

PRactical Resources for Christian Living

WESTERN RECORDER

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FOR THE RECORD

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Volunteers arrive to aid churches with Hispanic ministry

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

Language missions in Kentucky gained two new workers recently when volunteers from Texas arrived to cultivate a flourishing ministry among Hispanics.

Gus and Gloria Reyes, a retired couple from Corpus Christi, Texas, moved to Westport June 29 to be Mission Service Corps volunteers.

"Primarily we will be working with Hispanic migrants, undergirding the work of Jesus Pacheco," Reyes said. Pacheco, a catalytic missionary, conducts a variety of worship and fellow-

ship activities for the Hispanic population. Specifically, Reyes said, they will lead Bible studies in homes, preach, work with small groups and train Hispanic Christian leaders.

The couple also has begun Christian-based family training, which already has become an important outreach tool.

Mrs. Reyes plans to use her cake decorating and quilting skills to coordinate ministries with Hispanic women while the men work during the day.

"We brought our volleyball net and table games," Reyes added, explaining they want to help meet physical and social needs of the Hispanic families

as well as spiritual.

The bilingual couple also will interpret for people wanting to apply for citizenship, get a driver's license and learn to speak English, they said.

Opportunities for ministry among Hispanic people have increased dramatically in the last five years since migrant workers first came to Kentucky, explained Henry County director of missions Pam Cobb. In 1991, seasonal workers came for jobs in the tobacco fields. After the first year, some found permanent jobs in nearby factories.

Each year brings more Hispanics to the area, Cobb said. The Central Re-

gion Hispanic Council, formed last summer with representatives from Shelby, Henry County, Sulphur Fork and Whites Run Baptist associations, coordinates the Hispanic ministry.

Franklinton Baptist Church in Pleasureville was the site of the initial ministry with migrant workers in 1991, Cobb said. Currently, weekly worship, fellowship meals and English classes are offered in three additional locations—Buckner Baptist Church, First Baptist Church in Carrollton and Burk's Branch Baptist Church in Shelbyville.

Jesus Pacheco leads each of these
□ See *Volunteers looking ...*, page 3

Kentucky men laud Promise Keepers rally

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

INDIANAPOLIS—More than 60,000 men surrounded him at the recent Promise Keepers rally, but Henderson County resident Wayne Hurt said he saw thousands more when he closed his eyes.

Hurt, who leaves soon for Central America, said he dreams of one day seeing a soccer stadium in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, filled with men for a Promise Keepers rally.

"I believe that's what God was showing me," said Hurt, who will serve with his wife as a missionary in a Tegucigalpa orphanage.

"The Latin American continent is so open to the Lord. These men are hungry and Promise Keepers can touch them."

Other Kentuckians had similarly
□ See *Kentuckians praise ...*, page 9



UP ON THE ROOF Volunteers from Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville repair the roof of a Bullitt County home damaged by a tornado in late May. It is the fifth mission project that members have been involved in this summer. *See story on page 2.*

After the Olympics, Baptists have another ministry opportunity

ATLANTA (BP)—Now that the Summer Olympic Games are over, everyone at AIM '96 can go home, right? Wrong.

While AIM '96 organizers say they accomplished their goals for the Olympics, Southern Baptist's ministry arm to sports fans in Atlanta has 11 more intensive days for outreach during the Paralympic Games, Aug. 15-25.

Atlanta International Ministries '96 will provide more than 200 volunteers for Paralympic sporting events. This is in addition to continuing to offer hospitality and assistance to Atlanta visitors near arenas.

About 3,500 elite athletes from more than 120 countries will participate, second in size only to the Summer Olympics.

Unlike many of the Olympic volunteer opportunities, the Paralympics will allow individuals the opportunity of working firsthand with some of the most inspiring athletes in the world—

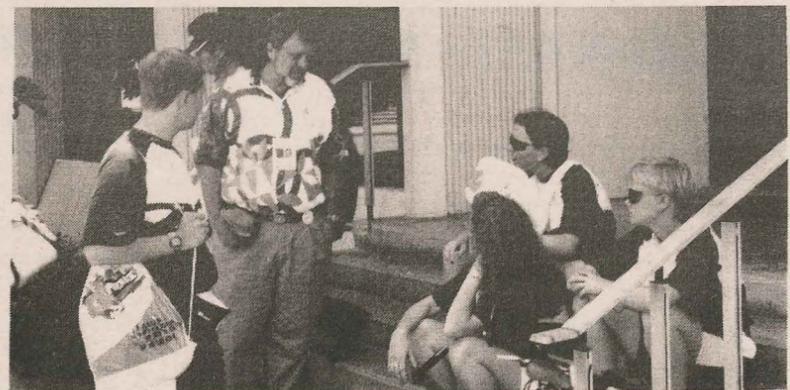
those who have overcome grave physical disabilities to become world-class competitors.

Ministry will come during the time spent every day with athletes and families, predicted Joel Wayne, AIM '96 liaison to the Paralympic Games.

Thousands of Southern Baptist volunteers came to Atlanta this summer to meet the physical needs of sports fans and earn an opportunity to talk about Christianity.

Their work resulted in hundreds of thousands of contacts with residents and visitors. Those contacts were as simple as offering a cup of water or as extended as having a detailed conversation about their faith.

Volunteers distributed Olympic sports guides, which listed world and Olympic records for events as well as a six-page explanation of Christianity. Before the closing ceremonies, more than 1,100 people had mailed response cards from the guides to the Southern



OLYMPIC CHAPLAIN David Roland, an Olympic Village chaplain, greets members of Denmark's Olympic team on the steps of the Georgia Tech Baptist Center. The center served as the primary religious activities center in the village. Roland, a Baptist campus minister at Georgia Tech, is a native of Covington and a graduate of the University of Kentucky and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Other coverage of Olympic ministries is on page 7. (Photo by John Pierce)

Baptist Home Mission Board.

More than 560 of those had become new Christians, and 460 of them requested more information, said Linda Johnson, director of AIM '96.

As important as the work in Atlanta, however, is the training and mind-

set that volunteers will take home, said home missionary Debbie Wohler.

"What we're trying to get them to see is the bigger picture in their own communities," Wohler said. "Our dream is that this will continue and multiply."

Moving? See page 4 (0806)

Akin predicts brighter days at Southern

By Mark Wingfield
Editor



Danny Akin

LOUISVILLE—The turmoil that has plagued Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in recent years is nearing an end, predicts the school's new second-in-command.

"Good days are ahead," Danny Akin, vice president for academic affairs and dean of theology, said in a recent interview. "I pray that the turmoil the school is going through will come to an end."

As students prepare to return to classes later this month, Akin is beginning to settle in to his new role. He and his family moved to Louisville this summer from Wake Forest, N.C., where he was dean of students and a professor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. There he witnessed his share of academic turmoil as he worked alongside President Paige Patterson to rebuild a seminary which had lost half its enrollment after trustees turned the school radically to the right of where it had been.

At Southern, Akin succeeds David Dockery, who left to become president of Union University in Jackson, Tenn.

While Akin acknowledges the trauma the school has endured in the last three years of a new administration, he predicts smoother waters are ahead. Southern is becoming a "warm, evangelical seminary" that emphasizes both learning and doing, he said.

"Our vision is to produce students who are like Paul—with keen minds and warm, evangelical hearts," Akin explained. "Paul was the greatest theologian who ever lived, but also the greatest missionary who ever lived."

The Carver School crisis, perhaps the biggest challenge the seminary has faced recently, was an unfortunate turn of events, Akin suggested. However, the ultimate outcome of closing the Carver School of Church Social Work was inevitable, he said.

"I am a big advocate of social min-

istry," he explained. "Though the Carver School will be closing, I have a strong commitment to carry on the best of what it represented."

Southern Seminary must not produce only preachers but all types of ministers to meet the needs of hurting people, Akin said. Social ministry, for example, is essential to reach the inner cities, which he laments Southern Baptists have made a "big mistake" by abandoning.

Despite the crisis that led to the closing of the Carver School, Akin said he is committed to ensuring that all the seminary's schools—theology, Christian education, church music and Billy Graham School of Evangelism, Church Growth and Missions—do well.

Akin said one of his first priorities has been to meet one-on-one with as many faculty members as possible. So far, he has met about half.

"I don't have a list of people I want to get rid of," he said. "I'm committed to working with everyone who's here."

However, Akin said he's under no illusion that all the remaining faculty members intend to stay. In the past three years, the seminary has lost 44 faculty members, and others have said privately that they are seeking other employment.

To fill faculty vacancies, Akin said he intends to help the administration recruit "the finest evangelical scholars out there."

He also will be active in recruiting students, he said, explaining that he has begun meeting personally with every prospective student who visits the campus.

"I want any student to feel welcome to come to Southern Seminary—including those who would not always agree with me on every point of doctrine," he said.

Despite the new administration's image as being hostile to women in ministry, Akin said he encourages

women to come to Southern. And while he does not believe women should be senior pastors, most female students should enroll in the master of divinity degree program, he said.

Akin admits his job as a salesman and administrator is challenging.

"We've got to overcome a negative perception," he said. "We've got to reestablish trust with certain portions of Baptist life. I understand that as a legitimate demand."

One area needing renewed trust is the relationship between the seminary and Kentucky Baptists, Akin said. "My goal is to be in as many churches in Kentucky as I can. I won't turn down any opportunity to meet Kentucky Baptists."

"I want to see us have a good relationship ... where we can work together as we should."

Akin said he is developing a good relationship with Mohler, a person he did not know well before taking this job. "We are becoming very dear friends."

While Akin is not a five-point Calvinist like Mohler and holds a slightly different view of the end-times, "we are on the same playing field theologically," he said.

"On the essentials of faith we are in agreement, and on the crucial issues that affect our denomination we are in agreement," Akin said.

Akin worked at Southeastern Seminary four years, moving there with Patterson from Criswell College in Dallas, where Patterson was president and Akin was a professor for five years. Akin served in church staff positions for 10 years prior to moving back to Criswell, where earlier he earned his bachelor's degree.

Akin also holds the master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and the doctor of philosophy degree in humanities from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Search begun for new mission board president

NASHVILLE (BP)—The group of 13 "incorporators" of the new North American Mission Board has released guidelines for their search to nominate a president of the domestic missions agency.

The group's nominee must be approved by trustees of the new agency when they convene for the first time next June.

The incorporators said in a statement they are seeking "a Spirit-filled man of God who meets the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9."

The candidate "must be firmly committed to the Bible as the inspired, authoritative and inerrant word of God," the group said. "He must hold to the historic Baptist doctrines set forth in the 'Baptist Faith and Message' and be in agreement with the purpose and mission of the North American Mission Board and the Southern Baptist Convention."

