

October 15, 1996
Vol. 170, No. 41

CORNELL TRACE
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FOR THE RECORD

Right to die?

More Americans are joining the discussion about doctor-assisted suicide and other forms of euthanasia. Pages 1 & 7.

Nominee announced

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Delivery problems?
Some subscribers have experienced delivery delays. For an explanation, see page 5.

Panelists offer perspectives in doctor-assisted suicide debate

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

LOUISVILLE—While debates swirl over whether people have a "right to die," a former Hospice worker recently said society's attention is focused in the wrong direction.

"When we focus on death we lose what we're all about," said Sandra Brock-Moore, a former social worker with Hospice of Louisville and a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

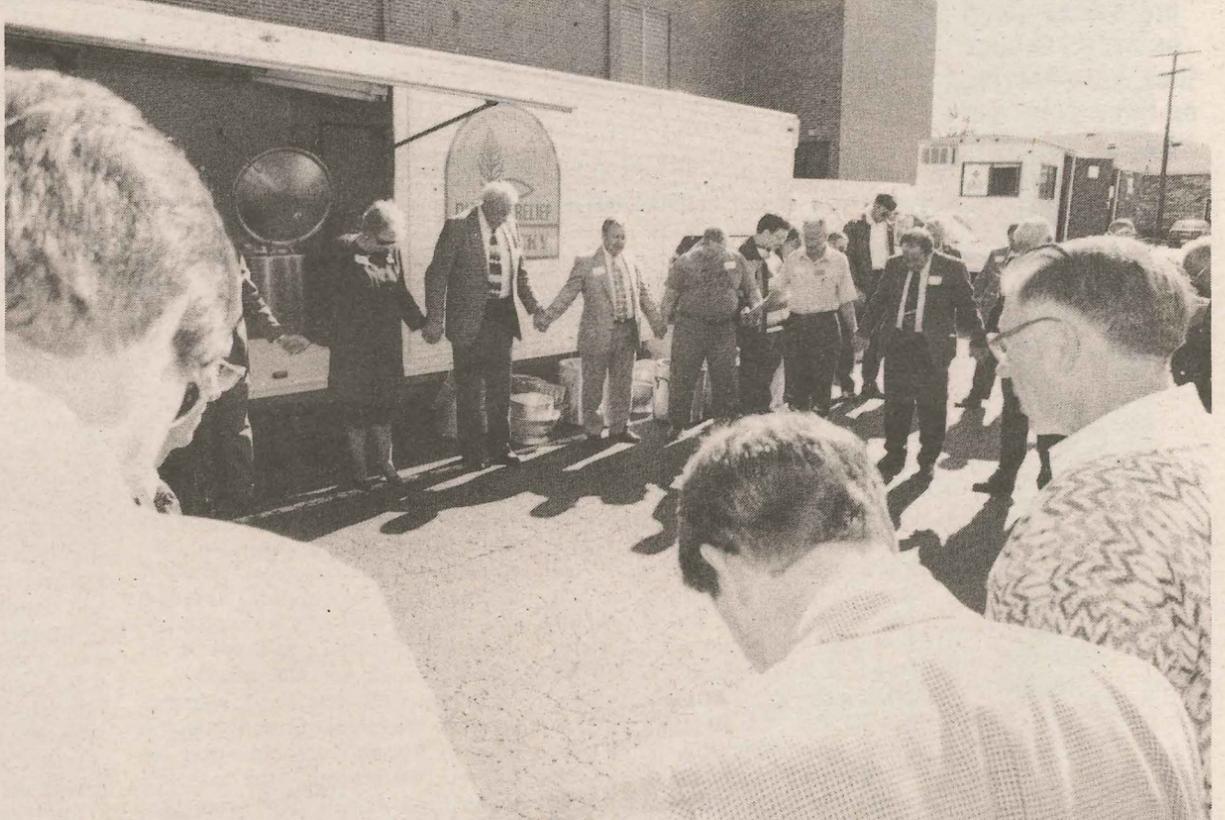
"(The discussion) should not be about death with dignity, but life with dignity. To me, God is about love and relationship. There might be fewer people asking for physician-assisted suicide if more people were listening to them."

Brock-Moore was one of five panelists at a recent discussion of physician-assisted suicide at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Brock-Moore's comments about listening were reinforced by Presbyterian minister James Chatham. He said he has counseled many elderly people who are ready to die and want to talk about it.

"I find that I'm often the only person who pursues that conversation," said Chatham, pastor of Highland Presbyterian Church in Louisville. "Often we want to ignore that. I know two people who committed suicide because they

See Panelists raise ..., page 7



DEDICATION Kentucky Baptists offer prayers of dedication for a new feeding trailer unveiled this month at the Brotherhood Convention annual meeting. It is the third set of equipment available for Kentucky Baptist Brotherhood disaster relief feeding crews. Formerly a souvenir trailer for stock car racer Richard Petty, the new feeding station got its first test in Jacksonville, N.C., after Hurricane Fran.

Brotherhood prepares for the future

By David Winfrey
News Director

RADCLIFF—While paying tribute to a legacy dating nearly 90 years, Kentucky Brotherhood leaders committed themselves to the future at their annual meeting Oct. 4-5 at Stithton Baptist Church.

Next year the Southern Baptist Convention will combine the national Brotherhood Commission office with two other SBC agencies.

Kentucky Brotherhood director

Bob Simpkins said this meeting was a good time to pay homage to the past while noting that the lack of a national office won't impede state Brotherhood work.

Leaders have seen God use Brotherhood volunteers and programs in recent years, he said. "We feel that just because there is a national transition, God is not finished with that work."

Ben Connell, director of Brotherhood in South Carolina, reminded those attending that Brotherhood traces its beginning to the formation of the

Laymen's Missionary Movement of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1907.

In 1950, the SBC voted to make the committee a commission and changed the name to Brotherhood, he said.

"Brotherhood started in the mind of God, I'm convinced," Connell said. "The future looks great. Let's move into it with a great deal of passion."

