted a statement which warned that alcohol is a potentially addicting drug, is a significant factor in social disruption and is a major cause of premature death, disease and injury. It also outlined a four-point plan of cooperation calling for churches to:

- Reach out to bring hope to alcoholics and families which are dysfunctional because of alcohol problems.

- Launch educational programs for all ages to warn of alcohol's dangers and help counteract the social pressures which glamorize its use.

- Support increased controls on advertising, lowering of blood-alcohol levels for drunk driving and higher taxes to cover the economic social costs caused by consumption.

- Advocate an alcohol-free lifestyle for their members.

Despite ACAP's status as a clearinghouse for national legislative and educational efforts, Scarborough said the primary opportunity to publicize its work via the news media comes dur-

ing tragedies.

An alcohol-related car-bus crash in Kentucky in 1988 that claimed 27 lives is one example, he said. Ironically, many of the victims lived in Elizabethtown or surrounding Hardin County.

"That's the best time, when we can lay something at the feet of the alcohol industry that's too big to be ignored," Scarborough said. "In my state and city it's nearly impossible to get anything into the local press. That's the reason much of what we do is through the Christian community, pastors and the Christian press."

Still, wet-dry battles in localities across the country are best carried out by statewide temperance councils and local churches, Scarborough said.

For Witt, that means a never-ending string of such votes in Kentucky, where 75 of the state's 120 counties are dry. Another 30 percent are termed "moist," where the county is dry but a city within the county allows liquor sales, he said.

Less than two weeks after Elizabethtown voted, a woman in Danville declared her intent to form a petition drive to legalize liquor there, Witt said. In addition, another town council in the state is rumored to be considering legalizing sales.

Witt believes it is best for those communities to stay dry, as Elizabethtown has for the past 53 years. Residents there voted to oust alcohol in 1942, nine years after Congress lifted the constitutional ban. He said town residents reacted to widespread disorderly conduct, drunken fights and stabbings that accompanied the return of liquor.

"The rosy picture the industry tries to paint of alcohol is a myth," said Witt, whose father and uncle died in accidents caused by drunk drivers.

"Every time I'm successful in winning a wet-dry vote, I've won a victory for the Lord."

Claude Witt, executive director of the Temperance League of Kentucky

Be ready for a fight, liquor opponents warn

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

ELIZABETHTOWN (BP)—After fighting successfully this fall to keep Elizabethtown dry, participants in the all-volunteer temperance effort say those who face similar measures in their own city or county should be prepared for a nasty fight.

The best approach for alcohol-abstinence advocates is sticking to safety issues and facts about the damage caused by alcohol abuse, advised the volunteer coordinator for Elizabethtown's steering committee.

"The newspaper and everyone who wrote letters (to the editor) kept referring to church people trying to dominate people's thinking," said Roy Keith, a member of Severns Valley Baptist Church. "In today's world, the less 'churchy' a campaign the better."

Local committees may obtain assistance from the Temperance League of Kentucky. Director Claude Witt met several times with the Elizabethtown ministerial association and citizens last summer.

Though he counseled them on precinct organization and how to obtain

information from state agencies, and provided a list of registered voters, Witt said Elizabethtown's people were responsible for the success.

"We try to make it as local as it can be," Witt said. "We don't want (opponents) saying someone from outside spearheaded this. Once we help groups get going, we fade into the woodwork."

After meeting with Witt, an ad-hoc citizens' group sponsored a rally at Severns Valley Baptist Church and formed a group called KIDS, an acronym for Keep It Dry and Sale-free. To guide the organization, they selected a six-member steering committee of three pastors and three lay members. Besides Keith, the other Southern Baptist on that committee was prayer coordinator Rick Trumbo, a member of Berean Baptist Church.

Keith said 400 people volunteered at the rally and nearly all played some kind of role in the campaign. A telephone committee contacted 70 percent of the 12,000 registered voters, another erected 1,500 "vote no" signs and one group led a drive that gained a 2-1 dry edge among absentee voters. On election day, the transportation com-

mittee shuttled more than 100 voters to the polls.

During the campaign, KIDS also supplied the public with information about the dangers of alcohol. For example, it cited Hardin County's accident rate, the state's lowest for counties over 50,000 in population. Neighboring wet counties' accident rates range from 31 percent to 260 percent higher, said Johnny Melloan, an advertising executive who directed KIDS' publicity campaign.

However, he added, despite efforts to stress safety issues and avoid religious and moral grounds, opponents routinely distorted their positions.

"It's not a very nice thing," said Melloan, a Christian Church member. "In many instances, when we put out documented facts, the newspaper attacked it like it was the most misleading thing we could do."

"The main thing I learned is when there's dollars involved, people will say and do anything," Melloan explained. "We were attacked in the media in ways you see happen nationally. I didn't think it would happen in a nice, conservative, Mayberry-oriented type town."

Alcohol facts

- Alcohol abuse cost the United States more than \$100 billion in 1994, or \$404 for every man, woman and child. (Source: National Clearinghouse for Drug & Alcohol Information, Rockville, Md.)

- Alcohol is the greatest factor in contributing to crime, with police, judges and prosecutors saying it is involved in at least 80 percent of crimes. (Source: Louisville Courier-Journal.)

- Alcohol is a factor in 68 percent of manslaughters, 54 percent of murders and 48 percent of robberies. (Source: National Clearinghouse.)

- Each month, as many as 500,000 people are victims of alcohol-related crime. (Source: Courier-Journal.)

- Violent crimes committed by people under the influence of alcohol cost the nation \$2 billion annually in medical care, \$8 billion in lost earnings and other costs and \$48 billion in pain, suffering and lost quality of life. (Source: National Commission Against Drunk Driving.)

- Every dollar spent treating alcoholics saves \$11 in costs associated with drinking. (Source: Courier-Journal.)

- During 1993 in Kentucky, alcohol was cited as a factor in 30 percent of traffic fatalities. (Source: Kentucky Accidents Facts 1993.)

1995-96 Report of the KBC Committee on Nominations

MAY REPORT

Georgetown College Board of

Trustees: (1995 unexpired term: in-state): T. Vaughn Walker

Executive Board

Allen (1995 unfilled vacancy): Floyd Price

Caldwell-Lyon (1997 unfilled vacancy): Deferred, only 1 nominee

Daviess-McLean (1997 unfilled vacancy): Arthur R. Morris Jr.

Elkhorn (1997 unfilled vacancy): Terrell Bradley

Greenup (1995 unexpired vacancy): Stan Williams

Jackson Co. (1995 unfilled vacancy): Deferred, no nominees submitted

Long Run (1995 unexpired vacancies): Culley Enlow and Delbert Watson; (1997 unfilled vacancies): Charles Barnes and Johnnie Bailey

Middle Fork (1995 unfilled vacancy): Deferred, no nominees submitted

Pine Mountain (1996 unfilled vacancy): Deferred, no nominees submitted

Wayne Co. (1997 unfilled vacancy): Vernon L. Clark

FALL REPORT 1995 BOARDS OF AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS

Baptist Healthcare System

Terms ending 1999: Eugene Siler Jr., Ned Buchanan, Kerry Harvey, James Wieland and Raymond Schnur Jr.; BHS elects: (1998 unexpired term): David Tillery; (1999 term): Sidney Hopkins

Campbellsville College

Unexpired 1996 terms: in-state: J. Chester Badgett and Ferrill G. Gardner

Terms ending 1999: in-state: John Chowning, Everette Lee, H.K. Cooper, Mary Frances May, O.D. Hawkins and Norris O. Priest

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College

Terms ending 1999: in-state: Ralph S. Coffman, Charles Evans, G.T. Lilly, Don R. Mathis, Richard M. Neal and Carl Ray Rice

Cumberland College

Terms ending 1999: in-state: Frank A. Adkins Jr., Oscar Hornsby, Arnold Caddell, Paul Estes and David Gardner

Terms ending 1999: out-of-state: Orville Griffin and Josephine Cochran

Georgetown College

Terms ending 1999: in-state: Jerry Clanton, Lawrence Forgy, Randall L. Fox, Maribeth Hambrick, Robert Long, Paul J. Parks, John Pettus, T. Vaughn Walker and Clyde Franklin Ensor Jr.

Terms ending 1999: out-of-state: Ernest Weston Florence and Daniel D. Stancil

Historical Commission

Terms ending 1998: At-Large: Joe Cornwell; North Central Region: Terry Wilder; Southeastern Region: John Broome and Western Region: Ray Cummins

Kentucky Baptist Foundation

Terms ending 1999: Roy H. Keith Sr., William Burch Owen, Shirley Taylor Spalding and M.A. Winchester

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children

Terms ending 1998: M. Lynn Parrish, Thomas S. Stokes, A. Bailey Taylor, Herbert Booth and Jane Cross

Oneida Baptist Institute

Terms ending 1999: Martha Fay Smith, Kenneth B. Bolin Jr., Oliver Hawkins and George T. Waddle; Two additional trustees (1999 terms): Patricia W. Walter and Wayne Roberts

Temperance League

Terms ending 1998: John Edward Chowning, Wayne Hager, Jerry L. Howerton, Dale S. Osman and Tyre Denney

Western Recorder

Terms ending 1998: Frank Hatfield, Melinda G. Mays, William P. Thurman and James A. Weaver

FALL REPORT

1995 EXECUTIVE BOARD

(All are 1998 terms, except as noted)

At-Large (Central): Donald R. Cole

At-Large (North Central): Howard E. Wilson

At-Large (Southeastern): Ray Roaden

Allen: Floyd Price

Anderson: J. Tyre Denney

Bell: Jerry L. Tracy

Bethel: Gary K. Hughes

Blackford: Mary K. Buck

Blood River: Ronnie McPherson and John M. Denham

Boone's Creek: Marion Brewer and William Bush

Caldwell-Lyon: Ronnie N. Hooks; 1997 unfilled term: Bobby Jackson Sr.

Central: Charles Edward Hamlin

Christian Co.: C. Michael Watts

Crittenden: Willie E. Ailstock III

Daviess-McLean: Unfilled

East Union: Unfilled

Elkhorn: Jay Davis Robison

Franklin: Timothy D. Menser

Graves Co.: Royce Dukes

Grayson Co.: J.D. Morris

Green Valley: 1996 unexpired term: Unfilled

Greenup: Danny L. Russell, Harry P. Sanders and Christopher J. Johnson; 1997 unexpired term: Stan Williams

Jackson Co.: Unfilled

Laurel River: Gene Hurst

Lincoln Co.: Gary King

Little Bethel: Eric W. Nelson; 1996 unexpired term: T. Brodie Ambrose

Long Run:

Culley Yates Enlow, Morris R. Nacke, Michael Barley, Samuel Roberts, William E. Shoulta, Charles Davis and Donald Zuberer; 1996 unexpired term: Jim Holladay; 1997 unexpired term: Shirley B. Taliaferro

McCreary Co.: Daryl L. Varble

Middle Fork: Unfilled

Monroe: David Mauney

Muhlenberg Co.: Curtis McGehee

North Concord: John Gibbons

Northern Kentucky: Herbert Booth, Larry Davis, Keith Blair, Doug Jones, and Randy Wallace

Ohio Co.: Dale Rouse

Owen Co.: O.D. Hawkins

Pike: 1996 unexpired term: Bob Norman

Pulaski: David O. Bullock and Gilbert Robinson

Saverns Valley: Ronald R. Davis, Odie W. Weaver and Jeannie Smith

Tates Creek: Rodger Davis

Taylor Co.: Unfilled

Three Forks: Unfilled

Warren: Paul M. Welch

West Kentucky: Gregory W. McFadden; 1996 unexpired term: Timothy A. Langford

West Union: Richard E. Edmiston

Preacher of 1996 Annual Sermon:

Ted Sisk; alternate: J.V. Case Sr.