Further, the president should be "a strong leader in cooperative relationships between the North American Mission Board and the state conventions."

Additionally, due to the challenges of merging three existing agencies into one new one, the president should have good organizational skills, the statement said.

Finally, the statement said the president must be able to lead in such a way as to be inclusive of "the manifold diversity of churches, cultures, races, styles and methods in North America."

Resumes should be sent to C.B. Hogue at 41771 Auberry Road, Auberry, Calif. 93602.

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Baptist college opened in N.M.** Wayland Baptist University opened its eighth satellite campus in July at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center in New Mexico. The school, based in Plainview, Texas, operates satellite campuses in Texas, Alaska, Arizona and Hawaii. Wayland is the only Baptist university operating in New Mexico.

■ **SBC growth in cities outpacing other areas.** Southern Baptist associations in America's 50 largest cities reported greater growth during the past 15 years than associations elsewhere, according to a recent study. "Mega-city" associations outpaced others in church planting, membership, baptisms, Sunday school and missions giving, according to the study by the Home Mission Board.

■ **Martin hired in Texas.** Dan Martin, one of two Baptist Press editors fired by the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee in 1990, has been named news writer for the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Since the Baptist Press firings, Martin has served several churches as pastor or interim pastor and headed an anti-gambling concern in Texas.

■ **Gambling opponents seek amendment.** Arkansas gambling opponents, led by Arkansas Baptists, submitted more than 86,000 signatures on petitions seeking a constitutional amendment to ban gambling in the state. The proposed amendment, to be considered during the Nov. 5 election, would outlaw all gambling in the state, including existing gambling on horse racing in Hot Springs and greyhound racing in West Memphis.

■ **Blackaby speaks on sin.** Sin, not the devil, is making many Christians miserable today, Henry Blackaby told an assembly of the European Baptist Convention. "Invariably those whose lives are in turmoil are not walking in the way of God as they used to," said Blackaby, prayer and spiritual awakening director for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board and Sunday School Board.

■ **Correction:** A story in last week's Recorder, "Kentucky Fellowship still studying options in education," incorrectly identified Lexington Theological Seminary as a Church of Christ school. It is a Disciples of Christ school.

Lisa covers all bases before she sings her solo



"Pastor just asked me to sing this morning ... I have a terrible sore throat ... sniff! My dog died this morning before -sniff- church ..."

Volunteers looking to help churches with Hispanic work

Continued from page 1

groups, with assistance from Gus and Gloria Reyes and local volunteers. Services are conducted entirely in Spanish.

The Reyeses came to Kentucky after considering Mission Service Corps for several years, and after talking with Cobb and Bob Mills at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Mission Service Corps is a volunteer opportunity through the HMB for Baptists interested in serving at least four months in home missions.

Married in 1952, the couple served at Primera Iglesia Bautista in Corpus Christi, where they were

Royal Ambassador leaders for many years. In 1966, while living in California, Reyes was ordained as a deacon, and in 1992 he was ordained to preach.

Reyes retired in 1992 from a career in law enforcement; Mrs. Reyes retired this summer from the local school district.

They are the first Mission Service Corps couple in Kentucky to work in Hispanic ministry, and currently are the only Mission Service Corps couple from outside the state serving in Kentucky. Only one other volunteer—Jacob Bice, also from Texas—ever has been assigned to Kentucky from

another state, according to HMB records.

"We consider them a godsend, because every state in the nation is asking for bilingual volunteers," Cobb noted. "This can't be anything but positive."

The Reyeses' service is significant "because they are the first Mission Service Corps couple working in Hispanic ministries," noted Larry Martin, missions and evangelism division director for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. "They came in at a strategic time when Hispanic ministries in that area had grown rapidly, and needed additional persons to help."

Church enjoys involvement in ministries

BULLITT COUNTY—It's Saturday, and Joe Ball is spending another hot day up on the roof of someone else's home.

"It's been non-stop for about two weeks," said Ball, minister of education and youth for Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville.

The previous week, Ball went with teenagers from the church to Kentucky Changers in Pike County, where 11 houses were repaired. Most got new roofs.

This summer, members of Edgewood Baptist have participated in five mission projects.

In addition to home repairs in Bullitt and Pike counties, members have:

- Joined with other churches in their association to host a backyard Bible club for local children.

- Helped a church in Boston

through the Kentucky Baptist Convention's partnership.

- Conducted sports camps for Atlanta International Ministries '96.

Also, a member recently returned from overseas volunteer work and a student is spending the summer in volunteer missions work in Charleston, S.C.

"We are growing missionaries in our church," said Wanda Shaw, designated *Guess* cook for the teams.

Shaw said her family dedicates one week every year to participate in mission trips.

"I cook for 50 or five," she said. "I would rather be preparing food for 50 people than be up on that roof."

Mike Guess, who did climb onto the roof, said Edgewood has been in-

involved in mission work as long as he can remember.

"I think it brings our people closer together by going out," said Guess, who also teaches Sunday school in one of three nursing homes where the church is involved.

Wife Dietta agreed. "It's very rewarding to be involved with a group of people who know what it's like to be about the Lord's work."

Kyle Spurlin, 16, said he has matured spiritually through missions work. "The spirit of God is very powerful on mission trips."

Shaw said missions work teaches youth that Christianity involves more than going to church on Sunday. "They learn that accepting Christ into your life is only the first step."



Guess

Golf, cooking, exercise offered during adult VBS

LOUISVILLE—They even served cookies and Kool-Aid one night.

This year, in addition to their traditional daytime vacation Bible school for children and youth, Hurstbourne Baptist Church added a night-time version for adults.

The brainchild of Pastor Ron Ford, the five-night school drew as many as 65 people, ages 40 to 90, from the

church and community, said Jeff Hicks, Hurstbourne's minister of education and administration.

Each evening Ford led a 90-minute Bible study using the Baptist Sunday School Board's adult VBS material. Then attendees participated in special interest activities geared to meet life needs.

Local businesses provided person-

nel for sessions on physical fitness and exercise, summer cooking recipes, golfing tips, home maintenance and stress management. A weather person from a local television station presented weather safety advice.

And on two evenings, the group moved outdoors for classes in basic automotive maintenance and landscaping.

BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

- **\$500,000 grant received.** Georgetown College has received a \$500,000 grant for its new learning resource center. The \$12-million facility will feature space for 220,500 books and study tables with computer hookups. Groundbreaking is expected this fall. The grant was made by the Gheens Foundation of Louisville. Recently, the school also has received five other grants totalling \$151,500.

- **Hospitals reach joint agreement.** Western Baptist Hospital has reached an agreement with Lourdes Hospital to create a joint venture, Mercy Regional Emergency Medical Service. The two will have co-ownership of the ambulance service and pursue a certificate of need from the state health policy board to provide air ambulance service in a 14-county area of western Kentucky.

- **Home seeking families.** Spring Meadows Children's Home in Louisville is seeking visiting families for children in care. Visiting families build relationships with children by inviting them into the families' homes for visits once or twice a month and during holidays. Call Ann Santora for more information, (502) 245-2161.

- **Commencement speaker announced.** Educator Lyman Ginger will be the keynote speaker at Georgetown College's graduate commencement Aug. 10. Ginger has served as secretary of the state education and arts cabinet and executive director of the state Commission for Post-Secondary Education. At the commencement, 10 a.m. in John L. Hill Chapel, 69 graduates will receive master of arts degrees in education.

- **Author to teach, speak.** Henry Blackaby, co-author of the popular "Experiencing God" study course, will teach that course to students at Campbellsville University for a week in October. He also will deliver the school's Staley Lecture series Oct. 29-31.

- **Sophomore wins title.** Campbellsville sophomore Veronica Duka was named Miss Kentucky recently. The 19-year-old, who is majoring in theater, is the fourth woman from Campbellsville since 1962 and the second African-American to be named Miss Kentucky.

- **Home hires adoption counselor.** Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children has named Dorithea Hayton of Pikeville to be pregnancy and adoption counselor of the Cornerstone Family Center in Harold.

Language ministries in Kentucky

- **Asian Indian**
Louisville: Victory Memorial Baptist Church.
- **Bosnian**
Louisville: Crescent Hill Baptist Church.
- **Cambodian**
Bowling Green: First Baptist Church.
- **Chinese**
Louisville: Louisville Chinese Christian Church.
Louisville: Walnut Street Baptist Church
- **Filipino**
Louisville: Lyndon Baptist Church.
- **Haitian**
Louisville: Lynn Acres Baptist Church.
- **Hispanic**
Shelbyville: Burks Branch Baptist Church.
Shelbyville: Mission Hispania/Shelby Baptist Association.
Shelbyville: Bethel Baptist Church (seasonal).
Chaplin: Chaplin Baptist Church.
Dallasburg: Dallasburg Baptist Church.
Louisville: Highland Baptist Church.
Louisville: St. Matthews Baptist Church.
Hawesville: New Life Baptist Church.
Oak Grove: First Baptist Church.
Vine Grove: Red Hill Baptist Church.
La Grange: Rolling Hills Baptist Church.
Lexington: Elkhorn Baptist Association/South Elkhorn Baptist Church.
Lexington: Northview Baptist Church.
Hopkinsville: Christian County Baptist Association.
- In addition, migrant ministries have been developed in these counties: Shelby, Henry, Scott, Woodford, Oldham, Trimble, Lincoln, Casey, Bourbon, Logan, Scott, Simpson, Daviess, Marshall, Calloway, Ballard, Fulton, Hickman, Graves, Nelson, Fayette and Grant.*
- **International**
Lexington: Immanuel Baptist Church/Elkhorn Baptist Association.
Louisville: Walnut Street Baptist Church.
Bowling Green: First Baptist Church.
- **Japanese**
Lexington: Immanuel Baptist Church.
Harrodsburg: Mercer County Baptist Association.
- **Korean**
Radcliff: First Korean Baptist Church.
Louisville: First Korean Baptist Church.
Louisville: Hurbourne Baptist Church.
Hopkinsville: Christian County Baptist Association.
- **Laotian**
Louisville: Beechmont Baptist Church.
Bowling Green: Hillvue Heights Baptist Church.
Elizabethtown: Severns Valley Baptist Church.
- **Multi-ethnic**
Louisville: University of Louisville Baptist Student Union.
Louisville: Victory Memorial Baptist Church.
Lexington: Elkhorn Baptist Association.
- **Russian**
Bowling Green: First Baptist Church.
Louisville: Highview Baptist Church.
Louisville: Buechel Park Baptist Church.
- **Vietnamese**
Louisville: Beechmont Baptist Church.
Lexington: Elkhorn Baptist Association.
- **Deaf**
Lexington: Immanuel Baptist Church.
Louisville: Louisville Christian Deaf Church.
Erlanger: Erlanger Baptist Church.
Danville: Danville Deaf Mission.
Bowling Green: First Baptist Church.
Pikeville: Enterprise/Pike Baptist associations.