In Kentucky, that future could involve Brotherhood becoming a

See Men encouraged to ..., page 6

Seek authority through love, not power, Campolo urges

By Mark Wingfield
Editor

WASHINGTON—If you're a Christian who wants to influence society, demonstrate love rather than power, Tony Campolo suggests.

"Whenever the church operates from a position of power, it loses its ability to demonstrate the love of Jesus," Campolo said Oct. 6 at the 60th anniversary celebration of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Campolo, professor of sociology at Eastern College, an American Baptist school near Philadelphia, was a keynote speaker for the celebration, held at Calvary Baptist Church.

The image of Christians portrayed by the Christian Coalition and other segments of the Religious Right is about power more than love, charged Campolo, who identifies himself as a progressive evangelical.

It is not wrong for Christians to express their opinions and be involved in the political process, Campolo said.

But it is wrong to work from a position of power rather than love.

The popular author and speaker told of a time in his past when he ran for public office on the notion that evangelical Christians should get elected to as many offices as possible and change society through their power. Then, he said, a question dawned on him: "Why didn't Jesus think of that?"

The answer is that Jesus chose to operate from a position of love rather than power, he said. "Whenever the church operates from a position of power, it forfeits its genius and calling."

He added: "The Jesus we serve refuses to do the power thing."

Campolo drew an illustration from his background in sociology. He cited a principle developed by Willard Waller: "In any relationship, whoever is exercising the most power is ex-

ercising the least love."

This principle is illustrated in the Catholic church, he said. Although Pope John Paul II has power, he has nowhere near the authority among Catholics that

Mother Teresa has, though she has no power.

Campolo took aim at both the right and the left to make his point about power. For example, the feminist movement has wrongly answered power with power, he said.

"From a Christian perspective, the problem never has been that women were powerless," he said. "The problem has been that men are powerful."

The feminist movement has sought to gain equal power, but that is not the answer, Campolo said. "The answer to a million pushy, powerful men is not to create a million pushy, powerful women."

On the other side, he chided Christians who have sought to gain a posi-

tion of power to discriminate against gays and lesbians. "You can't say you love gay and lesbian people while denying them their constitutional rights."

Campolo said he personally opposes same-sex marriages. He previously has explained at length that he does not believe homosexual behavior is God's desire for people.

Nevertheless, there's a "big difference" between him believing that and him demanding that others share his belief or face retribution, he said.

Those who have demonstrated extraordinary influence in the world in the 20th century had no power but acted out of love, Campolo said, citing as examples Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, Martin Luther King Jr. and Ghandi.

"There is no power on earth that can keep love down," he said.

This is the message of Jesus, and the message that should inspire Christians to action, Campolo said. "It's not that Christianity has been tried and failed; it's just that it's not been tried."

More stories, page 8



Moving? See page 4 (1015)

Professors' suit against conservative critics goes on

By Lacy Thompson
Louisiana Baptist Message

The judge ruled that critics of the professors could be sued because they were "acting on their own" and "had no authority from any ecclesiastical board ... to conduct any disciplinary proceedings."

ALEXANDRIA, La. (BP)—A Louisiana judge has ruled a lawsuit filed by four Louisiana College professors against the "Louisiana Baptist Conservative Resurgency" group may proceed.

According to the ruling by Judge Tom Yeager of the Ninth Judicial District Court in Alexandria, the issues in the case do not fall under the First Amendment, which guarantees religious freedom and which has been interpreted to forbid courts from interfering with ecclesiastical matters. The professors' lawsuit challenges what they claim are defamatory and derogatory statements meant to harm their professional and moral reputations.

However, the lead attorney for the Louisiana Baptist Conservative Resurgency said he disagrees with Yeager, who issued the ruling the last week of September, and his clients will appeal the ruling on that issue. "This is a legal conclusion that we think is incorrect," said Dale Smith of Pineville, La. "We feel the judge too narrowly defined what a church is."

Smith said his clients believe the activity challenged in the lawsuit falls under the umbrella of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, which should be defined as a church. By that reasoning, the case falls under First Amendment protection and should be dismissed by the court, Smith said.

The professors' lawsuit alleges that letters distributed by Leon Hyatt of Pineville and others were defamatory and derogatory and meant to harm the professional and moral reputations of several Louisiana College professors. The lawsuit, which requests a jury trial, was filed June 10 by professors Carlton Winbery, Fred Downing, James Heath and Connie Douglas. The college itself is not involved in the suit.

The plaintiffs contend Hyatt and others issued "malicious and derogatory"

statements in an attempt "to wrongfully expose the plaintiffs to ridicule, contempt and hatred, as well as further seek to deprive them of public confidence." A lawsuit is a legal statement of grievances against a defendant and must be proved in court.

Events related to the suit date back to May 1995, when Hyatt and others organized a group for the purpose of calling the state convention "back to its biblical and moral roots." Members of the group adopted four goals, two of which related directly to Louisiana College.

In addition, in the weeks after its organization, the group began distributing a packet of 21 letters citing concerns with Louisiana College. The letters addressed a range of past and recent incidents at the school and named several professors.

The lawsuit asserts the charges made against the professors are "absolutely and patently false." Plaintiff attorney Vic Sooter of Alexandria said the suit was filed after it became obvious the situation could not be resolved through any other means.

In July of this year, Smith responded to the suit by asking an Alexandria court to dismiss it without a trial. He offered two reasons—the case fell under First Amendment protection and there was too much vagueness in the charges.

Yeager heard arguments regarding the requests earlier in September, then ruled against both of Smith's arguments.

Yeager said it is "well established the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article 1, Section 4 of the Louisiana Constitution both guarantee religious freedom and have been interpreted to forbid courts from interfering in the ecclesiastical matters of religious groups, including internal disciplinary matters, government and religious doctrines of churches."