Committee on Nominations

Ken Graham, chairperson, Donald R. Cole, Geoffrey Lacefield, Eddie Reynolds, Howard Wilson, Michael C. Rogers, Mike Osborne, Wayne Kuhner, Donald Coleman, Drew Martin, Bob Rush, Lester Caldwell, Carl Evans, Jerry Lowrie, James Vandy, Dennis Plank, David Wilkerson, John Nunley, Larry Kemp, George "Buddy" Crabtree, Archie Brock, Jerry Tooley, Scott Ford, Guy Deane and Ex Officio Members: Executive Secretary-Treasurer: William W. Marshall, Convention President: Billy Compton

1995-96 Report of the KBC Committee on Committees

Committee on Nominations

1997 terms:

Central Region: Billy Marcum

North Central Region: Gene

Crowder and Bill Crosby

Northeastern Region: Steve Rice

South Central Region: James

Jones and Kathleen Hall

Southeastern Region: Terry Lester

Southern Region: Curtis Duvall

and Mike Dunn

Southwestern Region: Willis

Henson and Ruth McConnell

Western Region: Jerry Tooley

Committee on Arrangements

1998 terms: Bill Steele and Gerald Sharon

Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

1998 terms: Frank James, Shirley Taliaferro and Mike Rust

Committee on Credentials

1997 terms: Guilford Clifton, Bob Donovan and Tommy Tucker

Committee on Order of Business

1998 terms: Mary Lou Crutcher and Todd Toole

Committee on Public Affairs

1997 terms: Wallace Kent and Terry Freeman

Committee on Resolutions

1997 terms: Jim Lewis and Don Zuberer

Persons to Report (1996)

Convention Wide Education:

Mike Williams

Home Mission Report: Gary

Southard

Foreign Missions: John Edwards

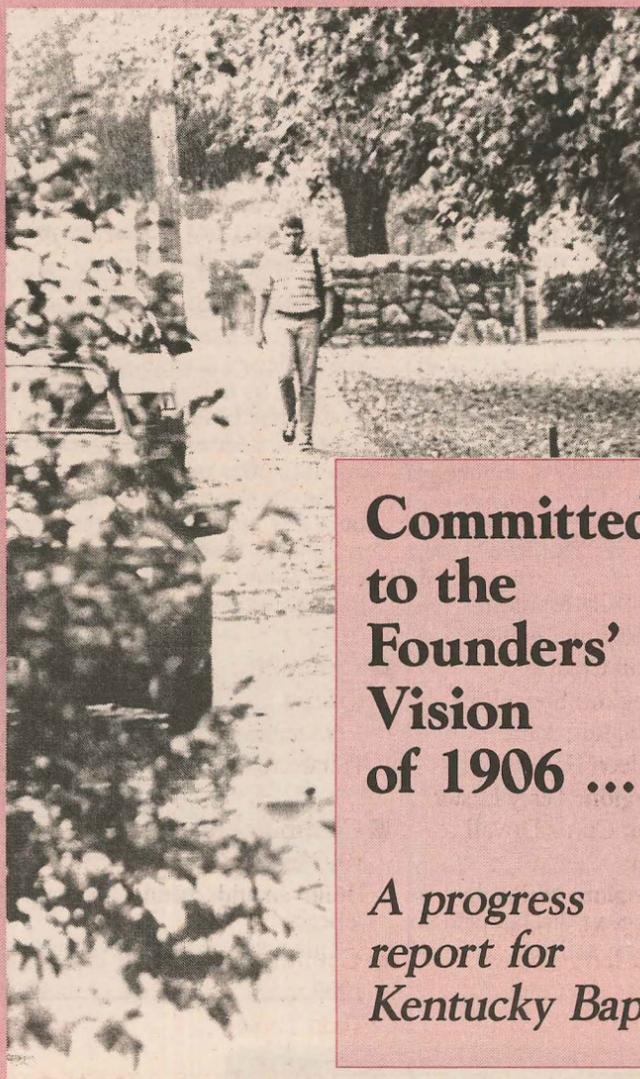
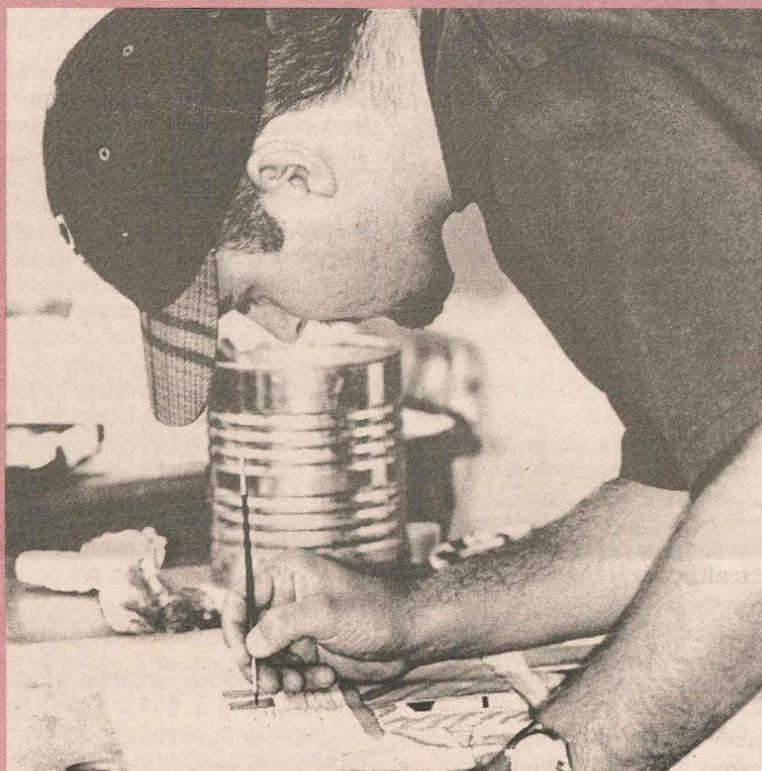
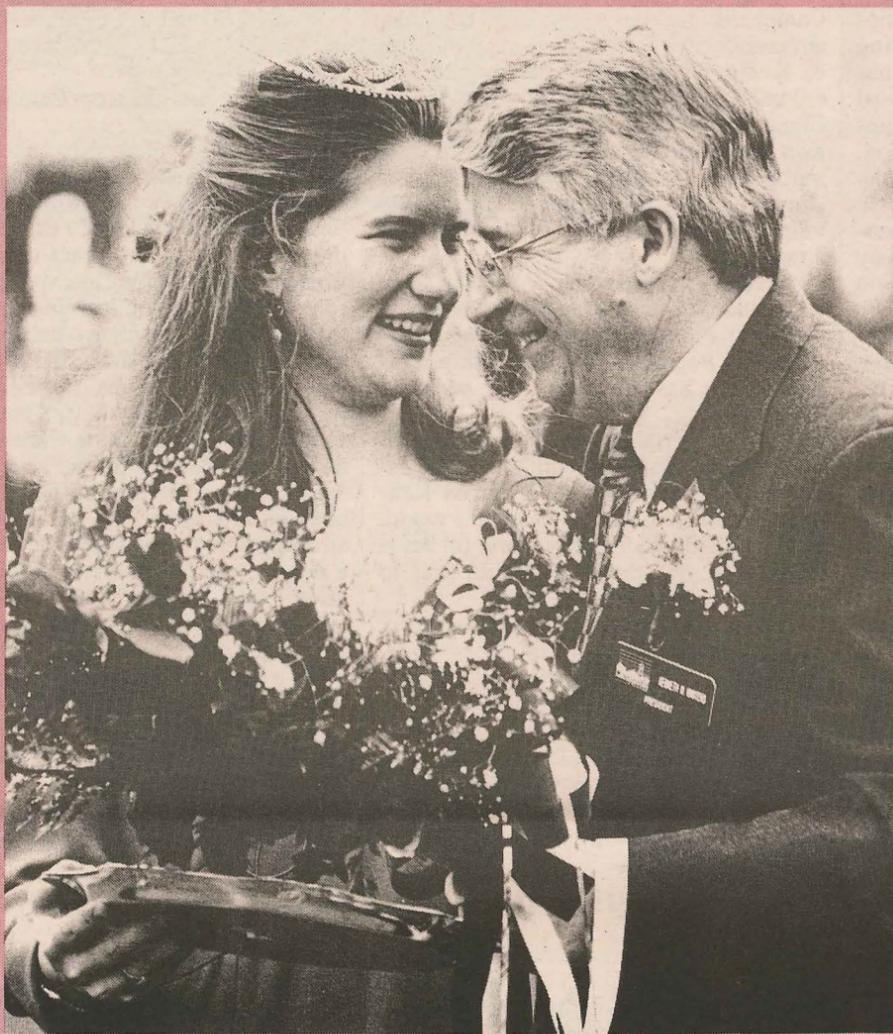
Cooperative Program: Jewel Pruitt

Obituaries: Joe Tackett

Committee on Committees

Andy Reese, chairperson, Chris Johnson, Gene Crowder, James McKenzie, Ross Bauscher, Walter Davis, Dee Spears and Gayle Toole; Ex Officio members: Executive Secretary-Treasurer: William W. Marshall and Convention President: Billy Compton

Campbellsville College



**Committed
to the
Founders'
Vision
of 1906 ...**

*A progress
report for
Kentucky Baptists*



By Dr. Kenneth W. Winters
President

God has his hand on Campbellsville College. We feel his presence every day and in every way, and we are thankful for the many blessings he has bestowed upon us as one of Kentucky Baptists' liberal arts colleges.

Eight years ago, I came to Campbellsville College sensing the Holy Spirit's guidance in my life to build a Christian institution worthy of the vision our founders had in 1906. These past few years have been challenging, exhilarating, frustrating, exciting, moving and even mind-boggling.

It is with pleasure that I report to you, as Kentucky Baptists, that your Baptist college in Campbellsville is alive and well and is prepared to meet the Christian educational demands as we enter the third millennium.

During my time as president of Campbellsville College, I have found that this small, private college has been blessed by a wealth of people who have supported its mission of promoting the liberal arts tradition, the Christian heritage and of providing a quality education firmly grounded in Christian principles. One reason we have experienced such growth during these past several years has been that we have not strayed from our founders' vision for this college.

Most of you would agree that successful organizations are ones that stand for something, and at Campbellsville College, we stand for the finest Christian higher education experience available in this nation.

I am pleased to announce that for the eighth consecutive fall, Campbellsville has experienced enrollment growth. During this period, the college's enrollment has soared 106 percent to 1,366 students, setting yet another enrollment record. I cannot recall a finer, more capable group of young men and women than the ones who have entered Campbellsville this fall. Our student body represents 27 states, 19 nations and 90 Kentucky counties. Among them are numerous Governor's Scholars and a National Merit Scholarship finalist.