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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

How ATS works

Some leaders in Southern Baptist seminaries have complained about the Association of Theological Schools' new accrediting standards (July 30, page 2). As part of the steering committee that oversaw the process of developing them, I'd like to respond.

If the standards were an exercise in "social engineering," "political correctness," or "radical feminism" as charged, why didn't other conservative evangelical schools notice? The suggestion that the document "opens the door for the homosexual agenda to step in" is groundless. Since evangelical and Roman Catholic seminaries together now make up 60 percent of ATS member schools, no one could possibly force such an agenda on them. The new standards guarantee that each school has the right to define itself confessionally and set policies according to its theological principles. The old standards never did that.

It is true that not many Southern Baptists currently serve on ATS committees, task forces or commissions. Some argue that since Southern Baptists make up "over 20 percent" of all students in ATS schools (the figure for 1995-96 was actually 16 percent), they deserve more representation. But ATS doesn't set denominational quotas or apportion committee assignments by the size of student bodies.

However, ATS does classify member schools as either mainline Protestant, evangelical or Roman Catholic and works hard to include people from each category in committees. "Southern Baptist" is not a separate, fourth category. ATS classifies Southern Baptists as evangelicals, which means they must stand in line with others when committee assignments are

handed out.

How do one get on an ATS committee? Show up at meetings, volunteer, serve on visiting teams and demonstrate the ability to work well with others. I was very disappointed that some who complained the loudest in Denver had not participated in the new standards project in any way, though they had many opportunities to do so.

Timothy Weber
Louisville

On Jews and Disney

In regard to the over-flogged resolution affirming evangelization of the Jewish people, how many Baptists know there is an organization called "Outreach Judaism" whose sole purpose is "helping families reclaim their loved ones from the evangelical church?" For confirmation, see Biblical Archaeological Review, July/August 1996, page 11, or call (800) 315-5397.

I had read in the Jerusalem Post that Israeli Jews were concerned about the increasing number who had converted to Christianity. The above-mentioned ad says, and this confirms the Jerusalem Post story, "More Jews have been converted in the last 19 years than in the last 1,900 years." The advertisement also refers to us (Christians) as "Christian conversionists."

We in the Southern Baptist Convention devote less than 1 percent of our efforts in mission to the Jewish people.

As for the Disney resolution ... Disney needs to be boycotted, not censored or restricted, but boycotted! Disney said something like: "You Baptists are attacking the maker of some of the best family entertainment." True, but as our native American friends say, "They speak with forked tongue."

There is a dichotomy in today's world that condones sin and good works by the same person, organization or institution. The Bible says, "One cannot serve two masters."

Disney needs to love one (we hope it will be family entertainment) and hate the other (we hope it will be the adult films and condoning immoral behavior).

For those who would castigate and criticize Southern Baptists, we admonish them lovingly to direct their energies toward the evil in the world—not toward those who attempt to do good. Above all, get your facts straight before going off on emotionally-charged binges of criticism.

Oscar Davidson
Somerset

Read the book

This letter is prompted by the letter from Van Ingram (July 16, page 4). Thank you, Mr. Ingram!

My late husband, Robert Palmer, was a Southern Seminary graduate, and during his doctoral study years served as fellow to his major professor, Harold Tribble, another greatly maligned Southern Baptist Christian scholar.

When I read of the shocking treatment of Frank Tupper, I knew I wanted to do something. I bought a copy of his book, I read it and gave it to my church library (First Baptist, Williamsburg) in honor of my family ministry deacon, a woman.

I am not a theologian but I benefited greatly from my husband's education and Christian spirit as I listened to him preach for many years. Because of him and Tupper's clear writing, I have been able to understand much of what he wrote, even though some of it was quite deep for me. My graduate degree is in English, not theology.

This author clearly believes in the divinity of Christ, the resurrection of Christ and the sustaining grace of Christ.

Before casting stones, read the book!

Jeannette M. Palmer
Williamsburg

The Waffle House

On a late Wednesday afternoon a few weeks ago, I pulled into a Waffle House not far off Interstate 75.

Chuck Bass had invited four Kentucky ministers to preach our "favorite sermon" over a period of four consecutive Wednesday evenings. I would be the third in this unique summer series to preach to the Boone's Creek congregation.

Having had little lunch, I stopped about 5:30 to have what is still one of my favorite meals—a well-done waffle, three strips of bacon and a large, cold glass of 2 percent milk.

An attractive woman I judged to be in her early 40s took my order and, in a few minutes, served me with a smile.

I noticed several older men sitting at the counter, bantering back and forth with her. She called them by name and teased one or two of them.

They were obviously regulars to this place and, I suspect, knew exactly her working hours. The interplay

proved a fascination for me as I watched three older fellows become enlivened by conversation with her. Not "flirty" or inappropriate, the interchange included health conditions, family problems and recent funny events in their lives. I marveled at

her ability to keep these several conversations going while giving personal attention to the others of us there.

Some time later she returned to the back booth, where I sat, to give me the bill. I couldn't resist telling her what I was thinking.

Identifying myself as a preacher, I said to her: "I've been watching you. You seem to have a special

way with older folks. You're a minister in your own way."

She smiled, paused, then said: "I really love older folks. My full-time job is in a nursing home. I work here part time."

Pausing again, she continued: "I kinda thought you were a preacher. You look like one. I belong to a Church of God."

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall



FAMILY FORUM

Three lessons on marriage

By Diana Garland

My husband and I have been married for 26 years. That may seem like a short time for many who have been married twice as long, but in an age of frequent divorce, it seems like something to celebrate. On top of that, we also have many good friends who have passed their silver wedding anniversaries.

As I think about the mature marriages I have known, I have tried to identify some of the principles I have seen operating in these marriages. Here are three I think are basic for enduring marriage:

■ Realize that conflict has nothing to do with loving one another. There is more potential for conflict with our partners than with anyone else in our lives because we share so much together. If we lived in separate houses and just went out to dinner a couple of times a week, there wouldn't be much to fight about.

■ The movies, the novels and the people sitting next to you in church do not show what real marriages are like. When you begin to compare your life with fictional characters or what you perceive is the ideal marriage, you are headed for trouble. In some ways, even our friends' marriages are "fiction" much of the time, because they probably act differently with one another in public than they do behind closed doors. Most of us are quite skilled at putting on a public face and "acting nice." If you really want to know how your marital concerns and frustrations compare to those of other couples, share them honestly with your friends.

■ If the issue creating conflict is important, it will come up again. In fact, it probably will become a pet. Experienced couples learn that we often have many chances to work out the issues that are the "stuff" of life. If an argument does not seem to get resolved this time, you'll have another chance. Sometimes, that means if we have any sense, we will try to figure out what generated all the heat and talk about it when we both are calm.

Develop the ability to laugh at yourself—if not in the thick of things, then later. Celebrate the wonderful gift it is to each other that you keep at it. Keep trying, keep caring.

Diana Garland is a Baptist family ministry specialist doing research for Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and the Lilly Endowment Inc.

HE SAID/SHE SAID

Procrastination isn't a problem until you get around to fretting

SHESAI



Alison Wingfield

If the Olympics had an event for procrastination, I would be a gold medal contender. Assuming I got around to entering.

Procrastinating is a fine art that should be treated with respect. I work hard at putting tasks off until the last minute. I can get a lot of other things done when I'm putting off something else—including cleaning the bathrooms and dusting the furniture.

Writing is one of those things I am good at postponing. I do my best work under pressure. It's amazing what you can accomplish on a Sunday night before a Monday deadline.

Maybe my procrastinating tendencies have their roots in my native state. New Mexico's laid-back attitude is why it is sometimes called the "land of mañana," a Spanish word for "tomorrow." And of course, we did live in Atlanta for a while, so maybe Scarlett's famous words rubbed in too well: "Tomorrow is another day."

So why did I end up with someone who has two modes of operation—on and off? Mark rarely puts off anything (except housework). Rather, he often marches in where angels fear to tread.

This can be good and bad. I like the fact that he gets things done. I don't like it when he does something for me without asking how I want it done. This leaves me in the position of looking ungrateful if I complain about how he did do it. After all, I would have gotten it done. One of these days.

HESAI



Mark Wingfield

It's hard for us get-it-done-now personalities to understand the rest of the world. After all, why don't the rest of you get on the boat with us and start rowing? And why not do it right now?

Alison's a pretty good procrastinator, but I don't think she could claim the gold medal compared to some other people I've known and worked with. Jim Newton, my former

boss at the Home Mission Board, could be a contender for the gold, and he would wear it like a badge of honor.

Procrastinators make non-procrastinators nervous with their procrastination. Jim and I remain great friends, but some of the most gut-wrenching times I've ever had involve our travels together, when I often was left wondering whether he would get on the airplane, bus, elevator or taxi before it was too late. Of course, I was the only one worried; he wasn't sweating it at all. He was absolutely confident he would make it every time, and he usually did, even if the flight attendant closed the plane's door right behind him.

Another hard truth about procrastination is that those of us who usually don't put things off don't like to pay the penalties when we do occasionally procrastinate.

I'm the person in our family who does income taxes, and this year for the first time ever I waited until the last minute to complete our returns. Being a non-procrastinator by nature, I was not the best person to make the midnight run to the post office, where all the other procrastinators were gathered. So Alison went instead.

We can laugh about this and other times we've put things off, but there's one area of life where no one should be a procrastinator. Whether you're a procrastinator or not, don't delay in trusting Jesus as your Savior. The Bible says today is the day of salvation. Is it for you?

You can make a difference for others

If you've ever taught a children's class at church and wondered whether it was worth the hassle, this editorial is for you.

If you've ever led a youth or college group and wondered why you waste your time, this one's for you as well.

If you've ever needed encouragement to keep on working for God even though you get little support at home or you're dogged by personal challenges no one else knows about, keep reading.

This week I received in the mail a letter from my third-grade Sunday school teacher in the small town of Cushing, Okla. I had not seen her or heard of her in 24 years. But I remember her vividly.

Outside of my immediate family, she is one of three people who have had the most profoundly positive influence on my life.

She is the person who most clearly and lovingly told me about Jesus. Her gentle witness led me to trust Jesus as my Savior.

I don't remember exactly what Wanda Hebard taught us in third-grade Sunday school at First Baptist Church, but I remember that she cared deeply for each of us. And somehow she helped us understand that Jesus loves us even more. She was God's messenger to our young lives.