Yeager cited two cases supporting that view of protection. However, he also noted the current situation differs

College's board changes hiring process

PINEVILLE, La. (ABP)—A bitterly divided board of trustees at Louisiana College has voted 15-14 to eliminate trustee interviews of prospective faculty members, a move aimed at reducing tensions between conservative trustees and moderate professors at the Louisiana Baptist school.

In response to complaints by some trustees that teachers hired during the summer are already on campus before trustees have a chance to vote on them, trustees were invited last summer to a forum to meet faculty candidates.

One candidate who was subsequently not hired claimed the trustee forum turned into a "grilling" of her theological views. Trustees involved in the forum defended it as hard but appropriate questioning.

Under the new policy, board members will review a biographical profile of prospective teachers and submit questions for candidates to administrators. A professor will be offered a job after a vote of the trustee academic affairs committee, with the hiring ratified later by the full board of trustees.

Conservative trustee Mark Brister, who recently chaired the Southern Baptist Convention committee on denominational restructuring, complained the new policy turns the trustee vote into "a retroactive rubber stamp."

"We can delegate this away, but it's still our responsibility," said Brister, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Shreveport. "We are legally and ethically responsible to the Louisiana Baptist Convention" for hiring of teachers, he said.

College President Robert Lynn urged unity among trustees, saying a divided board will hurt fundraising efforts, student recruitment and an ongoing search for a new president.

"For a college to be successful, there must be unity on the board—not blind conformity—but unity and respect," said Lynn, who will retire when his successor is named. "No experienced presidential candidate is likely to be attracted to an institution where the board is split."

While many routine matters passed without debate or opposition during the meeting, votes on matters dividing conservative and moderates on the board showed little sign that the two sides are likely to reconcile anytime soon.

Trustees cast a total of 10 ballots before electing a slate of officers. It took three ballots to elect Jim Spencer of Pineville, a conservative, as president. Mike Johnson of Pineville, a moderate, was elected vice president in two ballots, and Don Denton of Slidell, a conservative, was elected secretary on four ballots.

in that it involves people "who were acting on their own, outside of a church as a 'theological movement,' who had no authority from any ecclesiastical board of any church, Louisiana College or the Louisiana Baptist Convention to conduct any disciplinary proceedings."

Because of that, Hyatt and others involved in the distribution of the letters have removed themselves from

First Amendment protection and exposed themselves to the jurisdiction of the court, Yeager said. "To so decide (in that way) will not violate sacred constitutional principles in that the court will not interfere with the defendant's right to worship, his ability to engage in worship activities in his church and does not involve the court in any internal or administrative matters within any church."

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Name ideas sought.** The Southern Baptist Sunday School Board is seeking ideas for a new name. The publishing house and provider of church resources is studying the possibility of changing its name to reflect the broad range of services it offers. Name suggestions should be written on a postcard or 3-by-5-inch card and mailed to Name Change, 127 Ninth Ave. North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234-0189.

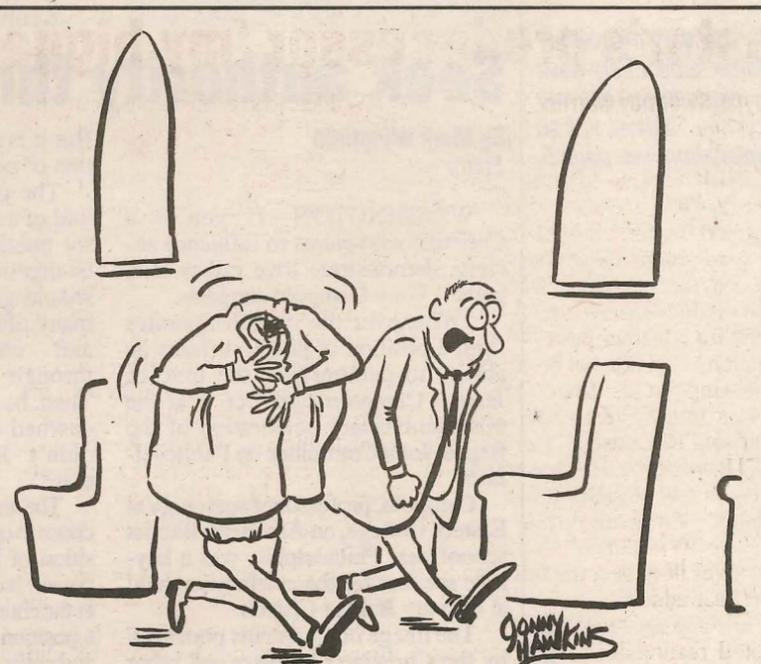
■ **Cunningham named chaplain.** Milton Cunningham, director of denominational ministries at Baylor University, has been named the school's chaplain. He replaces Bill Austin, who was fired.

■ **"Dream team" departure.** After less than one year on what President Mark Coppenger called his "dream team," the new administrative leadership of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Marty King has resigned to return to his previous position at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. The HMB's administrative

committee re-elected King to the position of director of news services and public relations Oct. 28. King was vice president for institutional advancement at Midwestern.

■ **Foster named editor in Illinois.** Ferrell Foster has been named editor of the Illinois Baptist, the newspaper of the Illinois Baptist State Association. Foster, 41, had been acting editor since March 1. He was the paper's associate editor for nine years.

■ **Increased allocation asked.** Trustees of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., approved a resolution Oct. 8 asking the Southern Baptist Convention to increase the percentage of Cooperative Program gifts allocated to the SBC's six seminaries. In the current fiscal year, the seminaries collectively receive 20.4 percent of national Cooperative Program dollars. Cooperative Program budget allocations are recommended by the SBC Executive Committee.



"So anyway, you didn't think my sermon on guilt was too hard-driving, did you?"

Scottsville pastor Price KBC presidential candidate

By Mark Wingfield
Editor

Scottsville pastor Floyd Price will be nominated for the presidency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention during the KBC annual meeting Nov. 12, announced Bill Messer.

Messer, pastor of First Baptist Church in Ashland, said he intends to nominate Price, pastor of Scottsville Baptist Church. Price confirmed he is willing to be nominated.