God has his hand on Campbellsville College.

The big story about our enrollment growth, I believe, is that our residence hall occupancy is up 9 percent over last year. In 1994 we were forced to place our students in 12 houses the college owns because of filled residence hall rooms. We thought we had alleviated the problem this fall with the addition of a new \$3 million, 104-bed

men's residence hall located on the south end of campus.

Like the movie "A Field of Dreams" stated, "Build it and they will come." We did, and they came. Even though we opened our first residence hall constructed since 1967, we had to place students not in 12 houses like the last time, but in 13!

God has his hand on Campbellsville College.

In the area of advancement, we have witnessed much success in our development and public relations and marketing programs. The Alumni Campaign for our VISION 2000II capital campaign surpassed its challenge goal of \$800,000 with pledges amounting to \$820,000. Alumni giving, combined from this and our other campaign efforts, led to \$1.5 million. Last May we completed the second phase of our campaign by surpassing the challenge goal by more than \$1 million, with \$6.3 million raised.

The college has received increased media attention across Kentucky and the nation for its academic, athletic and extracurricular programs. Nearly 80 percent of all Kentucky newspapers featured at least one story on the college this year. Media attention has led to coverage in national and regional publications such as the Southern Baptist Educator, the Chronicle of Philanthropy, Admissions Marketing Report, Louisville Courier-Journal, Lexington Herald-Leader, Western Recorder and Baptist Press, and broadcast coverage by television stations across Central Kentucky. One story, prepared by WLEX-TV in Lexington, led to distribution to all NBC affiliates across America.

Increased print and broadcast advertising also has directly resulted in more prospective student inquiries and general public awareness.

God has his hand on Campbellsville College.

In our academic program we are proud that U.S. News & World Report has listed Campbellsville among the leading Southern liberal arts colleges and the John Templeton Foundation has named the College among its elite 124 public and private institutions who were named to the 1995 Honor Roll for Character Building Colleges. To maintain that cutting edge, we have joined a consortium of colleges in Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia who will send students to London, England, for international studies. Such opportunities will only allow our students and our academic program to achieve greater heights.

Last January, the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaffirmed Campbellsville College's accreditation. In further action taken by the regional accrediting agency, Campbellsville's membership was upgraded to a Level III institution which allows it to offer master's degree programs.

The one thing that was most outstanding about this news was that the Commission on Colleges found Campbellsville's operation so sound in terms of its academic program, its fiscal management, its administrative support program and its extracurricular offerings for students, that the college was not required to submit a follow-up report: something that rarely happens.

In addition, our music program's accreditation with the National Association of Schools of Music was reaffirmed for another five years. Only three private college music programs in Kentucky are accredited by NASM.

God has his hand on Campbellsville College.

This year we also were blessed by

groups or individuals who became wonderful ambassadors for the institution. Our Tiger Marching Band, the largest church-affiliated private college marching band program in the Southeast United States with 105 members, not only performed at all home football games, but was the guest performing band at several high school marching band competitions across Central and Western Kentucky.

Laura Sue Humphress, a senior at Campbellsville, was a wonderful Christian ambassador for the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky this past year as she was crowned Miss Kentucky—the third from Campbellsville College since 1962. Wherever her travels led her, Laura Sue was quick to point out that her family, her church and her experience at Campbellsville College helped her to accomplish such a rare feat.

Several members of our faculty were ambassadors as they were faithful to God's call to missions while participating in the Kentucky Baptist-Russia partnership. This experience has enriched their personal Christian walk.

Last but certainly not least, several of our students have and continue to be involved with missions work across Kentucky, the region, the nation and the world. Making a difference in this world for Jesus Christ is at the heart of what they seek to leave on the lives they touch.

Rather than spending their spring break on the sunny beaches of Florida, our Baptist Student Union traveled to Georgia where many lives were interrupted by horrible spring flood waters. Not only were buildings rebuilt, but the lives of these people were healed by the loving message our students and staff had to share. In addition, Campbellsville College sent 41 students as

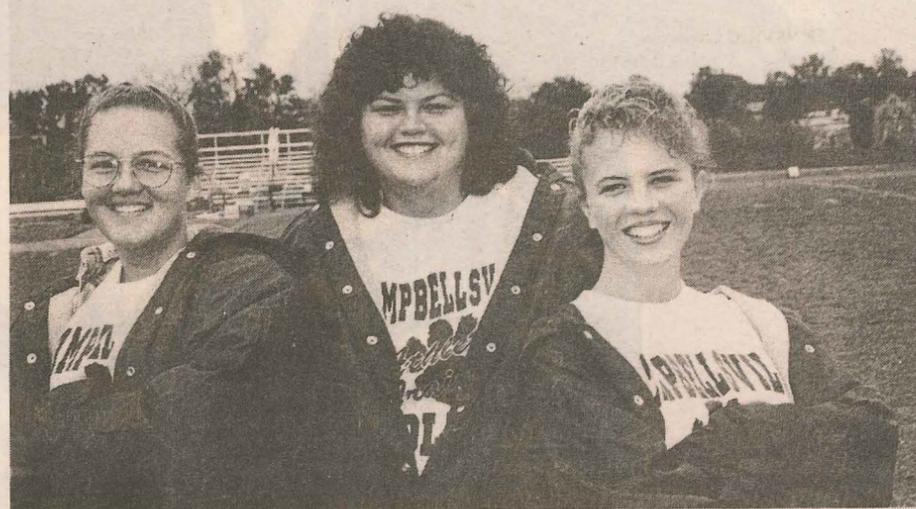
Louisville and Campbellsville Baptist Church who were joined by our own internationally-acclaimed Collegiate Chorale, Handbell Choir, Carpenter's Apprentice and Instrumental Ensemble in a choir festival held at Campbellsville Baptist Church. The choirs paid homage to the great hymns which have blessed our spirits for many generations. The following day, Dr. Arthur Walker, retired executive director of the Southern Baptist Convention Education Commission, addressed our college community and guests on the heritage of the SBC.

God has his hand on Campbellsville College.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that the college is undertaking several construction projects this year. Such projects will further enhance the beauty of the campus, thus allowing us to attract students and friends, and by creating an even finer atmosphere for living and learning. In addition to a new men's residence hall which features four-bedroom suites and private bath and computer hook-ups, we will be creating a new tree-lined boulevard entranceway to the campus, renovating Carter Hall into an academic facility for our sciences, education and humanities, constructing of an addition to Gosser Fine Arts Center, constructing a new president's house, building a new on-campus location for our college television station and installing further lighting and landscaping projects.

The good news could go on and on. All of us associated with Campbellsville College feel the prayers of our beloved Kentucky Baptist Convention. Our trustees do, our faculty and staff do, our students do, and I do.

A former Kentucky Baptist pastor who now has a church in Nashville commented



summer missionaries this year to places near and far. The Campbellsville College Singers, a missions music ensemble sponsored by our campus ministries area, performed or led at nine church camps and at 34 churches. What ambassadors for Christ, Kentucky Baptists and this college these groups and individuals have been this year!

God has his hand on Campbellsville College.

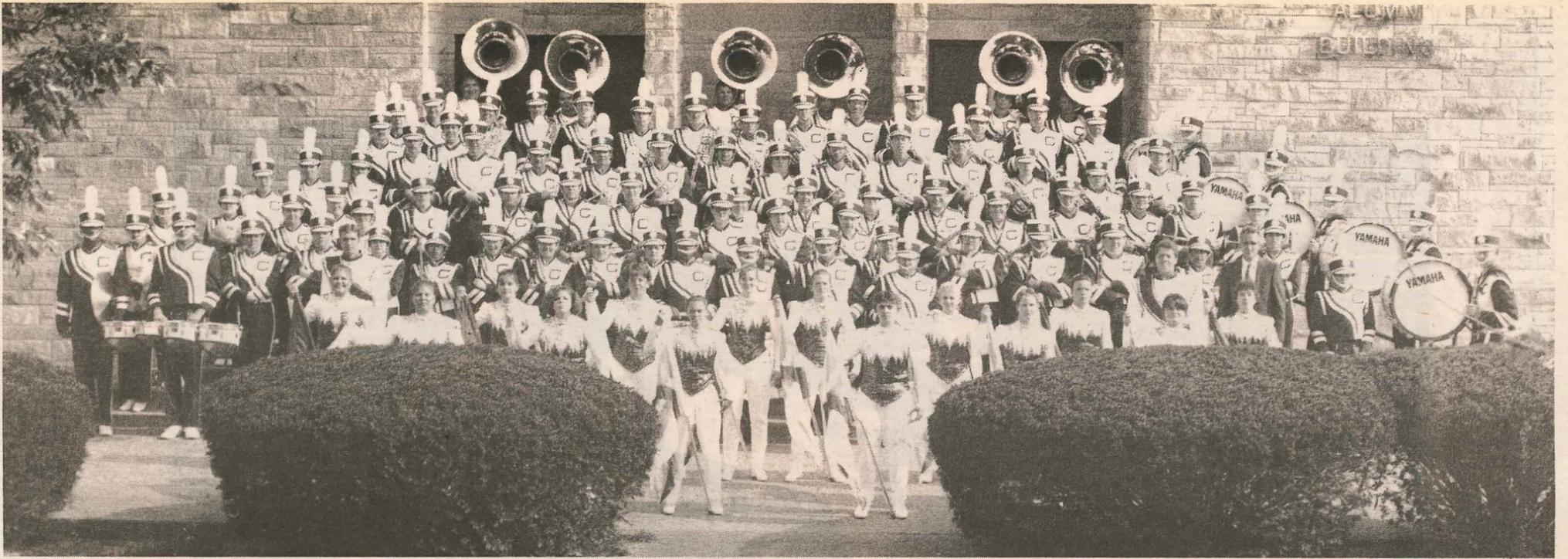
In September of this year, Campbellsville College dedicated two days to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Southern Baptist Convention's role in Christian higher education. The college was the first Baptist college in the nation to announce specific plans to celebrate this monumental occasion. The college hosted choirs from Richmond First Baptist Church, Walnut Street Baptist Church in

last year before one of our weekly convocation services by saying, "Kentucky Baptists are praying for you, Campbellsville College. Baptists across this state want you to succeed because you stand for everything God intends for a Christian college."

Once he made that comment, I do not believe there was a dry eye in the house. It was moving to hear someone express what most of us at Campbellsville have felt all along.

We covet the prayers and support from this convention, from our churches and from you.

God truly has his loving hand on Campbellsville College. May he continue to guide the leadership of our college as we seek to fulfill his will.



U.S. News & World Report lists Campbellsville among leading colleges

Campbellsville College has been named to U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges" 1995 edition, announced Dr. Kenneth W. Winters, president. The listing appears in the magazine's annual directory available at most major bookstores.

Campbellsville is among six Kentucky colleges which appear in the top half of the Southern Liberal Arts Colleges category.

Robert J. Morse of U.S. News & World Report, who serves as the annual listing's editor, said 423 regional liberal arts colleges across the nation were so listed. Campbellsville College was named among the South's leading 66 liberal arts colleges.