The foundation laid in third-grade Sunday school has been built upon by many others of God's messengers since then. Two stand out for similar reasons.

Henry Maxey was the music minister at First Baptist Church of Moore, Okla., where my family joined after moving to suburban Oklahoma City when I was entering fifth grade. He wasn't technically the youth minister, but he became a nurturing figure to me throughout my teenage years.

His was a ministry of encouragement to me and a number of other kids who went on to vocational ministry roles or who are lay leaders in their churches today.

What made the difference was this: He gave us opportunities to lead in worship and encouraged us to develop the gifts God had given us through singing, accompanying, drama and other avenues.

Although worship was well-planned and orderly, it

wasn't so structured that only the most polished performers could participate. Broad participation was more important than a perfect performance. This created a music ministry instead of just a music program, and all of us grew spiritually as a result.

After trekking off to Oklahoma Baptist University, Charlotte Lankard took up where these two earlier mentors left off.

EDITORIALS

What difference could a part-time college minister at First Baptist Church of Shawnee, Okla., make in one student's life? Something more profound than every one of the university's professors combined could do in the classroom.

To this day, I don't know how she did it, but she opened our minds to see God at work in the real world. She gave us permission to ask the kind of questions you can't normally ask in Sunday school. She helped us break free of our parents' faith and embrace the gospel for ourselves with a passion we'd never known before.

Three ordinary people made an extraordinary difference in my life, just like so many other unsung heroes touch the lives of people in your church today.

But there's one more thing that unites these three individuals, who probably don't even know each other. With the clearer vision given by the passing of time, I now realize that none of these three has lived a perfect or always pleasant life. In fact, each one has struggled with significant challenges personally and within their families that I often was unaware of.

The truth is, at the times these people were making such a profound influence on my life, they overcame personal challenges to become God's messenger of the moment to a third-grader, a teenager and a college student.

The next time you grow weary in well-doing and think it's just not worth the hassle of teaching children at church, or when you think you can't take the pressure, low pay and criticism that comes with a church staff position, remember Wanda Hebard, Henry Maxey and Charlotte Lankard.

Even when your own life seems to be less than ideal, remember that you can make a difference in someone else's life.

— Mark Wingfield

Congratulations to Staff Writer Joyce Martin

All of us on the Western Recorder staff are proud of one of our colleagues, Joyce Martin, who last week had a new book published by Woman's Missionary Union.

"Faith Works: Ministry Models for a Hurting World" is based on Joyce's personal experiences in ministry and on her extensive research into difficult issues such as AIDS, hunger, crisis pregnancies, homelessness, illiteracy and gambling.

The book also tells the painful and poignant stories of real people—including some from Kentucky—who have faced life's struggles and sometimes found help from caring Christians, sometimes not.

This is a practical book that combines gut-wrenching stories with practical advice on how to make a difference in the place where you live. It's the kind of

book that could help your congregation turn its focus from itself to the hurting world at your doorstep.

It's not often that I take the opportunity to brag on our staff in this way. But Joyce's recent accomplishment illustrates the kind of staff I'm proud we've assembled at the Recorder—people who not only are able to write and talk about ministry but who actually live out the ideals we put forth every week.

Our staff members are not just armchair experts on what your church could or should be doing. We are fellow travelers with you as active lay leaders in our churches.

I hope you'll get a copy of Joyce's book from the Baptist Book Store or Woman's Missionary Union and read it. It will inspire you and challenge you.

— Mark Wingfield

Preacher pension laws could soon be clarified by Congress

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Congress may soon make clear that ministers' retirement benefits are not subject to Social Security taxes and that chaplains and other ministers not employed by a church may participate in denominational pension plans.

These and other pension law changes long sought by church pension boards may be included in the final version of a bill that would provide a variety of tax breaks for small businesses.

The fate of the church pension provisions rests primarily in the hands of yet-to-be-named lawmakers who will resolve mostly minor differences in the House and Senate versions of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996.

Both versions of the bill contain the provision making clear that retirement benefits from church pension plans are not subject to self-employment tax, the 15.3 percent tax collected from ministers and other self-employed individuals for Social Security purposes.

Church pension boards sought the provision after the Internal Revenue Service issued an internal opinion that the portion of retirement benefits allocated for a minister's housing allowance was subject to the tax.

The other church pension plan provisions were added as part of a package amendment approved by the Senate 96-2. The Senate amendment would clarify that chaplains and self-employed ministers can participate in church pension plans; allow direct pension contributions on behalf of foreign missionaries; and permit the exemption of church pension plans from discrimination rules that apply to secular employers.

Paul Powell, president of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, commended the Senate's action. "The responsiveness of members on both sides of the aisle was an admirable demonstration of statesmanship," Powell said.

Canada study links church going, giving

OTTOWA (RNS)—A survey of the link between charity and religious beliefs in Canada has shown that those who attend church or religious services weekly are almost three times as likely to give to the poor overseas as those who never attend.

The survey, commissioned by World Vision, also showed that those who worshiped regularly also were more likely to volunteer their service to community organizations.

"If you took all the Christians out of society, you would see some major differences," said Andrew Grenville,

vice president of the Angus Reid polling firm. "You wouldn't see the same amount of giving and the same number of volunteers."

People who attend religious services either weekly or monthly make up only one-third of all Canadians, but they account for more than half of those who contribute to overseas relief, according to the survey.

Half of regular church-goers do voluntary work, compared to one-third of those who never attend services, and 39 percent of those who occasionally attend services, according to

the survey.

Other studies have shown Canadians to be among the most generous in the world. Gordon Floyd of the Canadian Centre of Philanthropy said a recent British study showed about eight in 10 Canadians give to charity and another showed that Canadians donated more cash per capita to charity than the British, French, Spanish and Americans.

When it comes to giving to overseas aid efforts, however, Canada ranks eighth among the 21 developed nations.

AME Zion officials weigh in on sex & politics

By Adelle Banks & Holly Lebowitz
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, one of the nation's oldest African-American denominations, meeting for its quadrennial conference, weighed in on issues from Congress' conservative political agenda to same-sex marriages and the role of women in their church.

The bishops' message, read to about 1,000 conference delegates and visitors, is the definitive statement of policy and direction for the denomination, which celebrates its 200th anniversary this year.

Challenges to the church, they said, include recent moves in Congress to overhaul the welfare system, attempts to dismantle affirmative action programs and the burnings of black churches.

The bishops voiced concern over attacks on affirmative action programs.

Affirmative action "does not just redress a historical wrong, but it perfects a workable future," they said.

The AME Zion leaders reiterated their position on human sexuality, declaring homosexuality and same-sex marriages "morally wrong."

"The church's position has been, and continues to be, clear on not condemning any of God's children," they said. "However, the practice of homosexuality must be condemned."

Citing Scripture and church history, the bishops spoke strongly about the significance of women's contributions to the denomination. "Women are veritable instruments for God's purpose wherever the Creator places them," they said.

They noted that women have been

ordained as preachers in their denomination since the late 1800s. "They come spiritually and academically prepared to be used of God," the bishops said.

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church was founded in New York City in 1796, when a group of black members were denied access to the sacraments of the predominantly white Methodist Episcopal Church. Counting among its members such historical figures as Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth, the AME Zion Church is known to its members as the "freedom church."

The bishops' address to the AME Zion General Conference also tackled the effects of environmental decay on minority communities, the importance of voting in the next election and the need for a church policy on sexual misconduct.

CLASSIFIED ADS

SEEKING: 400-member church (200 average attendance) has 1-year volunteer opportunity for retired minister of education to participate in church growth project, provide staff leadership to church educational program 30 hrs/wk. BA or MA in religious education. \$10,000 housing plus small stipend. Send resumé to: FSBC, 761 S. Little Creek Rd., Dover, DE 19901. (302) 678-3130.

WANTED: Grace Baptist Church, Dry Ridge, Ky., wishes to purchase several used pews. Please leave message on church phone, (606) 428-1393, or call (502) 368-7248.

SEEKING: Organist. Paducah, Ky., church with a history of a strong music ministry. Salary commensurate with position. If interested, send resumé to: P.O. Box 7067, Paducah, KY 42002-7067.

SEEKING: Two part-time positions: 1) youth minister for growing, active youth group; 2) minister of music. If interested, send resumé to: Farmdale Baptist Church, 5610 U.S. Hwy. 127 S., Frankfort, KY 40601.

WANTED: Mission pastor, new church start outside of St. Louis. Contact: Search Committee, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 309, Maryville, IL 62062-0309.

WANTED: Full-time youth minister for growing suburban church in St. Louis metro area. Ideal candidate should have full time experience, with demonstrative program skills. Minimum of six years experience and/or

education. Contact: Youth Search Committee, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 309, Maryville, IL 62062-0309.

WANTED: Construction project manager for 80,000-square-foot project in the spring of 1997. Should have extensive commercial construction management experience. Contact: Don Roberts, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 309, Maryville, IL 62062-0309.

SEEKING: Full-time church secretary. Send resumé to: Church Personnel Committee, Farmdale Baptist Church, 1238 Durrett Lane, Louisville, KY 40213.

VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers needed immediately to teach two-week sessions of pastor's school in Tambov, Russia, beginning in September. Instructors needed in Old Testament, New Testament, theology, ethics, leadership, church music and worship, evangelism, church history, preaching and others. Some seminary training required; MDiv preferred. Cost: \$1,995. Contact: KBC Partnership Missions, (502) 245-4101.

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

CLEANING: Need your windows cleaned or gutters cleaned out? Residential or commercial, call (502) 363-4324 for free estimate.

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framed Scripture pictures. Original watercolor designs. From \$15. Personalizing available. For free color catalog, call (800) 886-4611. The Crown Prints Gallery.

SEEKING: Manufacturing facility in western Kentucky searching for corporate communications leader candidates. Appropriate four-year college degree required. Must have at least 5-8 years of relevant professional experience (e.g., communications, journalism). Experience in training would be helpful. For further information, contact Pat Wolfe at (800) 626-7096, ext. 643. EEO Employer: M/F/D/V

SEEKING: Historic Parr's Rest, Inc., a superior-rated personal care facility on Cherokee Road in Louisville, Ky., is seeking a program director/director of nursing to lead its residential, adult day and respite care programs. Qualified candidates will have RN or BSN, a verifiably successful background in geriatrics, knowledge of psychiatric issues and medications, and a proven track record of leadership. Mail resumé to: Charles L. Smith, Administrator, Parr's Rest, Inc., 969 Cherokee Rd., Louisville, KY 40204. No phone calls, please. Inquiries will be kept in confidence.

NEEDED: Part-time minister of music. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Boone's Creek Baptist Church, 197 Cleveland Rd., Lexington, KY 40509.