No other candidates for KBC office have been announced yet. Another person widely rumored to be a presidential candidate, when contacted by the Recorder last week said he does not know whether he will be nominated or not.

KBC presidents serve one-year terms without the possibility of reelection, so a new president is chosen every year. The current KBC president is Bill Tichenor, pastor of First Baptist Church of Princeton.

The new president will be elected on the first day of the KBC annual meeting, scheduled for Nov. 12-13 at First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.

Messer said he intends to nominate Price because "he's the kind of person who can work with all Kentucky Baptists."

He described Price as a pastor who strongly supports the Cooperative Program unified budget, who "has a heart for the small community" and who has led his church in community ministry.

"He's a person of integrity," Messer added. "If he tells you something, you can trust him."

Price has served the Scottsville church, which averages 225 in Sunday school attendance, since 1993.

Though a medium-size church, First Baptist of Scottsville ranks among the top contributors to the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Cooperative Program. Last year,

Price's church ranked 38th in total Cooperative Program gifts in the state and 50th in total gifts to the KBC. The church gave \$72,257 to all KBC causes, including \$61,103 (20 percent of undesignated receipts) to the Cooperative Program.

Price said increasing Cooperative Program giving has been a major thrust at every church he has served as pastor. "We will be a strong convention ... as long as we focus on missions," he said. "My agenda, if elected president, will be to see that Kentucky Baptists maintain a missions thrust. We don't need to get off on any side issues."

Price described himself as a "very conservative pastor but not a person who has had anything to do with taking over." Although he has many friends who would be counted among the moderate movement, he said he is "not representing a moderate group as a candidate. I'm representing Kentucky Baptists."

Price said he feels comfortable with people of all political and theological stripes in the KBC, noting he was named chair of the KBC Executive Board's administrative committee in 1993 by Charles Stewart, one of the most conservative KBC presidents in recent years.

Price currently serves on the Executive Board, where he is a member of the administrative committee.

Price, 54, grew up in South Side Baptist Church in Covington under the pastorate of A.B. Colvin. He is a graduate of Cumberland College and holds both the master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He previously served as pastor of Buck Grove Baptist Church in Meade County, Hardinsburg Baptist Church in Hardinsburg and Hopewell Baptist Church in Louisville.

He and his wife, Reba, have two adult children, Mark and James.

Price described himself as a "very conservative pastor but not a person who has had anything to do with taking over."

Ohio church grows with help from Kentucky

By David Winfrey
News Director

URBANA, Ohio—Some new churches can't make it overnight. Living Faith Baptist Church certainly didn't.

Anne Johnson, wife of Pastor Jim Johnson, said Living Faith in Urbana, Ohio, wouldn't have survived without the help of churches like those in the West Kentucky Baptist Association.

"It's because of associations like West Kentucky that enabled (Jim) to stay full-time as a pastor for seven years," she said.

Jim Johnson took a second job two years ago, but not before he and Mrs. Johnson were able to invest the time needed for the congregation to survive, she said.

The Johnsons moved to Urbana in 1987 and started Urbana Baptist Chapel when the Kentucky Baptist Convention had a missions partner-

ship with the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio.

When they first arrived, "we did a lot of teaching and discipling and witnessing ourselves," she said. "If he (Jim) had not had the time to do that, it would have slowed the growth."

The church constituted in May and recently completed a building, which members expect will allow the church to grow, she said.

One-third of West Kentucky Baptist Association's 36 churches have participated in mission trips helping the Urbana congregation, said Director of Missions Charles Blair.

"It was probably the most difficult mission work that one could imagine," he said.

Typical support from the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and the state convention lasts three years, Johnson noted. Assistance from West Kentucky Association and other churches helped the church survive as

it purchased land and built the building, she said.

In addition to financial support, about 150 West Kentucky Baptists have traveled to Urbana with youth choirs, backyard Bible club teams or door-to-door witnessing groups.

Residents have expressed more interest in Living Faith now that it has a building, Mrs. Johnson said.

"I think we're going to see people come who hadn't come before because they didn't think we were going to stick around here," she said, adding the church expects to hold its first worship service in the new building this month.

Blair said the partnership had a positive influence on West Kentucky churches.

"Our people here have nearly doubled their Cooperative Program giving during this period of time," he said.

Pastor's predecessor 'my biggest cheerleader'

By Joyce Sweeney Martin
Staff Writer

BURLINGTON—For a quarter of a century, Paul Godsey was pastor of Burlington Baptist Church. Now, he's just a hard-working member.

Godsey and current pastor Terry Wilder readily acknowledged it's a bit unusual for a former pastor to stay in the church he served, but both men say it's working out just fine.

"He's my biggest cheerleader," Wilder said of Godsey. "He believes in me. He trusts me. His presence here has been a real blessing."

Rather than being threats to each other, "we are brothers," Godsey said. Their wives have become fast friends, too, Wilder added.

After Godsey retired in 1991, he accepted responsibilities removing him from the daily activities of the church. For about two years, he served churches as interim pastor and worked with the Kentucky Baptist child care program.

Wilder, who came as pastor in June 1992, said that enabled him "to get off to a good start" and firmly establish himself as pastor before Godsey became active in the church again.

Early on, the two men had lunch together once a month, enjoying each other's fellowship, Wilder said.

In one of those lunch meetings, Godsey shared a long-time dream to begin a Sunday school class for retiree couples. The class would be more than a study and fellowship group, ministering and meeting needs in the church and community. Godsey envisioned people who would use their practical skills and hobbies to serve others.

Last January, Godsey began with nobody, Wilder said. Now, the class numbers 40 and is the fastest-growing adult class in the church, he said.

Members come from a pool of new church members, those previously uninvolved in Sunday school, those whose spouses previously did not attend Sunday school and those who

specifically want to be a part of a couples class, Godsey said.

"Some I had never been able to enroll when I was pastor," Godsey said with a laugh.