"We are extremely honored by the editors of U.S. News," said Winters. "Campbellsville College is a dynamic institution where growing intellectually, socially and spiritually go hand-in-hand. As president of Campbellsville, I truly appreciate the tremendous efforts of our faculty, staff and students who enable us, as a college, to be recognized in such a way."

Campbellsville College named to Templeton Honor Roll for Character Building Colleges

Campbellsville College is among the elite 124 public and private colleges and universities in the nation named to the 1995 Templeton Honor Roll for Character Building Colleges. The honor is awarded and funded by the John Templeton Foundation.

"I offer my most sincere congratulations on your school's recognition for the important steps it is taking to make character development an integral part of the campus experience," said Dr. John M. Templeton Jr., president.

"We are extremely pleased to be named to such a prestigious honor," said Campbellsville President Kenneth W. Winters. "When you consider that only 124 institutions across the nation are selected, this honor from the Templeton Foundation means even more. Like the other institutions so named, Campbellsville seeks to instill a values-based approach to our Christian learning environment. We seek to develop morally-sound students who soon will make an impact on our communities across Kentucky, the nation and even the world."

We at Campbellsville College hope you are as excited as we are about the many ways God is blessing your Kentucky Baptist college in Campbellsville, Kentucky. We truly appreciate your prayers and support and ask that you pass along the information contained within this report to others in your church. Should you know of a young adult wishing to attend a Baptist college, please contact Campbellsville College by writing: Office of Admissions, 200 West College Street, Campbellsville, KY 42718-2799, or by calling (800) 264-6014 or (502) 789-5220.

MARCHING ON The 1995 edition of the Campbellsville College Tiger Marching Band, under the direction of Dr. David M. McCullough, features 105 members, making it one of the largest private college marching bands in the nation. Student musicians in the band represent 40 Kentucky high schools and seven high schools from states stretching from Minnesota to Florida, and New Mexico to West Virginia. For more information about the Tiger Marching Band, contact McCullough at (502) 789-5058, or call the admissions office at (800) 264-6014. (Photo courtesy of Kenneth Pierce)

International studies program links Campbellsville to Great Britain

Campbellsville College has joined a consortium of seven Southern Appalachian colleges which will offer students a semester's study abroad in Great Britain in conjunction with the Private College Consortium for International Studies.

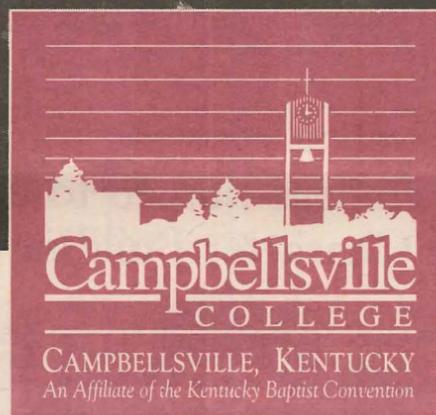
President Kenneth W. Winters said Campbellsville will design its own academic program abroad using its own curriculum, standards and style. All courses have been structured so that academic credits earned by students are part of the regular authorized course offerings. This, according to Winters, allows students to make normal progress toward their undergraduate degrees while utilizing foreign resources and cross-cultural experiences.

Academic facilities for the London, England-based program will be located on the campus of Imperial College of the University of London in the South Kensington area of central London. Imperial College, established by Royal Charter in 1907, is one of the most prestigious universities in the world, Winters said.

"This program will be an excellent way for all of us to acquaint our students to international studies," he said. "As our world becomes smaller, thanks to the evolution of technology, it will become even more important for American students, particularly those attending Campbellsville, to understand other cultures. This consortium of Southern Appalachian private colleges, I believe, is a great way for us to educate our students on an international basis."

HOME, SWEET HOME A newly constructed men's residence hall greeted students as they arrived on campus this fall. The \$3 million, 104-bed men's residence hall is considered to be one of the most technologically-advanced college residence halls in Kentucky as the four-bedroom suites are wired for computers. In addition, a computer lab is located off the residence hall lobby. (Photo by Lynne Pendency)





A Special Place For Special People.

Why are so many students inquiring about Campbellsville College? The answer is simple: Students come first. Our leadership is vibrant, energetic and on the cutting edge – always working to improve. ■ Campbellsville College watches students. We see what's important to them. We listen to them. The barometer that tells how well we're doing is based on student satisfaction. ■ Maybe that's why *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges (20th edition)* named us one of this nation's "competitive" liberal arts colleges. And *Success Stories*, the national television show for business, said that Campbellsville "has stirred excitement statewide over its staggering 106% increase in enrollment, not to mention its growing reputation for delivering fresh, innovative and personal education." ■

Campbellsville College in Campbellsville, Kentucky. Discover why our students describe us as "family."
Call us toll-free at 1-800-264-6014 or at 502-789-5220.

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE MOUNTAIN OUTREACH

Over 500 volunteers assisted their fellowman through the Cumberland College Mountain Outreach Program last summer.

Begun in 1982 by two students who took on the task of building a home for an elderly gentleman, the Cumberland College Mountain Outreach Program has grown to one in which hundreds of students assisted by thousands of other volunteers have now constructed a total of seventy-five homes.

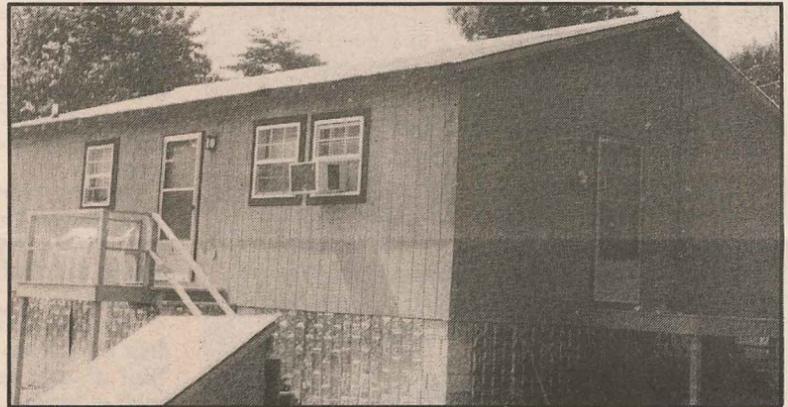
Volunteer groups this summer included: Oak Hill Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA; Bellview Baptist Church, Laurens, SC; Corinth Baptist Church, McQuady, KY; Frontline Teen Missions, Graceland Baptist Church, New Albany, IN; Weatherly Heights Baptist Church, Huntsville, AL; Zion Baptist Church, Knox, PA; Valley View Baptist Church, Louisville, KY; Cleary Baptist Church Brotherhood, Florence, MS; Parkway United Church of Christ, Winston-Salem, NC; Inskip Baptist Church, Knoxville, TN; Mignon Baptist Church, Sylacauga, AL; Missouri Baptist Singles, Poplar Bluff, MO; College Park Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC; Christ Community Evangelical Free Church, Ashland, OH; First Baptist Church, Duluth, GA; Piedmont Baptist Church, Marietta, GA; Thomasville Road Baptist Church, Thomasville, GA.

Pictured below are two homes completed this summer as well as the houses the new homes replaced.

House



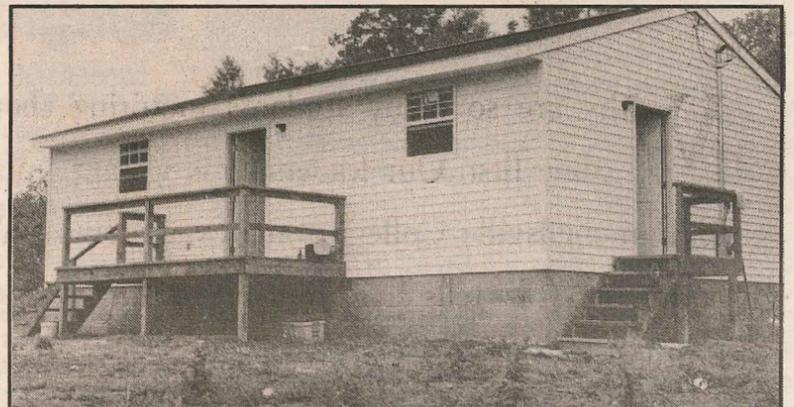
New Home



House



New Home



For information on how you and/or your church group can volunteer for the summer of 1996, please contact Al Laird, Mountain Outreach Director, 7521 College Station Drive, Williamsburg, KY 40769, (606)539-4346

Cumberland College
Williamsburg, KY 40769

Should results of genetic testing be revealed?

Continued from page 1

to decide what's the next step. When do I tell them?"

These are questions researchers are only beginning to study as scientists discover disease-causing genes with frightening speed. Already, more than a half-dozen hereditary cancer genes have been identified. Within a few years of finding a gene, biotechnology companies go into overdrive trying to develop commercial blood-test kits.

By next summer, Myriad Genetics of Salt Lake City expects to come out with a commercial blood test for the BRAC-1 gene, which is suspected of causing breast or ovarian cancer. Some believe a commercial test kit for colon cancer could be ready in a year.

"One day, probably in our lifetime, one is going to be able to know about one's genetic destiny of adult-onset disorders," says Judith Benkendorf, a genetic counselor at Georgetown University. "Everybody is going to seriously have to think about whether they want the information."

Jim Velthuis, John's identical twin brother, says he isn't much interested in the information and so far has avoided being tested.

But in the case of children who may not have a say in the decision, testing for genetic diseases poses special conundrums. If a child has the information, how will he or she deal with it? How will the parents handle it?

Dorothy Wertz, a senior scientist at the Shriver Center for Mental Retardation in Waltham, Mass., has studied the effects of gene testing on children.

"Parents often need to know for their own peace of mind," she says. "But it's not necessarily good for kids" to know they have the gene.

Wertz is primarily concerned that gene-test results, while helping parents, may hurt the child's self concept or affect his relationship with his parents.

"Parents will probably view a

child who tests positive as different and maybe have different expectations about that child," Wertz explains. "If the parent regards you as different, this will get across even if they don't tell the child directly."

"If parents know their child has a gene, parents could bring up children in a very anxiety-provoking way," adds Joan Weiss of the Alliance of Genetic Support Groups.

The consensus among experts is that there's no advantage for children to know far in advance what may lie ahead if medicine can do nothing to prevent or treat the disease.

But some parents feel differently. "Most of the parents we know tested the kids for (one kind of hereditary colon cancer) because they want to know," says Gloria Petersen, a genetic epidemiologist at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. "If they had their druthers, they would have wanted their 1-year-old tested. They want to know. Period. They feel they're better able to help the child and prepare themselves for the future. A lot is riding on the test."

It's precisely because so much is riding on the test that Wertz believes parents should wait to test for colon, breast and ovarian cancer genes.

In these cases, having the gene means an increase in the likelihood of developing breast, ovarian or colon cancer. But a chance also exists they won't get cancer, or that there may be a cure by the time the child is grown or should be medically concerned.

Why test a 10-year-old for the co-

lon-cancer gene, for example, if doctors wouldn't normally be concerned until the child is 25? That's 15 years of waiting and worrying.

Blood tests already exist to check for genes causing Alzheimers or Huntington's disease, both debilitating conditions involving dementia. Experts agree gene testing for these diseases should not be done for children.