SEEKING: A diverse suburban congregation (750 resident members)

seeks dynamic senior pastor. Seminary degree required. Minimum of 6 years experience. Must be effective communicator with strong preaching skills. Submit resumé and videotape to: Pastor Search Committee, Lyndon Baptist Church, 8025 New LaGrange Rd., Louisville, KY 40222.

SEEKING: Meta Baptist Church is searching for a full-time minister of youth and music. If interested, send resumé to: Meta Baptist Church, 8807 Meta Hwy., Pikeville, KY 41501. Pastor Ron Spurgeon.

SEEKING: Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati-area Baptist church expanding from part-time youth activities director to full-time minister of youth and children. Send resumé to: Search Committee, c/o Jeff Hume, 9125 Clear Brook Ln., Covington, KY 41017.

CARE: Kinnett Care. Services include live-in and hourly care, personal care, meals, housekeeping, companionship. Free in-home assessment; insured and bonded. Call 24 hours, (502) 499-7777.

SOUND: System problems? Need consultation, training? Call Jim Cottrell, professional church sound engineer. Serving as sound/media engineer for KBC annual meetings, technical director, Sevens Valley Baptist. (502) 862-9586.

SEEKING: Minister of music/outreach for northern Kentucky SBC church. Call (606) 635-2444. Grant's Lick Baptist Church, 175 W. Clay Rd., Alexandria, KY 41001. Dr. Paul E. Broyles, pastor/teacher.

MINISTRY

Games draw multitude of ministry groups

ATLANTA—The summer sports mecca that drew athletes from 197 countries also attracted a variety of religious groups using the Summer Olympics as a chance to minister and witness.

In addition to Southern Baptists' Atlanta International Ministries '96, other groups in Atlanta included Teen Ministries International, Medals for Glory and Youth with a Mission.

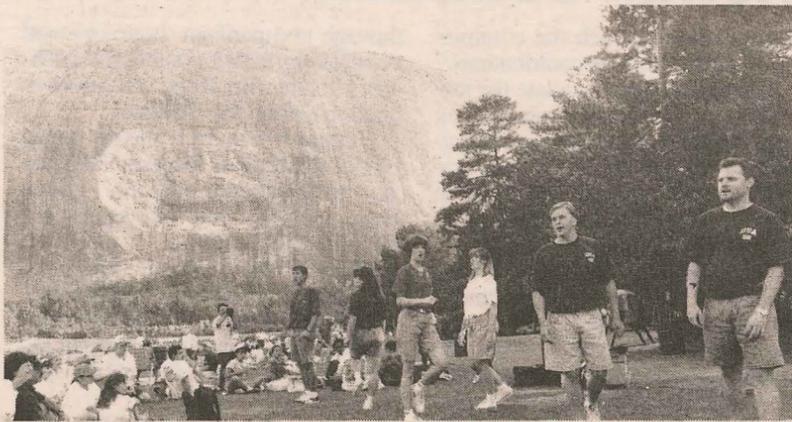
Aglow, a Seattle-based women's group, offered visitors free photos with a Southern belle. The Polaroids were placed in a jacket that quotes John 3:16 and has information about how to become a Christian.

Lay Witnesses for Christ International and AIM '96 co-sponsored five press conferences with world-class athletes to talk about their Christian faith.

Shortly after winning his gold medal in the long jump, Carl Lewis attended one of the "More Than Gold" events.

"The Lord always had a plan for all of us, and that's what made these last few years in my career so much easier," he said.

"God allowed me to learn and to find who was important to me, who was special to me."



OLYMPIC ENTERTAINMENT ■ **ABOVE:** Missions USA Live performs to a crowd gathered at Atlanta's Stone Mountain Park, site of Olympic tennis, archery and cycling events. As Christian groups performed during the games, volunteers were nearby ready to talk about the gospel (BP photo by Mark Sandlin) ■ **LEFT:** Diane Stillwell, of First Baptist Church of Hopkinsville, paints the face of a boy outside the equestrian venue. Stillwell's group was one of more than 30 Kentucky ministry teams or churches volunteering for the Olympics and Paralympics. (Photo by Keith Stillwell) ■ **BELOW:** Centennial Olympic Park, site of the July 27 bombing.

Olympic security force gets Southern Baptist welcome

By Eddy Oliver
SBC Home Mission Board

ATLANTA (BP)—When law enforcement officers from around the world came to the Olympic Games in Atlanta, local Southern Baptists were ready with Southern hospitality and friendship.

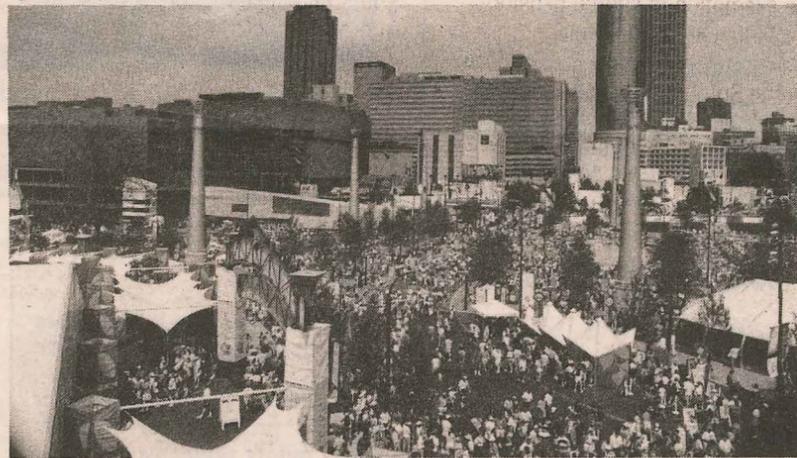
Through a program called the Atlanta Connection, members of the Olympic Security Team Program were linked with individuals, families and groups prior to the Summer Games.

Lowell Lawson, a chaplaincy consultant with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board who organized the program, said the names of nearly 400 security personnel were given to volunteers. Representatives from 57 countries began arriving in late June. More than 2,000 served in all venues as part of the security team, Lawson said.

Lawson and his wife hosted two members of the security team from India. Lawson conducted a Protestant worship service with participants from the United States, India, Hong Kong, South Africa and Holland.

"The commonality of Christ bonded us together," he said. Lawson said he also gave sports New Testaments to Buddhists, Muslims and Hindus at their request.

"It's a seed-sowing venture, and we may never see the results," Lawson said. "But hopefully the contacts we make will have an impact for the cause of Christ around the world."



Pipe bomb deters few AIM '96 groups from volunteer activities

ATLANTA (BP)—Most Southern Baptists continued ministering to Olympic fans despite the pipe bombing of a public park.

Some volunteers, however, canceled activities at the canoeing and kayaking venue in Tennessee.

The July 27 pipe bomb explosion in Atlanta's Centennial Olympic Park sobered the city's festive mood, but Southern Baptists vowed to continue their ministries.

Acteans from Texas were on their way to Atlanta when they learned of the bomb. The group, however, did not turn back. "The Lord called us to do this," explained supervisor Beverly Beck. "If we feel in danger, we'll find another place to witness."

No volunteers serving with Atlanta International Ministries '96 were injured in the explosion, said Linda Johnson, director of the Southern Baptist organization coordinating volunteer efforts.

But some plans were canceled in Ocoee, Tenn., said Andy Jordan, of Polk County Baptist Association.

About 30 youth and summer missionaries did not work in concessions July 27-28 during the canoe and kayak events, he said. A local coordinator also canceled his workers, Jordan reported.

Short-term ministry efforts should be safe training experiences for mission service, he said. "You don't want to put somebody in harm's way if you can help it," Jordan said.

Bomb threats for buildings near the AIM '96 downtown ministry center forced volunteers to evacuate Saturday, July 27, but things were back to normal Sunday, said volunteer Charlotte Mullins.

Located near several Olympic venues and Atlanta's rapid rail transit system, the ministry center offers pedestrians free water, a place to rest from the heat and Christian entertainment. At least 300 people have made professions of faith in Christ there.

A bomb threat also forced cancellation of July 28 morning services at Atlanta's First Baptist Church. No bomb was found, however.

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NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Julius Schacknow**, leader of a Connecticut religious sect who parlayed claims to divinity into a multimillion-dollar real estate empire that crumbled in the 1980s, died July 28 at the age of 71. Known as Brother Julius, Schacknow, attained national attention in the 1970s as an inspiration for spiritually hungry baby boomers who rejected traditional religion to follow charismatic leaders.

■ **Pat Buchanan** called recently for a plank condemning euthanasia and assisted suicide in the GOP's national platform. Linking euthanasia and assisted suicide with abortion, Buchanan said Republicans should reject the "emergent culture of death in America (and) protect, not abandon, those in the dawn of life, those in the shadows of life, and those in the twilight of life."

FEC claims Christian Coalition violated election laws

By Adelle Banks
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—The Federal Election Commission filed suit July 30 against the Christian Coalition, accusing the political organization of breaking the law by giving improper aid to Republican candidates for office.

Citing examples of the coalition's work with prominent Republicans, the commission alleged the coalition spent money on voter guides and other efforts in conjunction with particular candidates' campaigns.

"During the campaign periods prior to the 1990, 1992 and 1994 federal elections, Christian Coalition made expenditures, directly from its corporate treasury and/or through its subordinate state affiliates to influence the election of candidates for federal office," according to the complaint filed in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

According to the complaint, the coalition consulted with candidates' campaigns before making the improper

expenditures, which the commission considers "in-kind contributions."

Such contributions violate the law prohibiting corporations from making contributions from corporate treasury funds to federal elections. Corporations generally are allowed to make such contributions through their political action committees.

The coalition is what the tax code considers a "social welfare" organization, whose primary purpose is to promote the common good rather than partisan politics. Such an organization does not have to pay taxes but contributions to it are not tax-deductible.

But to retain its tax-free status, a social welfare organization must also refrain from endorsing or promoting individual political candidates.

Officials of the coalition, founded in 1989 by religious broadcaster Pat Robertson, said the government is trying to stifle its free speech.

"We've got the heavy hand of government coming in trying to prohibit citizen involvement in elections ...

through non-partisan, issue-oriented publications that don't endorse candidates," said Jim Bopp, an attorney hired to defend the coalition.

"I think it's an overt attempt on the part of the Federal Election Commission to intimidate citizens," added Bopp, who has won suits against the election commission.

Ralph Reed, executive director of the Christian Coalition, which claims 1.7 million members and supporters, said in a statement that the group has "abided by both the letter and the spirit" of the law.

"We are absolutely and totally confident that we will be fully vindicated," Reed said.