A few people transferred from existing classes, thus affecting a class or two, Wilder said. In the long run, however, "we gained."

The class, named "Helping Hands," has compiled a data bank of skills members have to offer.

To date, retired builders have put a roof on the house of an elderly church member, retired health professionals have helped church members complete medical forms and others have offered advice to newcomers on where to find community services. Recently, Godsey helped a widow through the process of buying a car.

Wilder said the class has been successful in part because "Paul Godsey makes (members) feel accepted just as they are... he makes them feel at home." That's what he's done for Wilder, too.

BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ **Multihousing ministry conference offered.** Clear Creek Baptist Bible College will host a conference on multihousing ministries Oct. 21-22. Sponsored by the college and the Kentucky Baptist Convention's metropolitan missions department, the cost is \$30, which includes lunch and dinner the first day. For reservations or more information, call (606) 337-3196.

■ **Campbellsville's board room named.** Campbellsville University named its new board of trustees room after Campbellsville physician Forest Shely and his wife Roberta. Shely has served the school as a board member and in other ways since 1954, said President Kenneth Winters.

■ **Cumberland to host visitation day.** Cumberland College will host campus visitation day Saturday, Nov. 2, for high school juniors and seniors and their parents. For more information, call (800) 343-1609.

■ **Georgetown enrollment up again.** Undergraduate enrollment at Georgetown College this fall is up for the third consecutive year. The school has 1,176 undergraduate students. The college also noted a 133 percent increase in new African-American students.

■ **Seminary premieres production.** Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's annual church music institute will premiere "Worship," featuring a 200-voice choir, orchestra and laser light show, Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in Alumni Chapel. Also featured at the show will be the 1987 Pulitzer Prize-winning musical "Flight Into Egypt." Admission is free and open to the public.

■ **College art building hosts inaugural exhibit.** Georgetown College's new \$2.2 million Anne Wright Wilson Fine Arts Building opened its inaugural exhibit Oct. 11. The exhibit features art in the corporate collection of Johnson & Johnson, including works by Fairfield Porter, Richard Estes, Josef Albers and Andy Warhol. The exhibit is open to the public. For more information, call (502) 863-8106.

■ **Jester joins Mid-Continent.** David Jester recently was named executive assistant to the president and professor of education and missions at Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College. A son of Southern Baptist missionaries to Tanzania, Jester is a former principal of two colleges in Nigeria and president of Wayland Baptist University in Texas.

■ **Mountain Outreach list summer accomplishments.** Mountain Outreach, a ministry of Cumberland College, built four new homes for families this summer. Eight Cumberland students, serving as summer missionaries, supervised 17 youth groups from 12 states. Since starting in 1982, Mountain Outreach has built 79 new homes.

WESTERN RECORDER

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

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

Western Recorder is published weekly by Western Recorder Inc., an agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253, except for one week in July and December. For general information, call (502) 244-6470. Fax: (502) 244-6474. Send e-mail to CompuServe 102667,1300, and the Internet, wesrec@ntr.net. Periodicals postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

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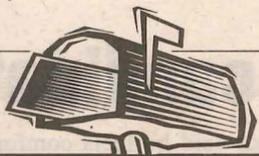
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BAPTIST FORUM

Another view

This letter is in response to an article in the Sept. 17 Recorder (page 3). The writer gave a summary of what he observed during the revival of President Tom Elliff, Henry Blackaby and Avery Willis. He described facts and content but missed the spiritual aspect.

If I had not seen the writer in a lofty balcony seat, I would have concluded he was not present. I wished he would have said more about Blackaby, whose work has been taught in most Baptist churches, not to mention Willis, a leader of our Foreign Mission Board.

Many suggest the crowd was much larger, but the writer had a better view than I. My view was blocked by sounds of confession, tears and humble spirits of souls experiencing deep religious conviction. I saw Christians in true revival. The writer did not see students and professors going to one another healing past hurts.

He failed to describe the carpet stained with tears during what the writer described as a 15-minute prayer by Elliff. I have never heard of anyone timing a prayer. That may be why the writer was in a lofty spot and unable to see the tear-stained carpet, nor could he witness the miracles that happened in many lives. That is life; there are always those who sit back in lofty places casting their opinion.

We must get involved to experience revival. Things are well at Southern Seminary. I am glad to study with such great people of God as those who teach at Southern.

Charles David Ransdell
Louisville

Cutting funds from God

I am disturbed about the Executive Board's decision to cut its percentage of Cooperative Program receipts to the Southern Baptist Convention. Was the reason for lack of funds in the Kentucky Baptist Convention coffers? Was it a further effort to distance the KBC from the SBC?

The reason doesn't matter. The message being sent does, and that message is, for whatever reason you feel is sufficient, you can cut what you promised to give to God. God didn't tolerate this action from Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11), and I don't think he will tolerate it from the Executive Board of the KBC.

The KBC Executive Board has a responsibility to set an example to all Kentucky Baptists. The budget reflects what we are doing in the name of our Lord, and it also reflects our faith in him to provide what is needed to do that work. The decision to cut Cooperative Program receipts to the SBC shows a lack of faith in God and sets a poor example to Kentucky Baptists to follow.

The Cooperative Program began in Kentucky with a vision for world missions. We should, if anything, give more instead of trying to take away from that original vision that God gave to our Baptist forefathers.

I pray messengers to the KBC will, in the budget to be presented, reinstate the percent previously given to the SBC and set the example for the Executive Board to follow.

Greg Nimmo
Hustonsville

Cry for peace

Do you believe there will ever be peace in the Middle East? Hope will come as people from both sides believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their only Savior.

Layla Souti
Louisville

Sixty years: Defending the wall

I've just returned from the 60th anniversary celebration of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

When, in 1991, the Southern Baptist Convention terminated all Cooperative Program support for the BJCPA, the small but effective "First Amendment watchdog" was thereby deprived of 51 percent of its budget. It was a hard and, many feel, unnecessary blow to this friend of Kentucky Baptists.