"The difference with Huntington's and Alzheimers is, if you carry the gene, you will get the disease," says Gail Geller, a scientist at Johns Hopkins. "In cancer, there are other influences. You might not get the cancer even if you have the gene."

Wertz is concerned that parents will make lifetime decisions based on the gene-test results.

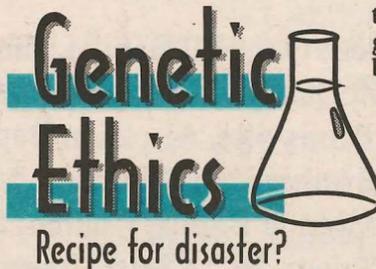
"Maybe they won't waste the money for college if the child has Huntington's disease," she says. "We had two such comments from genetic counselors who said this is why the parents wanted the Huntington's test. That really robs the child of a normal life."

And Wertz worries about the long-term effects of genetic testing, which no one really knows yet. How would a young girl be affected emotionally if she knew she had a high risk of getting breast cancer? What about feelings of worthlessness or that she has "bad" breasts?

"If your mother has a breast-cancer gene," says Weiss, "you might get angry at your mother for having you."

Another concern is if parents test a child for a genetic disorder, they rob the child of the right not to know what's in store. It's conceivable a child may simply not want to know.

"Not knowing, you can hope," Weiss says. "Knowing, for some, means they give up hope."



Who will offer genetic counseling?

By Alica Shepard
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—When scientists first began mapping the human genetic blueprint, they expected to complete the mammoth task by the year 2005. But work is going so well, the new date is 2001.

As each gene is identified, some day there is likely to be a commercial blood test to learn whether you have a gene for Alzheimers, schizophrenia, colon cancer or other adult-onset diseases or characteristics. For the price of a blood test, there will be a lot of hard-to-digest, scary information.

Who—besides busy doctors—will be around to help people grasp all the frightening ramifications?

"There are only 1,200 genetic counselors in this country," says Virginia Lapham, co-director of the Human Genome Education Model Project, which is studying the psychological aspects of gene testing.

"So social workers and pastors are going to have to do a lot of the counseling. I don't think they are at all prepared. Instead of being helpful, we are worried about untrained pastors being harmful."

Clergy, typically trained at seminaries in the humanities, are ill-prepared to handle these tough issues, says Bishop Kenneth Carder of the Nashville United Methodist Church. His church issued an 11-page report on genetics in 1992 recommending a greater effort be made in educating pastors on issues involving genetics.

But the education hasn't occurred.

"There are all kinds of issues with genetic testing," Carder notes. "Like how much do you want to know? Who do you want to know? What do you do about marriage counseling? Suppose it's discovered one person has the gene for Huntington's disease (an inherited genetic disorder characterized by dementia and involuntary movements)? Should they still get married? They might go to a pastor to ask how to deal with this."

Clergy can't do the job of doctors or genetic counselors in evaluating medical decisions. But they will be called on to help with theological and coping issues.

"People will more and more turn to their priests and rabbis and ministers for this kind of spiritual and theological counseling," says Lapham. "We have some difficult times ahead. To me, all that's happening is a challenge to pastors and also an appeal to get ready."

Carder is not alone in those sentiments.

"I've been trying to get clergy interested in this and I have to say, it doesn't rate high," says Frank Seydell, a Methodist minister and biochemist at Georgetown University, who has taught three genetics courses at Wesley Seminary, a Methodist institution.

"The average clergy is 46, which means the average clergy man or woman received their scientific training over 20 years ago," Seydell says.

This summer, Cynthia Crysdale, an associate professor of religion at Catholic University, was scheduled to teach a course on human genetic and pastoral care at the Vancouver School of Theology. After only three students signed up, it was canceled.

Religious community debates gene patenting

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP)—The moral debate over genetic technology extends not only to who should know what, but also to who should control what.

Southern Baptists jumped into this debate last summer by passing a resolution opposing the patenting of human and animal genes.

That resolution, passed during the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Atlanta, references an earlier statement signed by 186 religious leaders, including Richard Land, executive director of the SBC Christian Life Commission. The three-sentence statement garnered signatures from leaders of evangelical and mainline Protestant groups, as well as Catholic, Orthodox, Jewish, Islamic, Hindu and Buddhist leaders.

The SBC resolution declared human and animal parts should not be patented as "human inventions." But it encourages continued development of genetic technologies which contribute to the treatment and cure of genetic illnesses.

Some in the scientific community have accused Southern Baptists and other religious leaders of being suckered into ill-advised positions on ge-

netic patenting by Jeremy Rifkin, an activist who spearheaded the earlier statement by religious leaders.

Rifkin has gained a reputation over the past 20 years for being against technology in general and opposed to virtually everything done in the genetic engineering field. Rifkin is thought not to have a strong commitment to any religious group.

"He's using, in my personal opinion, Christian and religious organizations to pursue his own agenda," said Jeff Works, vice president and chief financial officer for Viagene Inc. in San Diego.

Ted Peters, acting director of the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences in Berkeley, Calif., also said he believes religious leaders may have been misled into signing the document. He described the statement as "vague and inflammatory, serving only the cause of Jeremy Rifkin while borrowing baptism from the prestige of honored religious leaders."

The CLC's Land, while maintaining his support of Rifkin's opposition to patenting of life forms, acknowledged Rifkin is "probably less receptive to genetic engineering in general than we are."

Genetic advances racing ahead of ethical debates

By Shari Schubert
Missouri Word & Way

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP)—Genetic technology has raised profound ethical questions, and leaders in both scientific and religious circles say progress is racing ahead of the necessary ethical dialogues.

Many Christians are uncomfortable with the knowledge that scientists can replicate, manipulate and even create genes, the chemical blueprints that determine hereditary characteristics and control biological processes.

The idea that only God can create a gene is "not true," said Joe Gatewood, a scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratories in New Mexico. "I'm quite good at it," he said.

To a trained scientist, creating a gene is merely a matter of putting together protein components.

But creating a gene is not necessarily the same thing as creating life, especially human life, emphasized Ben Mitchell, bioethics consultant for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

It takes a lot of genes to make a human being, "plus the image of God," Mitchell said. "Human beings

are more than the sum of their genetic parts."

Genetic technology raises more than theological questions. There are questions about safety, about use and misuse of genetic engineering as the capabilities become more sophisticated.

The most pressing ethical issues today are those concerning access to information from genetic testing, said Elizabeth Thompson, acting chief of the ethical, legal, social implications branch of the National Center for Human Genome Research.

Should a prospective employer, for instance, have access to the results of genetic testing that show a woman is likely to develop breast cancer? Should an insurance company be permitted to deny coverage to a 21-year-old who is known to carry the gene for Huntington's disease—which likely will develop at age 40 to 50?

Currently, no federal laws address these issues directly, noted Wendy McGoodwin, executive director of

the Cambridge, Mass.-based Council for Responsible Genetics. Provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act do apply to people with genetic abnormalities, according to Equal Employment Opportunity Commission guidelines issued in March.

A few states have passed laws that either prohibit mandatory genetic testing or forbid the use of information from such testing in a way that is detrimental to the individual who is tested.

Medical professionals also wrestle with the question of whether to inform family members who might inherit a disease from a patient, or even to tell the patient he is likely to develop a disease if there is no way to prevent it.

It is not just the religious community calling for discussion of ethical issues.

"We share people's concerns about misuse or misinterpretation of genetic information," Thompson said. Her agency and the Department of Energy have a team assigned to work

on ethical and legal questions. A portion of any funding for genetic research related to the Human Genome Project goes toward the work of that team.

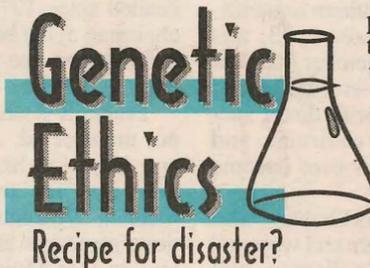
In dealing with such issues, Christians need to apply biblical principles, said Mitchell of the CLC. "That's not an easy task in every case."

Historically, at almost every technological turn, the church has been against the development of technology, observed Southern Baptist chaplain Steven Ivy, director of the pastoral care department at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas.

Christians turn to Scripture for insights, he explained, but may find that Scripture doesn't speak directly to the issue at hand. When it doesn't, "we become confused and anxious." And one way we deal with that anxiety is to say, "We won't deal with this. Let's stop it."

Ivy emphasized he honors the concerns that have been expressed about the possible misuse of genetic technology. But the question that needs to be asked, he said, is: "How do we develop the wisdom to use the technology appropriately, rather than to block the development of the technology?"

The idea that only God can create a gene is "not true," said Joe Gatewood, a scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratories in New Mexico. "I'm quite good at it."



Grants help 5 medical schools get religion

By Joan Connell
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Faith and medicine, viewed in the 20th century as distinctly separate arenas, may be coming closer together.

In a recent Gallup Poll, 50 percent of elderly people surveyed said they wanted their doctors to pray with them as they faced their final days. And more than 75 percent of the general population said physicians should address spiritual issues as part of their medical care.

Yet only a handful of the nation's 126 medical schools teach would-be physicians anything about the spiritual dimension of healing.

To bridge this perceived gap between faith and medicine, financier John Marks Templeton has joined forces with the spiritually oriented National Institute for Healthcare Research, bestowing \$10,000 grants to five medical schools with pioneering programs exploring the connection between faith and medicine.

"Religion without science is lame, and science without religion is blind," said Thomas Corson, assistant professor of medicine and pediatrics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. "Doctors are with people at some of the most significant moments in their lives. They need to look at a patient as more than just a body in need of a procedure."

Johns Hopkins was recognized for its plan to add an elective seminar to the curriculum that trains medical students. The course would present the basics of comparative religion and techniques to include a patient's spiritual history as part of a medical diagnosis. The course

also examines links between spirituality and addiction recovery and explores how a physician's own ideas about spirituality can affect patient care.

Also receiving \$10,000 grants were Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University in New York City; Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine in Hershey; Ohio State University College of Medicine in Columbus; and East Tennessee State University's James H. Quillen College of Medicine in Johnson City.

More than 30 medical schools competed for the prizes, which were judged by a panel of faculty members from the medical schools of Duke, Georgetown and Harvard universities.

"We can transplant a heart, but we cannot heal a troubled soul," said George Simms, professor of family and community medicine at Penn State. "We want to give our medical students the tools to begin to do that."

Why are medical schools suddenly getting religion?

To Simms, the answer lies somewhere between a culture of cynicism and a yearning to fulfill medicine's highest ideals.

"Medical students are not unspiritual people, but they become acculturated to an environment where spirituality and tenderness are suppressed," he said. "Something about the educational process tarnishes the soul. But deep down inside every medical student is a latent flame that needs to be awakened, or re-awakened."

"When all else fails, no one wants to feel they are alone in the universe," he said. "Medical stu-

dents lack the language to speak to that pain."

Though each school has a different approach on teaching the links between medicine and faith, the educators agreed on one point: Proselytizing is not part of the educational program. Rather than promote belief, the courses of instruction emphasize understanding the ways different belief systems can affect the physician-patient relationship.

"Everyone's heart, if you search, is touched by a spiritual reality—some of it is theistic, some atheistic. We need to make our students aware of language that enables them to connect to that heart. We intend to teach them multiple spiritual languages," said Mark-David Janus, assistant professor of psychiatry at Ohio State.