The 13-page complaint cited cases in which the election commission alleges the coalition spent money "expressly advocating" the election or defeat of a specific candidate.

The complaint also accuses the coalition of consulting with George Bush's primary and general election campaigns in 1992, Sen. Jesse Helms'

1990 campaign and Oliver North's 1994 campaign for a U.S. Senate seat in Virginia.

The FEC is seeking a ruling that the coalition has violated election laws, should be fined, should stop making corporate contributions that violate the law and should begin reporting its independent expenditures.

Coalition critics said the suit does not surprise them.

"We have found a consistent pattern over the years of carefully rigged efforts to back the candidates that the Christian Coalition favored through voter guides and other means," said Joe Conn, a spokesman for Americans United for Separation of Church and State, a Washington-based advocacy group.

The FEC is an independent agency, made up of three Republican and three Democratic commissioners, which oversees compliance with federal election laws.

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The right place at the right time

Kaye was only 12 when she first entered the Baptist Youth Shelter at Morehead. She had been in various state foster homes since she was 7 years old.

Despite the abuse and abandonment she experienced, Kaye had a bubbling personality and made friends with children and staff alike. Later she moved on to Glen Dale Children's Home.

Today Kaye is 15. Although her future is still uncertain she is very confident she will be successful. She knows when she completes the program at Glen Dale she can go to a KBHC foster home or perhaps on to KBHC's Center for Independence.

Kaye is just one example among many of the way Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children helps to minister to the varying needs of children at different times in their lives. The fancy term is "continuum of care," and we've been working for the last several years to strengthen our ability to help children by being able to provide them with the right service at the right time.

At one end of the continuum are services like our Cornerstone Counseling and Family Preservation pro-

grams. These services help families deal with problems while they live together.

Residential services and foster care are provided for children whose family problems are more severe. Some children need intense treatment to help them overcome the emotional wounds of severe abuse and neglect.

Independent Living services are designed to help young people make the transition to adulthood.

Whether they need help in furthering their education or simply want to move into the work world, KBHC is there to help them.

Being able to provide different types of care is very important to the children we serve. When

a family calls for help or someone refers a child for care, it is vital to plug that person into the most effective service. Then the child or family can move up or down the continuum of care as needed.

Thank you for helping this ministry care in so many ways.

Audrey Puryear is interim president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, 10801 Shelbyville Rd., Middletown, Ky. 40243. Call (800) 456-1386. The World Wide Web address for KBHC is: <http://www.iglou.com/kbhc/>

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Audrey Puryear

A summer to remember

By Charles W. Cox Jr.

The summer of 1996 has been an especially good one for Baptist Healthcare Foundation and the people we serve.

For several months, we knew that Western Baptist Hospital had been named in the bequest of a special Christian lady in that part of the state. Her thoughtful and generous gift amounted to more than \$877,000 and will be used by Western Baptist to do an even better job of touching the lives of patients and families in the Paducah area.

A few days after that bequest, we received another smaller, yet no less sacrificial, gift designated for Central Baptist in Lexington. Once again, the thoughtful donor expressed a deep appreciation for the hospital's care in a very meaningful and lasting way.

On June 3, the eighth annual golf benefit for Central Baptist Hospital provided a day of fun and fellowship for scores of friends. More importantly, funds were raised to enhance the ministry of Central Baptist.

The Foundation was honored to host an appreciation luncheon for retired Baptist pastors and spouses in the Louisville area on June 17. This event has become an especially good day for the Foundation and

allows us an opportunity to say thank you to some very special people.

One of the most promising and rewarding relationships for Baptist Healthcare Foundation in recent months has been our association with Baptist Fellowship Center in Louisville's West End. As a result of the faithfulness, concern and generosity of many friends, BHF was able to provide \$19,500 needed to fund a family crisis minister's position at the Fellowship

Center for one year.

Along those same lines, Foundation staff continue to discuss other needs (and ways to fund them) with chaplains from each of the five Baptist hospitals. We are committed to a healing ministry that honors Christ and furthers his kingdom.

The summer of 1996 has been an eventful and memorable season for Baptist Healthcare Foundation. Thanks to each of you for the role you play in helping us help others in so many important ways.

Any questions or comments concerning this article, Baptist Healthcare System or Baptist Healthcare Foundation should be directed to Charles W. Cox Jr., president of Baptist Healthcare Foundation, 4007 Kresge Way, Louisville, Ky. 40207. (502) 896-5003 or (800) 224-4745.

BAPTIST HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION



FINANCIAL FORUM

Charitable giving with retirement plans possible

By Laurie Valentine

Using retirement benefits to make a charitable gift can benefit you and your family, as well as provide needed support to causes that are important to you.

As retirement approaches, many who have participated in employer-sponsored retirement plans or contributed to their own individual retirement accounts discover that the sizeable accumulations present income tax and estate tax planning challenges.

Distributions from the plan are subject to income tax and need to be coordinated with the receipt of other post-retirement taxable income. Accumulations remaining in a qualified plan or IRA at your death are included to determine the value of your estate for federal estate tax purposes and, when distributed to your family, will be subject to income tax. Also, a 15 percent excise tax is payable if the accumulations in your account exceed certain levels.

If you are over age 59 1/2 and want to give cash to charity, consider taking a withdrawal from your IRA or other qualified plan. While the amount withdrawn is income to you, your outright gift of the cash to a qualified charity will entitle you to a charitable income tax deduction if you itemize deductions. Doing this can also help reduce the potential of "excess accumulations" and the resulting excise tax liability.

Tax laws require that people older than 70 1/2 take distributions from their retirement plans. Your Social Security, investment and retirement plan income may be more than adequate for your current financial needs. Using some of the excess to make a gift to charity can provide a current income tax deduction and reduce the growth of your estate due to accumulated unused annual income.

Estate tax savings can be gained by leaving all or a portion of your retirement benefits to charity. Your estate will receive an estate tax deduction for the amount given to charity, and the charity does not pay income tax on the distribution from the plan.

Leaving retirement benefits to charity and other assets to your family may actually result in your family receiving more ultimately when considering not only estate tax liability but the income tax family members would pay if they received retirement benefits.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

Kentuckians praise Promise Keepers rally

Continued from page 1

enthusiastic reactions to the July 26-27 rally at the RCA Dome, which was sold out for the third consecutive year.

Promise Keepers expects to attract 1.5 million men to 22 rallies across the nation this year. Thus far, eight have sold out.

Promise Keepers was inspired by former University of Colorado football coach Bill McCartney, who saw the organization as a way to combat America's moral decline.

As the name suggests, Promise Keepers encourages men to keep their promises and faithfully serve their wives, families, churches and communities.

While its mission seems aimed

more at discipleship than salvation, hundreds walked to the stage to profess their faith in Jesus as savior after evangelist Michael Silva's address.

Among those attending from Kentucky was Glenn Miller, assistant deacon chairman at Kings Baptist Church near Mount Washington.

"What hit me the most was you need a relationship with Jesus Christ before you can have one with your wife or children," he said. "Unless you have that relationship, nothing else matters."

David Ramey of Murray said he learned several positive lessons. A member of Memorial Baptist Church, he went with a delegation from Louisville's Carlisle Avenue Baptist, his

grandparents' home church.

"One thing was the importance of being a man of God," he said. "Also, the importance of brotherhood and the importance of wife and family. It put a different perspective on it."

Ramey said the importance of the local church also emerged during the talks—along with the duty of men to take a more active role there.

"As (one speaker) said, you can go to a junior high event and not see a man there," he commented. "I'm going to hunt down my Sunday school superintendent and see if there's anything I can do to help."

Joe Rice of Plaza Church of the Nazarene in Flatwoods, termed the weekend "very empowering."

Plaza's men's ministry sponsors monthly home group meetings and the members said they left with a renewed commitment to attend more often.

"I see people starting to develop more fellowship. This brings the reality of life together," Rice said. "It's okay (for men) to share together."

Promise Keepers rallies have had a cumulative effect, according to those who attended in past years.

"Men have come forward and said, 'I'm supposed to be the head of the household and that's what I'm going to be,'" Miller said. "We're starting to hold each other accountable and ask: 'How are you doing? Is there anything I can do to help?'"

Hurt said he worked to increase involvement in Robards after the 1994 rally. "We're seeing men going into the ministry," he said. "I can't say it's directly resulted from it but I know Promise Keepers had an affect."

"It's also changed men positively as husbands and fathers. And I know so many men who are ready to reach out to the community. They want (others) to be saved."

The seven promises of a Promise Keeper:

■ Honor Jesus Christ through worship, prayer and obedience to God's Word through the power of the Holy Spirit.

■ Pursue vital relationships with a few other men, understanding the need for brothers to help keep promises.

■ Practice spiritual, moral, ethical and sexual purity.

■ Build strong marriages and families through love, protection and biblical values.

■ Support the mission of the church by honoring and praying for the pastor and by actively giving time and resources.

■ Reach beyond any racial and denominational barriers to demonstrate the power of biblical unity.

■ Influence the world, being obedient to the Great Commandment (Mark 12:30-31) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).

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Contact your pastor or the Kentucky Baptist Convention for more information. 502-245-4101

PRAYER PARTNERS

Pray for these specific needs related to Kentucky Baptist partnerships with Russia and Boston:

- The dedication service of Byeyhetsa Baptist Church in Russia, scheduled for Aug. 25.
- The many Russian children who received Christ during vacation Bible schools conducted by Kentucky volunteers this summer.
- Pastor Antonio de la Zerda and their three children as they prepare to immigrate from Bolivia to lead a Brazilian church in Framingham, Mass.
- Pastor Paul Kim and his wife Rebecca of Berkland Korean Baptist Church in Cambridge, Mass. Since 1981, the church has planted nine Korean congregations in California, Korea and Uzbekistan.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

- **BOWLING GREEN**—First Church called **John Laida** as interim pastor July 7. Laida is retired from First Church of Clarksville, Tenn., where he served more than 25 years.
- **BRONSTON**—Quinton Church called **Rick Parkey** as minister of music and youth. He began his new ministry in June.
- **EAST BERNSTADT**—**Bucky Blair** resigned as pastor of Laurel Chapel.
- **HORSE CAVE**—Horse Cave Church called **Kevin Denton** as pastor. He previously was pastor at Lovelaceville Church.
- **HOPKINSVILLE**—First Church called **Karen Mullen** of Cumberland, Md., as weekday ministries director. She began her new ministry Aug. 5.
- **LEXINGTON**—Springdale Church called **David Ransdell** of Paris/Lawrenceburg as pastor. He is a student at Southern Seminary and will graduate in December. Ransdell began his new ministry July 21.

Richard Miller previously was pastor. He semi-retired after more than 44 years in the ministry.