Today their income sources include many individual Kentucky and Southern Baptists, churches, some state conventions, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and contributions from other Baptist groups and denominations across America.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention approved in 1992 a recommendation to establish an endowment for the benefit of the BJCPA from year-end funds, the interest from which would generate Kentucky's Cooperative Program portion taken away by the SBC action to defund them. However, it was rescinded the following year when enough messengers who had voted the previous year to establish the

endowment joined in the 1993 vote to rescind to "preserve harmony."

Shortly thereafter, a group of Kentucky Baptists established a donor-based endowment for the BJCPA with the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

Through Sept. 30, that endowment now approaches half of its \$200,000 goal. Other regular gifts from Kentucky Baptist churches and individuals made directly to the BJCPA only partially compensate for what Kentucky Baptists used to give through Cooperative Program gifts to the SBC.

Even without SBC support, all churches of the SBC have benefited in some way from the steadfast ministry of the BJCPA:

■ BJCPA led the way in saving millions of missionary dollars because of their role in the passage of the Overseas Earned Income Act which President Jimmy Carter signed on his last day in office. (The former president was honored during this anniversary celebration.)

■ Staff of the BJCPA chaired the coalition which successfully pushed for passage of the Equal Access Act and stayed by the staff when chal-

I'd like to share my religious, emotional and political journey at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. As a Jewish Arab woman from Haifa, Israel, I was warmly received. I appreciated the awareness some Christians had of the Middle East conflict. Yet there were times when I had, for the first time in my life, to defend being an Arab Christian from Israel. Time and again, people referred to me as a Jew, despite the fact they were told of my Arabness. In despair and frustration I began to realize the brainwashing the media, governmental policy and above all, some Christian teachings have done to shape their spiritual blindness.

I was saddened to discover few Christians knew that 20 percent of the Israeli population are Arabs, and that Jews and Arabs live, work and socialize with one another. I was also bewildered to find some who relate to the Jews as God's chosen people in spite of the biblical assurances Paul gives in the letter to the Romans.

Nobody denies the existence of the state of Israel, but many overlook the injustices the government has practiced through the years. I hope you are aware of the interests the Israeli state, the Arab world, the U.S. government and some fundamentalist Christians have had to suffer while the Palestinian lives on hold for almost 50 years.

I was tremendously disturbed when I saw on TV evangelical Christian tourists applauding Mr. Netanyahu as he declared the opening of the tunnel. My heart broke to see people from both sides killed and injured while "Christians" are celebrating.

"Was it worth the price?" I wondered. "Would Jesus have been pleased to see the suffering of the people just in the name of religious beliefs and claims?"

lenged until the Supreme Court voted 8-1 to uphold it June 4, 1990. That legislation guarantees students equal access to gather for prayer and/or Bible study in public school buildings before and/or after school hours which, for us Baptists, included the "See You at the Pole" experiences.

■ The BJCPA made necessary representations to both houses of congress to guarantee that the pension plans of all denominations would not be taxed as a commercial insurance venture.

■ Finally, and perhaps the most notable in recent years, the BJCPA led the coalition of 68 groups to influence passage of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which guarantees government will not meddle in church or religious institutions without a compelling interest.

With the BJCPA still in place, ever vigilant about church-state issues, I came home knowing that those who seem determined to "tear down the wall of separation of church and state" will be in for a fight.

I am grateful to the numerous Kentucky Baptists who still know the value of a Baptist organization which upholds our historic Baptist principle of separation of church and state.

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



FAMILY FORUM

Should couples pray together?

By Diana Garland

Q. I can't get my fiance to pray with me. Whenever I bring it up, we end up mad at one another. Shouldn't prayer be part of a Christian marriage?

A. Many engaged and married couples find sharing their spiritual lives one of the hardest challenges they face, particularly if one or both grew up in families where prayer was not a part of family life. Others who did experience childhood family prayer times have negative feelings because parents used prayer time to scold or shame.

Even some of us who have had good models find ourselves embarrassed when it comes to sharing our faith with our partners. For many, it is easier to talk about sex than prayer. Perhaps it is because sharing faith with the partner allows the other to see the innermost self. Particularly early in a relationship, we may fear our partners will find our faith immature or not "deep" enough.

Prayer together should not substitute for personal prayer and devotion. The Apostle Paul stated that personal prayer is the only reason for couples to separate from one another, but that separation should be brief (1 Cor. 7:5). There is no passage of Scripture that explicitly says married couples should pray together. Nevertheless, many Christian couples have found a shared prayer life to be a great source of strength and a way of rooting their lives together.

If praying together has been hard or created problems for you, then back up a bit and be tender and patient with one another. Begin by praying at mealtime together. Thank God for your love and other blessings of the day. If voicing prayer in your own words is too difficult, have your pastor recommend a book of prayers, or find one in your local library or book store. You also can say the Lord's Prayer together, thinking carefully about the words' meaning for your lives.

When you have learned to talk to and listen for God in one another's presence in times of thanksgiving, you will find yourselves more able to take your worries to God as a couple.

Never use prayer to God as a means to communicate indirectly with your partner. Talk straight to your partner, and straight to God.

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

HE SAID/SHE SAID

She wanted new floors, so he put a For Sale sign in the yard

SHESAI



Alison Wingfield

How did we go from pulling up the carpet in our dining room to see what shape the hardwood floors are in, to looking for a new house?

That is the question I frequently ask Mark these days. We both have agreed that we need to start getting our house ready to sell, and that we would ideally like to be in a different house by next spring.

But we haven't done anything but pull up the carpet in our dining room and living room (where we found all sorts of unpleasant surprises underneath), and we already are looking at other houses.

If finances makes the top of the list for things that cause marital strife, house-hunting has got to rank a close second.

In the first place, I said we need to get our house ready first, even if we don't put it on the market, and then start looking at other houses. When we talked to our Realtor friend, she got two very conflicting messages from us. I asked her to start keeping a look-out for us, but said I really didn't want to get serious until after Christmas. Mark, in his usual gung-ho fashion, was ready to go look right now.