When it comes to religion, physicians often are blinded by their own prejudices, according to psychiatrist David Larson, president of the National Institute for Healthcare Research, a think-tank in Rockville, Md., that explores the spiritual dimension of medical care. The medical curriculum project is one of several involving faith and science that Larson's organization is exploring with funding from the Templeton Foundation.

"Western society has suffered from the erection of artificial boundaries between spirituality and research," Larson said, "and as physicians, our ethics have become imbalanced when it comes to religion. We are hyper-sensitive about bringing up religion and hyper-critical of patients when their beliefs are at odds with what we subscribe. We need to bring those ethics back into balance."

Where to read more

Here is a sampling of recent books and articles on genetic technology and related ethical issues. The materials listed reflect a broad range of topics and a variety of views. Most are not written for a specifically religious audience.

- "A Rat and Mouse Game," by Jocelyn Kaiser, *Science News*, March 11, 1995, page 152.
- "Battler for Gene Therapy," by Leon Jaroff, *Time*, Jan. 17, 1994, page 56.
- "Beyond the Genome: The Ethics of DNA Testing," by Kathy A. Fackelmann, *Science News*, Nov. 5, 1994, page 298.
- "Gene Therapy's Growing Pains," by Eliot Marshall, *Science*, Aug. 25, 1995, page 1050.
- "Let's Stop Playing God," by Jeremy Rifkin, *USA Today*, May 19, 1995, page 12A.
- "Search for a Gay Gene," by Larry Thompson, *Time*, June 12, 1995, page 60.
- "Share and Share Alike Isn't Always the Rule in Science," by Jon Cohen, *Science*, June 23, 1995, page 1715.
- "The DNA We've Been Dealt," by Charles Siebert, *New York Times Magazine*, Sept. 17, 1995, page 50.
- "The First Kids With New Genes," by Larry Thompson, *Time*, June 7, 1993, page 50.
- "The Genetic Revolution," by Philip Elmer-DeWitt, *Time*, Jan. 17, 1994, page 43.
- "Thou Shalt Not Patent!" by Kenneth L. Woodward, *Newsweek*, May 29, 1995, page 68.
- "The Transformed Cell," a book by Steven Rosenberg, published by G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1992.
- "The DNA Mystique: The Gene as a Cultural Icon," a book by Dorothy Nelkin, published by W.H. Freeman and Company, New York, 1995.
- "Genetic Engineering: Bane or Blessing?" a pamphlet by Ben Mitchell, published by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Leaders oppose welfare cuts.** Leaders representing more than 150 million members of the nation's major religious groups declared "unholy" the proposed federal legislation to end entitlements for poor, abused and disabled children.

"America is not a mean-spirited nation. Deeply rooted in our history as a nation and in the faith traditions that have flourished here is a commitment to protect the poor, the vulnerable, the children," said a statement signed by the National Council of Churches, the Congress of National Black Churches, the Roman Catholic Church and the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism.

■ **Vanderbilt studying sexuality.** Vanderbilt University Divinity School in Nashville is putting \$1 million into a project aimed at helping churches think through the delicate issues of homosexuality, women's ordination, divorce, unwed mothers, celibate priests, abortion, clergy misconduct and whether to call God he or she.

■ **Family trends on split track.** Two-parent households are gaining in number nationwide, but the percentage of all families headed by a single parent continues to rise, according to new data from the U.S. Census Bureau. Nearly one-third of American families with children were headed by a single parent in 1994. That's up from 13 percent in 1970 and 28 percent in 1990. Among black families with children, 65 are headed by single parents, compared to 25 percent for white families, the Census Bureau reported.

■ **Jesus Seminar keeps one in.** The controversial Jesus Seminar, which usually contends the gospel accounts of Jesus' ministry are not reliable, has reversed itself by giving credence to the account of Jesus overturning the tables of money-changers in the Jerusalem temple. "We decided there must be a link between what Jesus did in the temple, his arrest and his execution," said spokesman Bruce Tilton.

■ **Salvation Army largest charity.** The Salvation Army received \$726 million in donations last year, making it the nation's top recipient of donations for the third year in a row, according to the Chronicle of Philanthropy. Other top-grossing charities, in order, include the American Red Cross, Second Harvest, United Jewish Appeal, YMCA of the USA, American Cancer Society, Catholic Charities USA, Harvard University, Boys and Girls Clubs of America and the University of Pennsylvania.

■ **Catholics call for "open" priesthood.** Call to Action, a 10,000-member group of progressive Roman Catholics, will launch a campaign to persuade church leaders to open the priesthood to women and married men, it has announced. The campaign is set to begin on Ash Wednesday next year.

■ **Compassionate care cuts costs.** Compassionate care of the homeless seen in hospital emergency rooms cuts repeat visits later in the month by 30 percent, according to a recent study in Toronto. The hospital where the study was conducted saved about \$200,000 as a result of fewer visits by the better-satisfied homeless patients.

■ **Abortion doctors harder to find.** Two-thirds of practicing obstetricians-gynecologists do not perform abortions, according to a survey commissioned by the Kaiser Family Foundation. That's up from 58 percent in 1983. Younger doctors are among the least-likely to perform abortions, the study found.

Graham's son named to succeed him

MINNEAPOLIS (RNS)—Franklin Graham, a self-described former rebel who for years struggled with living up to the family name, formally has been named to succeed his father as head of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

A statement issued Nov. 8 by the Minneapolis-based Graham organization said Franklin Graham, 43, was appointed by its 32-member board of directors to the newly created post of first vice president "with direct succession to become chairman and CEO, should his father ever become incapacitated."

Until that time, Billy Graham, who turned 77 the day before and who suffers from Parkinson's disease, will remain chairman and chief executive officer of the ministry he founded in 1950, the statement said.

"The (board's) action settled within the organization the question of succession and its future," it added.

Despite his age and illness, which is controlled by medication, Billy Graham has scheduled 1996 crusades for Australia, New Zealand, Minneapolis and Charlotte, N.C. He recently concluded a crusade in Sacramento, Calif., and joined Franklin for a night of preaching at his son's crusade in the Canadian city of Saskatoon.

Earlier this year, Billy Graham was hospitalized for internal bleeding in Toronto, where he was conducting a crusade.

Neither Graham was available for comment. But in a statement, the elder Graham expressed confidence in his son.

"As a father, I am both proud of

(Franklin's) capacity for leadership and humbled in gratitude for the Lord's blessing on him," he said.

For now, Franklin Graham also will continue to serve as president of Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian emergency relief agency based in Boone, N.C., which he has headed since 1978. He also remains chairman of the board of World Medical Mission, the medical arm of Samaritan's Purse.

Franklin Graham's selection was not unexpected. A half-dozen years ago, however, his succeeding his father was far from assured, said Stephen Winzenburg, a communications professor at Grand View College in Des Moines, Iowa, who has tracked the Graham ministry for 15 years.

"At that point, Franklin suffered some credibility problems because of his past," Winzenburg said. "But he was taken under the ministry's wing and has been well-groomed to succeed his father. His credibility problems are behind him."

Franklin Graham's autobiography, published earlier this year, is titled "Rebel With A Cause: Finally Comfortable Being Graham." In it he recounts his early years "marred by smoking, drinking, fighting, confrontations with the police, and eventual expulsion from college."

"Being the son of Billy Graham had given me advantages," he wrote. "But it had its down side as well. If I screwed up, the book would be thrown at me a little harder. ... People expected me to be some kind of example and would hold me to a higher

standard."

While the elder Graham is an ordained Southern Baptist minister, Franklin Graham received his ordination from the board of elders of Grace Community Church, a non-denominational evangelical Christian congregation in Tempe, Ariz.

Also unlike his father, Franklin Graham is closely identified with what Winzenburg termed "the social gospel of providing direct help to those in immediate need."

Once he takes over, Winzenburg said, the younger Graham can be expected to incorporate his emphasis on Christian relief work into the message of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, which under the father has stayed close to the basic soul-saving message of traditional evangelism.

Other than that, though, don't expect any other outward changes in the organization's approach to ministry, said John Green, director of the Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron.

"The Billy Graham ministry has been tremendously successful for many years," said Green, a chronicler of the evangelical Christian world. "This is a formula that works and I would not expect any tampering with that success."

Whether the younger Graham—whose full name is William Franklin Graham III—will be able to command the audiences that his father consistently attracts is another matter, Green said. "Once Billy is out and the ministry loses its star—the person who put it on top, the ministry could fall on hard times."

Ban on abortion procedure stalls in Senate

WASHINGTON (BP)—An attempt to gain a congressional ban on a certain late-term abortion procedure suffered a setback Nov. 8 when the Senate referred the legislation back to its Judiciary Committee for hearings.

Similar legislation outlawing a procedure known as dilation and extraction already had been passed by the House of Representatives.

The bill, called the Partial-birth Abortion Ban Act (H.R. 1833) is slated to return to the floor Dec. 7. A committee hearing on the bill is scheduled for Nov. 17.

Supporters of the bill had hoped to keep the bill out of committee but relented when it appeared they might not have enough votes to pass it without a hearing. The vote on referral was 90-7.

Opponents of the bill have charged it is part of a strategy to reverse abortion rights. They have said the procedure is used only in cases of severe abnormalities or when the mother's life is threatened.

However, Martin Haskell, one of the leading practitioners of the procedure, has said about 80 percent of

such abortions he performs are "purely elective," according to a 1993 interview with American Medical News, a journal of the American Medical Association.

FBC, MURRAY TO CELEBRATE SESQUICENTENNIAL

Next May, First Baptist, Murray, will celebrate 150 years of ministry. Activities are planned for the first weekend in May, 1996. If you are a former FBC church member or staff member and would like to attend, let us know. You will be placed on the mailing list to receive information about the special events. Call (502) 753-1854 or write to us at 203 South 4th Street, Murray, KY 42071.

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Ammerman at Waco hearings

WASHINGTON (ABP)—More reliance on behavioral science and less on firepower might have averted the 1993 tragedy in Waco, Texas, that claimed the lives of 87 Branch Davidians and four federal agents, a Baptist sociologist told a Senate panel Oct. 31.

Nancy Ammerman, professor of sociology of religion at the Center for Social and Religious Research at Hartford Seminary in Hartford, Conn., told the Senate Judiciary Committee that too little attention was paid to the "human dimension" in the conflict between Branch Davidian leader David Koresh and federal law enforcement officials.

"I am convinced that at the heart of the disaster in Waco was the decision—first by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearm) and then by FBI tactical units—to treat this as primarily a military-style operation," Ammerman told the panel, chaired by Utah Republican Orrin Hatch.

"Once that decision was made, everyone's energy went into assessing firepower and angles of attack, leaving the human dimension of the situation too easily forgotten."

Ammerman, who served on a panel of experts assembled to help the Justice and Treasury departments

evaluate the Waco tragedy, said the BATF consulted no behavioral science experts and that while the FBI sought such input, it failed to heed it.

She said the FBI's behavioral science team offered "on-target" advice but was out-ranked and out-numbered in the agency's decision making.

"If the human dimension of law enforcement tasks are to be taken fully into account, those who have human-science expertise must have equal rank with those whose expertise is firepower," she said.