David and Jennifer Hibbard, members of Chevy Chase Church, are serving with the University of Mobile Mission-Fuge camp in Mobile, Ala., this summer. They coordinate outdoor sports and recreation in empty lots and community centers, work at the Salvation Army and the International Seamen Center.

- **LIVERMORE**—Livermore Church will celebrate its 111th anniversary Sept. 15. The event will include speakers **James Watt Sr.** and **James Watt Jr.**, a lunch and an afternoon service.
- **LOUISVILLE**—Cedar Creek Church called **Angie Burt** as director of childhood ministries. She will begin her studies at Southern Seminary in August. Also, **Beverly Saling** joins the staff as church secretary.

Eighteenth Street Church will present a night of singing and instrumental music performed by its congregation and an ice cream fellowship Aug. 11, at 5 p.m. **Randy Constant Sr.** is pastor.

- **SOMERSET**—High Street Church called **C.E. Jacobs** as interim pastor. He will begin Aug. 11.
- **WILLIAMSBURG**—Abundance, a Christian musical group that travels throughout Kentucky and surrounding states representing Cumberland College, has announced its members for 1996-97. Under the direction of **Rick Fleenor**, Abundance features: **Chad Wetherill**, musical director; **Melissa Brock**, **Michelle Duty**, **Todd Hughes**, **Laura Jacobs**, **Dana Junker**, **Jerry Kemper** and **Chris Wilder**. Call Fleenor at (800) 343-1709 for scheduling information.

MISSIONARY UPDATE

- **Stanley and Patricia Crabb**, missionaries in Germany, are in the States.



KENTUCKY CHANGERS Volunteers take nails out of a board from a roofing project in Pike County. About 150 volunteers from 17 churches worked on 11 houses during the second Kentucky Changers event of the summer. In all, more than 235 people participated in Kentucky Changers this year. The summer program is organized by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Brotherhood department. (Photo by Dwayne Doyle)

Mailing address: c/o Clairmont Church, 1735 Clairmont Way N.E., Atlanta, Ga. He is a native of Louisville and she is from Hopkinsville.

- **Adney and Velma Cross**, missionaries to Eritrea, are in language study in Ethiopia. Mailing address: P.O. Box 5539, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He was born in Morganfield, and she in Christian County.
- **Tony Gilbert**, missionary to Brazil, has completed language study and arrived on his field of service. Mailing address: Caixa Postal 1152, 58001-970, Joao Pessoa, PB, Brazil. He is a native of Middlesboro.
- **David and Gloria Glaze**, missionaries to Argentina, are on the field. The

address: Bolanos 141, 1407 Buenos Aires, Argentina. He was born in Louisville.

- **John and Shari Klaassen**, missionaries to Spain, are in the States. Mailing address: 7504 S. Watterson Trail, Louisville, Ky. 40291.
- **Takahiro and Lane Oue**, missionaries to Japan are in the States. Mailing address is: Rineyville Baptist Church, P.O. Box 197, Rineyville, Ky. 40162. She was born in Larue County and grew up there and Meade County.
- **Roger and Linda Rucker**, Baptist representatives to Egypt, are in the States. Mailing address is: 147 Wildwood Drive, Pineville, La. 71360. She is from Eddyville.

'Go ahead, make my day'

If you are a Clint Eastwood fan, you may remember this phrase from one of his movies. I do not remember its title, but I remember well the scene in which he told the man to "Go ahead, make my day."

Many things can happen that will make our days. Different things for different people can make a day special for each of us.

There have been several times this summer when different people have made my day. We have had a record number of volunteers on our campus this summer. Many were here for the first time. We never know what people are thinking who are here for the first time. They have often heard many things about Oneida. Many have told me over the years that they consider the very ground to be holy. Others have testified of the awesome feeling they get when they enter our campus. A statement often made is that they feel the very presence of God on our campus.

Several times this summer, volunteers have asked where our students were. Some weeks they have been gone for the summer break. But other weeks the students are here, going about their normal routines. During that time when students are here and in school, I simply say the students are all over the campus, to which the person will often reply, "I have not noticed any students. Are you sure they are here?" I smile and say, "Yes, there are nearly 200 students here. They are going about their business." It is nice to know we can have 200 students who conduct themselves in such a way that visitors do not even notice them.

Several times this summer, visitors have made statements such as, "I have never seen more orderly and polite kids in my life." Wow! Talk about

making my day!

Often those of us who work with our students day in and day out do not realize just how polite our students are. It is not uncommon at all for our youth choir or some other group of students from Oneida to travel and have to eat one or more meals on the road. As we look in the window of the restaurant we are about to enter, we can tell what the employees are thinking; "Oh no, here comes another group of kids!" I cannot really blame them, because I have seen many youth groups go into a restaurant and make not only a mess but enough noise and chaos to last for days. It is really a wonderful treat for a restaurant manager to come to me or one of the other adults and say that our students are among the best behaved they have ever served. In fact, on one occasion our students were so well behaved the manager gave each of our students a free ice cream cone.

Don't take me wrong. Our students can be real kids too. But taken as a whole, we are very proud of them. It has been our experience over the years that if a child knows the boundaries in which he is to live, he does quite well. Most problems arise when well defined boundaries are not in place.

Other visitors on our campus have mentioned how well our students work. They marvel that boys and girls ages 11 to 18 clean buildings (including rest rooms), mow the grass, work on the farm and in the gardens and work in the dining room. Our guests are impressed with the orderliness with which they perform their duties. I can surely say these folks do not know they have just "made my day!"

W.F. "Bud" Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, P.O. Box 67, Oneida, Ky. 40972

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Trouble shooter in the chicken house

"Don't go back to raising chickens," alumnus Raymond Long advised with a laugh, remembering his campus work. The school had an egg production business in 1958.

Long also recalled rolling wheelbarrows full of concrete for the beams in the new furniture building, now the Aldridge building. "We had an old army surplus truck that wasn't licensed nor good enough to drive on public roads. We loaded sand by shovel and hauled it from Pine Mountain.

"Coming to Clear Creek required us to reorganize our lives. I had a good job, and we had a nice home. It seemed we went in reverse; started over again. We learned what sacrifice means. But we've been happy in the ministry and know we did the Lord's will."

He was called to preach at age 16, but fought it a long time. After army duty, he and Patsy married, and he worked at Alcoa in Knoxville, Tenn. "I was where I wanted to be but it wasn't what God wanted."

Ministry experience began as pastor of Coldiron Mission. "The Riverview Church asked me to teach Exodus. They didn't have any money to give me, but I just needed the experience.

Pastorates in Casey and Taylor counties and graduation from Campbellsville were followed by two years at New Orleans Seminary. They returned to Kentucky and had nearly nine years at Bethel Church in Harrodsburg. He secured additional training at the University of Tennessee and taught English for 16 years at Rutledge High School. "Many students sought me for counseling. Some of them are now in the ministry."

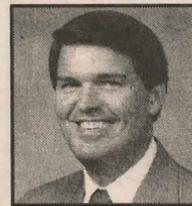
This month marks their second anniversary at Bean Station Church. A remodeling program is underway and members recently reorganized a near-by rural church that closed three years ago.

"I feel like much of my ministry has been as a trouble shooter for the churches." Last October, Long faced a different kind of trouble. Surgery and chemotherapy treatments recently brought the news that all the cancer is gone. The church has been real good to me and the Lord has showed so many blessings through it all."

Raising chickens is more trouble than Long wants, but he's ready to do anything else the Lord desires.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Ministry helps families visit out-of-state inmates

By Ken Camp
Texas Baptist Convention

DENTON, Texas (BP)—An inmate saw his 5-month-old daughter for the first time. A woman with inoperable cancer saw her imprisoned son for what was probably the last time. And a Korean couple who came to visit their son met Jesus.

They were among more than two dozen relatives of prisoners from Oregon who visited family members this year in the Denton, Texas, county jail.

Their four-day visit was made possible by the Criminal Justice Ministries Network of North Texas, an organization founded by Texas Baptist laymen.

Last fall, the Oregon Department of Corrections transferred 230 inmates to Denton due to overcrowding in Oregon's prison system. The 1,500-mile

transfer stopped most family visitation.

The Criminal Justice Ministries Network coordinated Operation HELP—Helping, Encouraging and Loving Prisoners. The project was designed to enable families outside Texas to visit prisoners held in north Texas prisons and jails.

The network secured low-cost air fare for the families, helped subsidize their lodging and enlisted local churches to provide them with ground transportation, meals, counseling and hospitality.

When visitors first arrived in Denton, they had a high level of anxiety and a low level of trust, according to Gene Grounds, executive director of the regional ministries network.

"When the families came in, nobody knew anyone else," he said. "But

as they stayed together for four days, they bonded. They wept together, had fun together, did all the things that new friends do together."

As barriers fell, visitors also became more receptive to the gospel. Grounds led one Asian-American couple to faith in Jesus. They were visiting a 20-year-old son serving a 10-year sentence for murder.

Operation HELP is just one facet of the Criminal Justice Ministries Network, said Grounds.

Their goal is to develop an interdenominational information-sharing group that will represent all aspects of criminal justice ministry in 64 north central and northeast Texas counties.

"We want to motivate, educate and equip the church to develop local criminal justice ministries," he

said.

Ministries include five groups: offenders, ex-offenders, criminal justice professionals, crime victims and the families of all those involved.

The regional network works closely with a statewide clearinghouse of criminal justice ministry information.

More than 100 criminal justice ministries currently operate independently in north Texas, focusing on evangelism, discipleship, mentoring, aftercare and family support.

"Our purpose is to recruit, train and equip volunteers from all Christian denominations for these ministries," Grounds said. "The church and criminal justice ministries working together can more effectively reach the more-than-1.5 million people affected by crime in the north Texas mission field."

When visitors first arrived in Denton, they had a high level of anxiety and a low level of trust. As barriers fell, visitors became more receptive to the gospel.

Indiana churches using servant evangelism in outreach

By Sarah Zimmerman
Home Mission Board

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)—People used to refer to First Baptist Church of Knightstown, Ind., as the church that split.

This spring, Pastor Mark Tabb overheard someone describe it as the church that washes cars. He said he prefers the new image.

Free car washes are not publicity stunts, Tabb insisted. Instead they are part of an intentional strategy of "servant evangelism."

In addition to offering car washes, members of First Baptist have shoveled snow for neighbors and given away popcorn, flower seeds and Olympic guides that include the plan of salvation. They have offered drinking water to fishermen as they leave boat ramps and gone door-to-door at Halloween giving away surprises instead of taking candy.