Luckily, she understood the dynamics, because she is like Mark and her husband is like me.

So what have we been doing the last few weekends? Looking at houses. And agonizing over whether we should make an offer for this one or that one. And getting cold feet every time.

HESAI



Mark Wingfield

Just for the record: It was Alison who first uttered the now-famous words: "I don't care what shape those hardwood floors are in; it's got to be better than this carpet. Let's rip it up."

Granted, it was a moment of unanticipated revelation for her, after months of not-so-subtle hints and grumbling from me. The words were barely out of her mouth before I started ripping the corners of the carpet loose. But it was officially her

idea, remember.

We had joked half-heartedly throughout the summer that the only things holding the dining room carpet together were Cheerios crumbs and spilled milk—and that we had to keep the air conditioner turned way down so the carpet wouldn't spoil.

But how we got from that point to house-hunting remains a mystery to me as well. Maybe it's just the slippery slope of the real estate world. Once you look at a single open house, you've joined the parade of homes. There's no getting off until you buy.

Our 4-year-olds have even become experts on the finer points of house-hunting. After Luke and I had driven by a house for sale the other day, he returned with the full scoop for Alison. "It even has a finished basement," he informed her with his best salesman's pitch. How he knew this from his perch in the back seat of the car I don't know.

We've learned several lessons already in this adventure. One is that you don't know how to appreciate what you have until you start looking to replace it. Our house may be small, and it may have its problems, but at least we know what those problems are and how to make things fit.

We know now that what makes a house a home is that you feel comfortable there in your own way. And that you feel the love of those who share that special place with you, whether the carpets are made of gold or of Cheerios.

Discover a secret of spiritual growth

An annual survey released last week reported that Americans gave more to charitable causes last year than the year before, but that fewer people are doing the giving. That's no surprise to anyone who's been following generational trends. It's a well-documented fact that the parents and grandparents of the baby boomers give more and give more consistently than the boomers or the busters.

While younger generations present some valid reasons for being more selective in the causes they support financially, that should not mean the overall amount of giving has to decrease. The key to the generosity of the older generations is not the amount they have given but the consistency with which they have given.

Herein lies the lesson for those of us who are boomers and younger. Giving to support God's work in our world must become a habit.

That's one reason the concept of tithing has been a successful cornerstone of Baptist churches for generations. Despite criticism from the avant garde, tithing remains a sound biblical principle that can and should be carried on to the next generations.

If you're uptight about how frequently the offering plate gets passed at church, you've probably uttered these famous words: "Nowhere in the Bible does it say you have to give 10 percent to the church."

That's true; it doesn't. What the Bible actually says is that everything we have—100 percent—belongs to God. Which standard would you rather live by?

Actually, the Bible does teach tithing, even though the magic 10 percent figure doesn't appear in the Ten Commandments. For example, in Luke 11, Jesus chides the Pharisees because they give 10 percent of their money to the synagogue without giving of themselves: "Woe to you Pharisees, because you give a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without leaving the former undone."

God wants us to give both our money and ourselves. Neglecting either aspect dishonors God's will.

Even if you accept that tithing is a biblical principle, you may still rightly declare that it's just not feasible: The cost of living is just too high today; I've got children to raise; I can't make ends meet as it is.

The truth is, you can get by on what you plan to get by on. It's not the poorest of God's people who have trouble tithing. The more we have, the harder it is to give.

On one hand, tithing requires a determination

about what the priorities in your life will be. What do you really need in this life? What is essential?

On the other hand, tithing eliminates a large measure of the debate over priorities in your life. When tithing becomes a habit, there is no debate each month about what to give to God's work.

This is a lesson I'm glad my parents taught me as a child. And it's a lesson I'm glad Alison and I determined to live by when we first were married. Because we believe it is

God's will, we vowed we would give God 10 percent of everything we earn—off the top, first thing.

Sure, there have been times we've been tempted to change the plan. When God blessed us with two children at once (and the accompanying double expenses), we were sorely tempted to cut back on our tithe. And when we determined together that in our situation it was best to live on one income while our children were young, the temptation grew stronger.

But we held firm because tithing had become a habit we didn't want to break. It's not that we're getting rich on the denominational payroll. It's not that we're great money managers. And it's not that we're super saints. It's just that we've made a commitment we believe is important to keep.

It's a commitment you can make too. When you do, it won't be easy. But you'll be glad you did it, because you will discover more about God's faithfulness than you ever have before.

This isn't to say God is some kind of celestial slot machine from whom you can expect the payoff of health and wealth for a small investment. But it is true that God sustains those who live by God's principles.

A friend recently told me about a trying financial situation his family had endured over a year-long period. "This was something we never would have chosen to go through, but now that we have I'm glad we did," he said. "The reason I'm glad is because of all we learned about God's faithfulness and about what we actually can do with God's help."

God's gift of salvation is a free gift. You can be a Christian whether you tithe or not. But spiritual growth comes at a price. Tithing is one way we put our trust in God and allow God to teach us and sustain us.

The words of Jesus recorded in Matthew 9 at the healing of two blind men remind us of a consistent theme of the Bible that relates to giving as well: "According to your faith will it be done to you."

— Mark Wingfield

Notice about delays in delivery

Editor's note: In recent weeks, our subscribers in the Louisville area have experienced significant delays in delivery of their newspapers. This has been due to problems at the Gardiner Lane mail processing plant. The delays have not been due to the Recorder or the Recorder's printer, Landmark Web Press. The Western Recorder staff has been working closely with postal officials to remedy the problem. Subscribers in the Louisville area should receive their papers either on Wednesdays or Thursdays most weeks. Postmaster Robert Lochhead has assured the Recorder of his full support to correct the problem, as indicated in the letter below:

This is in response to your concerns regarding late delivery of the Western Recorder. I was informed by our mail processing manager of distribution operations that the Louisville mail processing plant has experienced some delays of newspa-

pers and periodicals in the Louisville metro area and parts of Kentucky due to an increase of holiday mail. However, I was assured this problem will be corrected within the next week, and service will return back to normal.