Behavioral scientists, Ammerman told the panel, "would probably have advised the BATF that the estimation of danger posed by the Davidians, in spite of the armaments that they had, was probably overblown."

The overestimation occurred, she said, because the BATF relied primarily on information from a "deprogrammed" ex-Branch Davidian.

People who study religious groups have learned to "take seriously the religious beliefs and rhetoric of the group," she said.

While what the group says may sound like "Bible babble," as it did to the Waco negotiators, Ammerman said, no real negotiation is possible unless the groups' religious views are taken seriously.

CLASSIFIED ADS

SEEKING: Full-time pastor. Contact: Pulpit Committee, c/o First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 616, Salyersville, KY 41465.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church in Lawrenceburg, Ky., is seeking a full-time youth pastor. Send resumé to: Youth Pastor Search Team, c/o First Baptist Church, 111 North Main St., Lawrenceburg, KY 40342.

SEEKING: Part-time youth and music director for moderate Baptist church; housing optional. Send resumé to: Rock Haven Community Baptist Church, 4444 Old Mill Rd., Brandenburg, KY 40108.

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TOUR: 13 days Holy Land, Athens, Corinth; cruise of Greek Isles including Ephesus tour. Compare the value: Priced at \$2,295 from Louisville. For information call: James Ward or John Boone at Highview Baptist, (502) 239-7711.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of youth and children. Please send resumé to: Ashby Lane Baptist Church, Youth-Children Search Committee, 6617 Ashby Lane, Louisville, KY 40272.

SEEKING: Church seeking part-time youth and children's minister. Send resumé to: Search Committee, Ballardsville Baptist Church, 4912 Hwy. 53, Crestwood, KY 40014.

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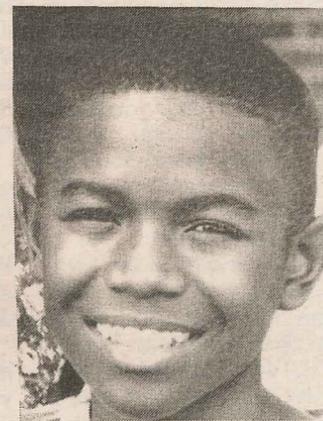
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Women clergy making gains but facing new challenges

ST. LOUIS (RNS)—Women are assuming an increasing leadership role in churches, but the decline of mainline Protestantism and the growth of conservative Christianity pose new challenges for women clergy, according to scholars at a recent conference.

The growing number of women in positions of religious leadership was a major topic at the annual joint conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association, which met Oct. 27-29 in St. Louis. The conference brought together approximately 500 sociologists and other scholars.

Patricia Chang, a researcher at the Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame, presented research showing that women have made substantial gains finding parish employment after leaving seminary.

Before 1970, about 60 percent of qualified female clergy did not get jobs as pastors almost two years after

leaving seminary, according to Chang, who conducted her study while at Hartford Seminary's Center for Social and Religious Research.

The gender gap between men and women finding employment shortly after they attended seminary also has narrowed. Previously, men were almost three times more likely to find employment quickly than were women. But in the 1980s, as denominations became more accepting of women clergy, the gap narrowed to make men only about 1.2 times more likely to find quick employment, Chang said.

Scholars at the conference, however, were not overly optimistic about present and future opportunities for women clergy in declining mainline church bodies.

"The shrinking number of (clergy and leadership) positions creates competition and a chance of backlash (against women clergy) as women start competing for these positions," said Paula Nesbitt, a sociologist at

Cliff Theological Seminary in Denver.

In a study of the Presbyterian Church (USA), researchers found that the number of ordained women will be about equal to that of men by 2024 if current trends continue, said Edgar Mills, professor of sociology at the University of Connecticut in Storrs.

Such growth, however, does not mean that women are moving into full-time pastorates, he suggested.

Many men are leaving temporary, part-time and other unclassified positions and there is a "disproportionate increase of women who are replacing them," Mills said. While these positions may meet the needs of certain women clergy—some who are mothers, for example—they also may "ghettoize" women into marginal positions, he said.

The growth of women in the pastorate will mean that clergy will be older in the future, since many women enter the ministry at later stages of life than men. The clergy also is more likely to be divided along liberal-conservative lines because women are usually 20 percent more theologically liberal than their male counterparts, Mills said.

In more conservative churches, the ordination of women has become an increasingly divisive issue that is hav-

ing repercussions for both laity and clergy.

In the Seventh-day Adventist church, there is a trend of younger members dropping out because of the denomination's refusal to ordain women, said Ronald Lawson, professor of urban studies at Queens College in New York.

In the Seventh-day Adventist church, there is a 40 percent loss rate of younger members, and many are found to be disillusioned with the church's position against women's ordination, according to Lawson's research.

Since many predominantly black denominations do not ordain women or hire women clergy, there has been a gradual movement of African-American women into traditionally white mainline denominations—especially Presbyterian and United Methodist churches—where they can serve as pastors, according to Delores Carpenter, professor of religious education at Howard University's Divinity School in Washington.

These black women pastors are different in several respects from their white counterparts and will have a significant impact on their church bodies, said Carpenter, who is African-American.

In more conservative churches, the ordination of women has become an increasingly divisive issue that is having repercussions for both laity and clergy.



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PRAYER PARTNERS

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

- Irene, secretary to Kentucky-Russia partnership missionaries Larry and Joy Lindsey, who is very ill.
- Russians Elia and Vladic, who made professions of faith in Christ recently.
- Kentuckians considering involvement in the Kentucky-Boston partnership, which begins in January.
- Spiritual power and stamina for Greater Boston Baptist Association Director of Missions Ignatius Meimaris and his wife, Nena, and for GBBA partnership director Vicky Parrott and her family.
- The churches and pastors in the Utah/Idaho Southern Baptist Convention.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

- **BOWLING GREEN**—Burton Memorial Church called **Timothy Miles** as pastor Oct. 29. Miles previously was pastor at Flewellyn Church in Springfield, Tenn.
- **COLD SPRING**—First Church dedicated its newly constructed education building Nov. 5.
- **COVINGTON**—Macedonia Church celebrated its 30th anniversary and the retirement of Pastor **Joseph Garr** Nov. 10-12.
- **GEORGETOWN**—Fifteen professors have received Georgetown College's first faculty recognition grants: **Rosemary Allen, H.H. "Sonny" Burnette, Keon Chi, David Forman, David Fraley, Gail Gonzalez, Doug Griggs, Donna Hawkins, Rick Kopp, Peter LaRue, Jim McCormick, George McGee, Rebecca Powell, Paul Redditt and John Sadlon.**
- **MORGANFIELD**—First Church called **April Fair** as youth minister Oct. 29. She is a native of Evansville, Ind. Also, **Hazel Brinkley** was recognized for 40 years of service as church pianist, and **Charlotte Cunningham** for 17 years as organist.
- **MUNFORDVILLE**—The Hart County Historical Society has published a history of Cherry Springs Missionary Church, written by **George Sturgeon**. Copies are available for \$6, including postage, from the society at Box 606, Munfordsville, Ky. 42765.

- **NORTONVILLE**—Nortonville Church called **Ron Gleaves** of Missouri as pastor.
- **SMITHLAND**—Birdsville Church called **Philip Yancy** as pastor.
- **WATER VALLEY**—Pilot Oak Church called **David Hardy** as pastor.
- **WEBSTER**—Raymond Church ordained **J.W. Chappell and Curtis Horsley** to the deacon ministry Oct. 29. Terry Settles is pastor.
- **WILLIAMSTOWN**—**Jim Craigmyle** celebrated his fifth year as pastor at Williamstown Church. Also, **Tim Bailey** completed his first year as youth minister.



NEW TRUSTEE Mike Melloan (left), an auctioneer and real estate broker from Owensboro, recently was installed as a trustee of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. Melloan is shown greeting Brotherhood Commission President Jim Williams. (Photo by David Nester)

Butler celebrates 50 years in ministry

MAYFIELD—Longtime Kentucky Baptist pastor and leader LaVerne Butler enjoyed almost a month of Sundays celebrating his 50th anniversary in the ministry this year.

Butler, 69, is president of Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College in Mayfield. Previously, he was pastor of seven Baptist churches, including four in Kentucky.

On the first Sunday of celebration, he preached to his home congregation, First Baptist Church in Henderson, where he was ordained July 8, 1945.

On the second weekend, Butler was guest of honor at a 50th anniversary "celebration and praise" banquet at Springdale Church in Louisville, where his son, David, is founding pastor.

Participants at the banquet included members of all the churches where Butler has been pastor, reported Butler's wife, Lillian. Butler was treated to tributes from former church members and colleagues in ministry.

Butler closed the weekend by preaching the Sunday evening service at Springdale Church.

On the final weekend, Butler preached at Calvary Baptist

Church in Maysville, his first pastorate, where he was founding pastor 50 years ago.

Butler is a graduate of Georgetown College and attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Butler was pastor of the Maysville church until 1948. Other pastorates include Chaplin Baptist Church, Chaplin, 1948-50;

Keck Avenue Baptist Church, Evansville, Ind., 1950-58; Little Union Baptist Church, Fairfield, 1958-59; First Baptist Church, Hallendale, Fla., 1959-63; First Baptist Church, West Frankfort, Ill., 1963-69; and Ninth & O Baptist Church, Louisville, 1969-88.

When Butler moved from Louisville to Mid-Continent College in 1988, an article in the Louisville Courier-Journal described him as "a leader of Kentucky's Southern Baptist conservative movement."

At that time, U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell told colleagues Butler's departure from the pastorate "does not mean he is abandoning the cause of the conservative religious movement which he has helped lead. Mid-Continent will give LaVerne a chance to expand his ministry through the educational training of young people prepared to carry his message."



Butler

'A dream come true'

Nearly every day visitors come to our campus. We take them on a tour through several buildings, across the campus and to the craft shop. In my opinion, the ladies are more excited about the craft shop than the men. On the other hand, men are more excited about seeing our hog and cattle facilities than the ladies!

No one is allowed to leave without eating in our dining room. Our cooks are famous for their homemade biscuits. More than one visitor has asked to take a sack of biscuits home.

Many of those who visit bring things they have saved or gathered for us. While used clothing is the most common gift, we never know what is coming. Some bring school supplies or personal items for our students. A bag or two of soup labels or maybe some books for the library are other items we can use.

Today one gift was a used farm truck and some steel, given by a man and his wife from Warsaw who have been longtime friends of the Oneida ministry. Both have come for years as volunteers during the summer to help with the many projects we undertake each year.

Other guests today included some Acteens and their leaders from Danville, with a load of used clothing. Another group came from Brooksville, with clothing and food.

Two other guests came only a few miles for a visit. One was the mother of one of our teachers, and had not been here for three years. The other was a friend of hers who had never before been here.

Recently an older lady visited who had been our friend for years, but had never been able to see our campus. She had read the Oneida article in the Western Recorder faithfully, and had kept

up with our work through friends who visited. She was able to come this time with several people from her church.

This lady said time and again that she had never imagined our school to be this big. She was so pleased with everything she had seen. She told someone close to her that coming to Oneida was "a dream come true."