"I can't say that we've seen large numbers of people saved," Tabb said. "It has changed the mindset of the church. Now we ask, 'How can we serve others?' It's also changed the image of the church in the community and torn down all sorts of walls."

David Wheeler, Indiana Baptist director of evangelism, introduced state churches to the servant evangelism concept last year. The approach is based on the book "Conspiracy of Kindness" by Steven Sjogren.

Sometimes servant evangelism in-

cludes sharing Christ directly with someone. Earlier this year a youth group went to a parking lot to wash car windshields and led seven people to make professions of faith.

In other cases, servant evangelism is simply doing something nice for someone. New Heritage Baptist Church in Indianapolis is in a community where new homes start at \$250,000 and security systems are tight. "We can't go ring doorbells," said Pastor Mark Patton. "We have no entrance to their homes, and they're not attracted to a Baptist church."

To reach people in the affluent community, church members took gourmet chocolate chip cookies to residents this spring. Each cookie was sealed with a gold label and an invitation to a gardening seminar at the church led by a lawn care expert. Thirty people attended, and Patton said he hopes it's the first step to introducing them to Christ.

The approach appeals to Christians uncomfortable with traditional evangelism approaches, but it's "not an end in itself," Wheeler said. "It's an entry-level way to get people involved in evangelism."

When Fall Creek Baptist Church in Indianapolis began a servant evangelism approach, Neal Gore, associate pastor of ministry, said, "I could not believe how difficult it was for these people to talk about God's love."

One of the church's first projects was wrapping Christmas gifts at a

mall. When shoppers asked why the church provided the free service, some church members hesitated to say, "This is a practical way to show you God's love." That made Gore realize they probably weren't leading anyone through a gospel tract or presenting the "Romans Road" to people either.

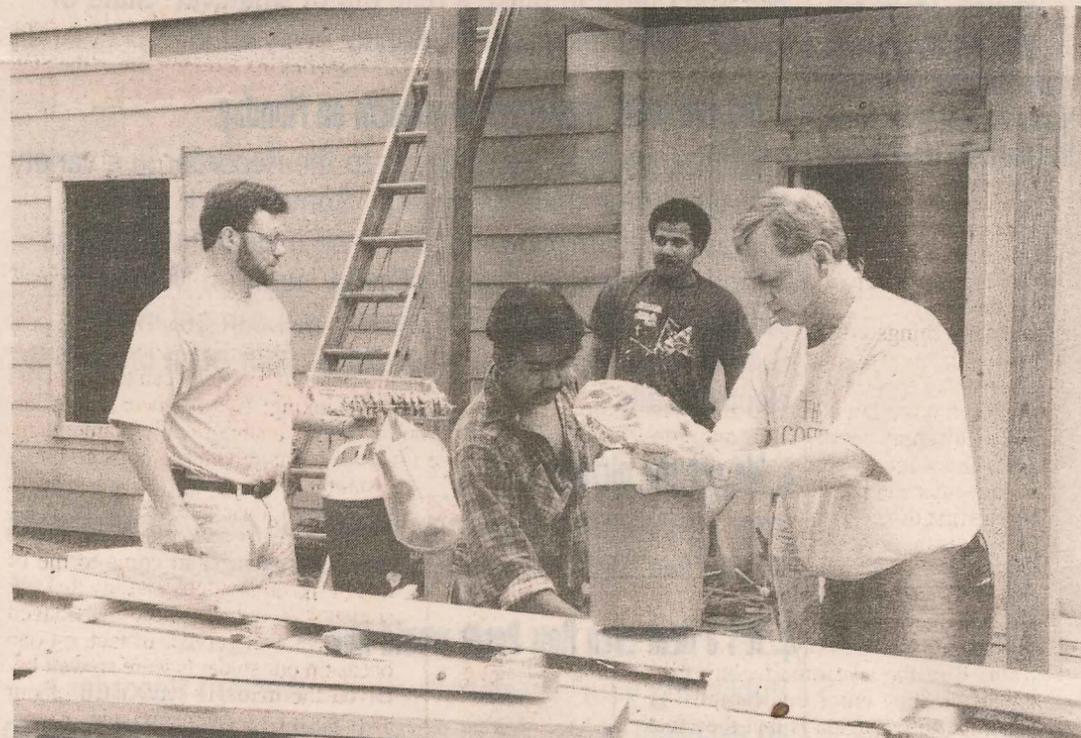
Church members have since given away copies of the "Jesus" video and

taken coffee and doughnuts to workers at construction sites.

"We call it light work," Gore said. "It's evangelism without the pressure."

Servant evangelism is necessary in an unchurched culture, Gore said, because "people are so far away from God. It takes several touches to bring them to the point of salvation."

COFFEE BREAK Randy Blades (right) and Neal Gore (left) of Fall Creek Baptist Church in Indianapolis bring coffee and doughnuts to construction workers. (BP photo by Sarah Zimmerman)



Christian planning tool offered for time-conscious teenagers

NASHVILLE (BP)—Christian, time-conscious teens now have a resource to help them plan their week and aid their spiritual growth.

"Student DayMaker," released earlier this year by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, is a planning resource featuring:

- Monthly calendars and daily planners.
- Class schedules.
- Scripture verses.
- Evangelism and Bible study helps.
- Information about several Southern Baptist youth-related emphases such as the "True Love Waits" absti-

nence campaign and "See You at the Pole" prayer rallies.

It also has a "how-to" section with tips on having a quiet time, setting goals, praying and memorizing Scripture.

Editors and consultants at the Sunday School Board became increasingly aware of the importance of time management for teens when youth ministers started requesting Christian-based planning tools.

"They wanted something that would help their teenagers plan their days and encourage them in their daily walk with Christ," said Dwayne Ulmer, a designer at the board.

Richard Ross said he rarely told teenagers about events more than two weeks in advance when he began working as a youth minister more than 20 years ago.

"If I did, they would just shrug their shoulders," said Ross, youth ministry consultant at the Sunday School Board.

Today, however, students check their planning notebooks for events months in advance to make sure there is no conflict, he said.

"For good or ill, their lives are much more programmed," said Ross, who also is youth minister at Tulip Grove Baptist Church in Hermitage,

Tenn.

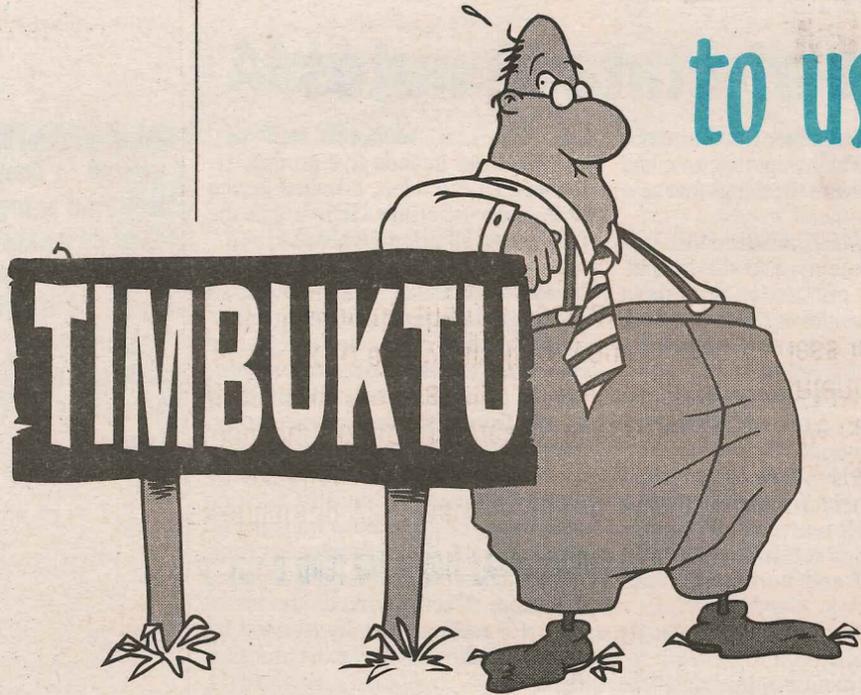
Even elementary school students are getting in on the act. Scripps Howard News Service reported last year thousands of kids learn about daily planning in school and are "pencil-ing in play dates and homework reminders."

Ross said Student DayMaker can help Christian club leaders on campus.

"Not only can it help keep these leaders organized, it can help them focus on leading their peers toward Christian growth as well," he said.

For more information, call Bill Craig at (615) 251-2761.

You don't have to drive to Timbuktu to use the Western Recorder's news page plan



And answers to other myths

Using the Western Recorder's back page for your church newsletter never has been easier than today. Before assuming it's not right for your church, let us tell you all the things we can do to make your newsletter look better and cost less.

1. We can take it however you dish it out.

The Recorder receives church news pages in a variety of forms. Some churches type out their copy on a typewriter and paste it down. Some churches use a computer. Some use sophisticated desktop publishing systems. The point is, you don't have to invest in more sophisticated equipment than you already have. But, at the same time, you don't have to make a relic out of whatever "state-of-the-art" equipment you've already invested in.

2. You can mail, messenger or modem on Monday.

Churches get their news pages to the Recorder in a variety of ways. Some mail the page in. Some drop it off in person. An increasing number send it electronically. The bottom line: We need your page by noon on Monday for publication that week. That means you can get in your Sunday statistics if you hand-deliver your page or send it electronically.

3. We get the picture.

Your church news page may include as many photographs as you like. We offer high-quality reproduction.

4. It's a deal even Ross Perot would like.

Publishing your newsletter with the Western Recorder is an excellent value. We're good at helping churches balance their budgets by reducing newsletter costs. We can mail your church newsletter and all the helpful content of the Recorder to every family in your church for less than the cost of sending them a postcard.

5. Color us flexible.

For a small fee, you can use a second ink color other than black on your newsletter page.

6. We've got designs for you.

We offer six contemporary page designs which we'll gladly adapt for your use. These professional-looking designs will enhance the attractiveness and readability of your newsletter—all at no extra cost. But if you have your own design already, that's fine too. We'll work with you to make sure your page looks the best it possibly can.

7. We'll set your staff free.

Preparing a news page for the Western Recorder usually takes significantly less staff time than producing a newsletter in-house. This can free up your valuable staff time for other important ministries.

8. It's no myth, mister.

It may be a secret in some places, but it's no myth that the Recorder offers the best value for church newsletters combined with timely news of faith & inspiration.

9. Oh, why not tonight?

Now, is there any good reason why your church shouldn't be using the Recorder's news page plan? We didn't think so. Just take that simple step of faith and give us a call. We'll counsel with you, provide materials to help you and even come make a presentation to your church if appropriate. You'll never know how good this deal might be unless you ask. Call us now at (502) 244-6470.

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