Usually we know when guests are coming. Other times they come without prior notice. They have taken a drive to see the mountains or the fall or spring foliage. They were not sure when they left if there would be anyone here to meet them and take them on tour. There are times when guests come and leave without our knowledge. However, when we know they are here, we are always happy to show them around and tell of the many things that are happening.

When was the last time you were here? Have you ever been here? A visit may be "a dream come true" for you. If you can let us know you are coming, we will plan to meet you, take you on a tour and share a meal with you.

We are grateful for the many friends who are concerned about our ministry. We know that many support us by faith; faith that we are doing what we say and are reaching young people for Jesus Christ.

A great trust has been placed in us. It is our prayer that we will be found faithful not only to those who place their trust in us, but also by Jesus Christ. He trusts us to feed the hungry, give a drink to the thirsty, provide shelter and clothing for those who have none, and to meet the other needs of those to whom we minister.

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

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Experiencing God at Walnut Memorial

"Experience God and God will take care of your church."

This was the advice Owensboro pastor Odell Beauchamp gave to our students in a chapel message. "When I started as a pastor, I built the church around my energy and my personality. When I left, many of the people did also. Now I want to be where God can use me," he said.

In 1992, Beauchamp moved from 700-member Pleasant Grove Church to Walnut Street. The congregation had lost the auditorium in a fire, and attendance was down to 70, with the majority of those senior adults.

The church had considered relocation for several years. "The week I moved my books into the office, one member came by to say, 'If the church votes to move, I'm gone.' Another told me, 'If the church doesn't move, I'm gone.'"

Meeting in the refurbished gym, the church had 50 additions the following year. In January 1993, the church voted 88-36 to buy Owensboro Christian Church. The relocation came the following June, and the name was changed to Walnut Memorial Baptist.

Several individuals in the church have answered the ministry

call. Two families entered Clear Creek in August: Barin and Martha Bolin and Russ and Carol Wallace. "We joined because of doctrine. It is an exciting new church. One unique thing is we don't start programs and look for leaders. We wait on the Lord to lead individuals who have the gifts, leadership and commitment needed," Carol shared.

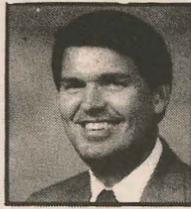
Beauchamp stressed, "We trust the leadership. I don't need to attend every committee meeting and protect myself. The church has quarterly business conferences and the deacons handle spiritual ministry."

The church works for balance in worship. Minister of Music and Youth David Taylor said, "My objective is to have a balance of different styles of Christian music ranging from the old gospel classics to the new contemporary style."

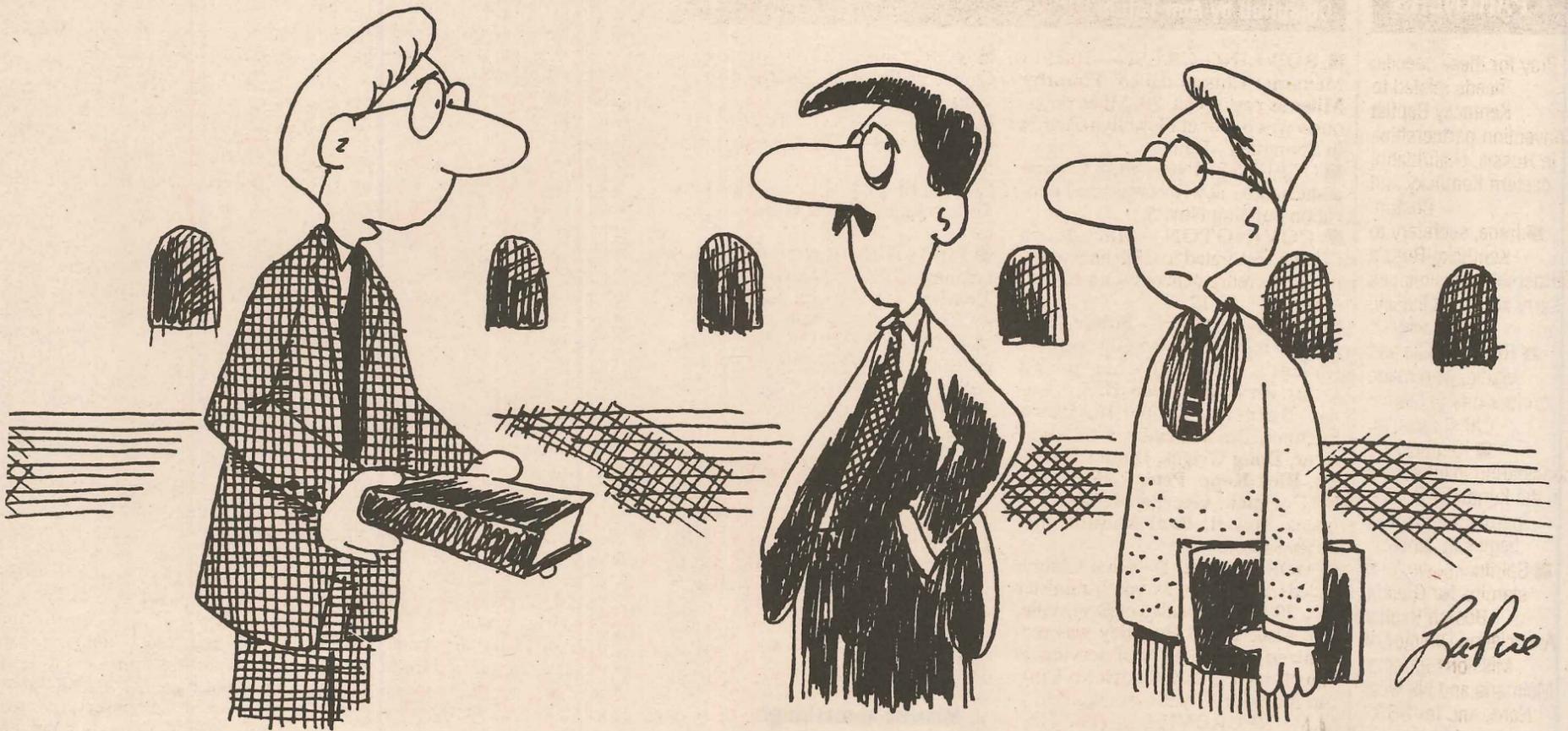
Wednesday evenings have a special focus on children, and senior adults meet monthly. A group of adults meets weekly for Bible study and help with losing weight. Growth continues with attendance now about 400.

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

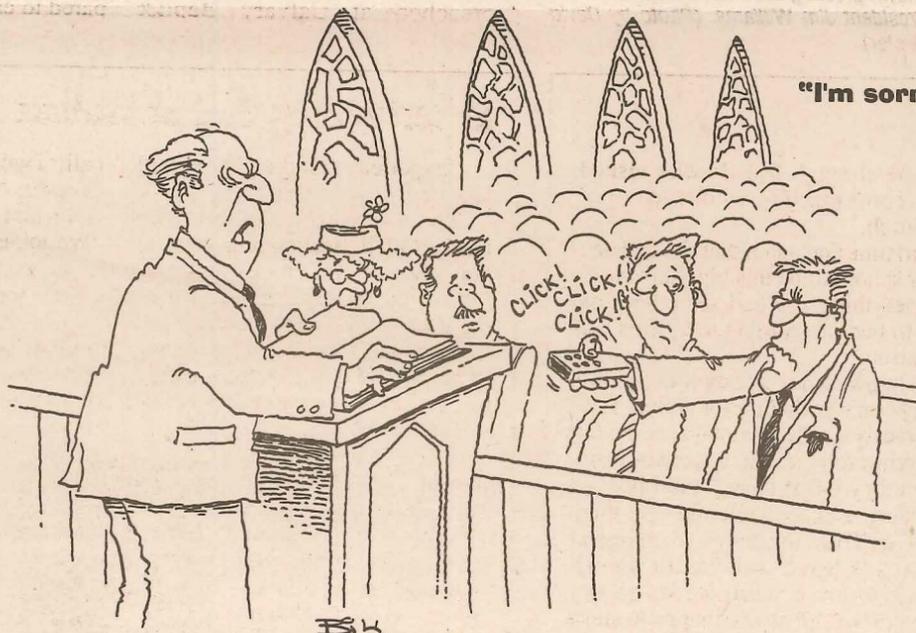
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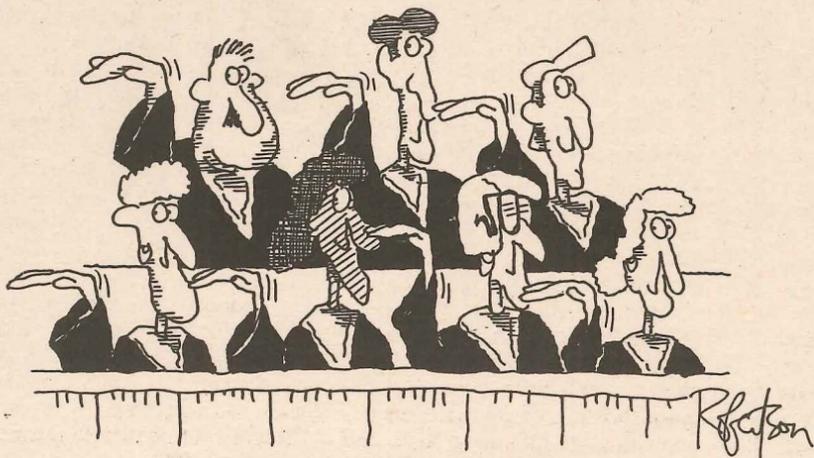
Bill Whittaker



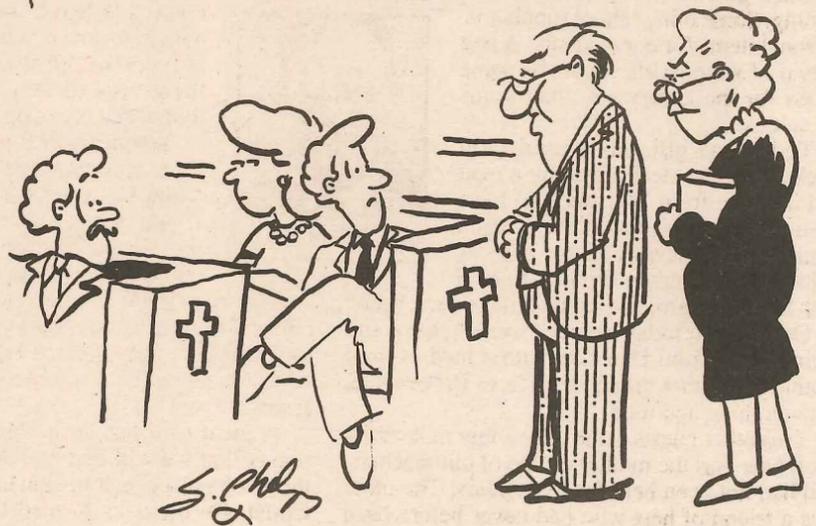
"You say you want to give me a 15 percent pay raise, an extra three weeks vacation and a study sabbatical? OK, who are you guys and what did you do with my regular deacons?"



"I'm sorry, Brother Markley, but I'm already fast-forwarding as fast as I can."



Nobody really knew what it was, but it started in the choir last summer.



The whole church watched with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.

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