I regret the inconvenience to you and your subscribers, but I am confident that our service will return to the standards you have experienced from the Louisville Post Office in the past.

Robert S. Lochhead
Louisville Postmaster

Men encouraged to leave legacies of strong families

Leaders to serve another year

RADCLIFF—Kentucky Baptist Brotherhood Convention leadership will serve another year in order to maintain stability in the face of change, said a regional Brotherhood director.

Most officers were willing to serve another term, said Calvin Bohannon, Brotherhood director of the region including Jefferson County and 11 surrounding counties.

The continuity in officers comes as the national Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission office is being merged with two other Southern Baptist agencies.

Also, the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board will soon consider a proposal to make Brotherhood an affiliate of the convention instead of a department. Officers for 1996-1997 are:

- President—Dick Easterling.
- Vice President—Paul Anderson.
- Secretary—Charles Miller.
- Assistant Secretary—Lewis Cook.
- Coordinators of "Experiencing God" weekends—Frank and Lynn Harris.
- Assistant coordinators of "Experiencing God" weekends—Charles Burgett.
- Coordinator of lay renewal unfilled.
- Assistant coordinator of lay renewal—Nelson Cox.
- Marketplace ministries coordinator—Don Putman.
- Marketplace ministries assistant coordinator—Mike Rogers.
- Professional area ministries coordinator—James Everett.
- Professional area ministries assistant coordinator unfilled.
- Hope for Homes coordinator—Ken Bullock.
- Hope for Homes assistant coordinator—Bob Hammons.
- Baptist Builders coordinator—John Edwards.
- Baptist Builders assistant coordinator—David Lyons.
- Prayer coordinator—Randall Rogers.
- Prayer assistant coordinator—Bailey Sadler.
- Prison ministries coordinator—Don Bratcher.
- Prison ministries assistant coordinator—Charlie Simmons.
- Disaster relief coordinators—Larry and Elaine Koch.
- Disaster relief assistant coordinator—Paul Anderson.
- Coordinator and assistant coordinator of lay-led revivals unfilled.
- Sports missions coordinator—Don Jaynes.
- Sports missions assistant coordinator—Jerry Vitoe.
- Coordinator and assistant coordinator of medial and dental areas unfilled.
- Mission education coordinator—Glen Canada.
- Mission education assistant coordinator—Hurstle Laxton.
- Equestrian ministries coordinator—Wilburn Bonta.
- Equestrian ministries assistant coordinator—Charlie Simmons.
- Retirees on mission coordinator—C.A. Easterling.
- Retirees on mission assistant coordinator—Richard Otto.
- Volunteers in mission coordinator—Ralph McConnell.
- Volunteers in mission assistant coordinator unfilled.
- Campers on mission coordinator and assistant coordinator unfilled.
- Resort and leisure ministries coordinator and assistant coordinator unfilled.
- Southwestern region director unfilled.
- Southwestern region assistant director—Archie Brock.
- Southern region director—Micky Southerland.
- Southern region assistant director—Bob Bottoms.
- North central region directors—Mike and Wanda Klein.
- North central region assistant director—Gary Forman.
- Central region director—Calvin Bohannon.
- Central region assistant director—Russ Cole.
- South Central region director—Randall Rogers.
- South Central region assistant director—Gary King.
- Southeastern region director and assistant director unfilled.
- Northeastern region director—Harold Moore.
- Northeastern region assistant director unfilled.
- Western region director—Bob Morrison.
- Western region assistant director—Jerry Spencer.

RADCLIFF—Christian men must devote themselves to building strong families, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's director of family ministry told Brotherhood leaders.

"We as men can do all kinds of things with our energies," John Lepper said during the annual Kentucky Brotherhood Convention Oct 4-5. "But unless we put our heart into building great families, we really haven't accomplished a lot."

Parents should realize their actions influence their children, whether intentional or not, he added.

"We build a legacy. It might not

be a positive legacy, but it will be a legacy," he said. "Your kids may hear you say one thing, but they watch what you do."

Lepper offered seven suggestions for leaving a positive Christian legacy through one's family:

- Begin with yourself. Lepper said a positive self-esteem is important to healthy family relationships.
- Cultivate a strong faith in God.
- Be there. Lepper encouraged men to be available to their families physically, emotionally and spiritually.
- Show love by showing tender-

ness and affection.

■ Show love by showing guidance. Love has two faces, Lepper said: affection and direction.

■ Help your child discover his or her own specialness. Every person has unique gifts and talents, and parents have responsibility to help children discover them, he said.

■ Lead your family to be involved in some family mission project. "Men, if you really want to build a legacy, begin with your own faith in God," Lepper said. "What better way to build a family legacy than to involve our families in mission projects?"



HISTORY LESSON Ben Connell, South Carolina Brotherhood Director, explains the history of Brotherhood during the annual Kentucky Brotherhood Convention. More than 160 people attended the meeting, Oct. 4-5, at Stithton Baptist Church.

Kentucky Brotherhood prepares for change

Continued from page 1
separate affiliate to the state convention rather than a department of the convention.

A special committee has studied that proposal and will bring a positive recommendation to the KBC Executive Board in December, said committee chairman Drew Martin, pastor of First Baptist Church of Paintsville. The committee was composed of five state Brotherhood leaders and five members of the KBC Executive Board's missions and evangelism committee.

Simpkins said being an affiliate would position Brotherhood for better fundraising for missions efforts and for smoother administrative work with agencies like the American Red Cross with which Brotherhood works in disaster relief.

If the proposal is accepted by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, "we believe we are positioning ourselves to give greater support to the Cooperative Program, the KBC and all other agencies," Simpkins said. "We need the freedom to be able to tell our story in a way that's going to draw funds."

The past year has seen a variety of accomplishments, Simpkins and others noted. Among them were:

- Leading "Experiencing God"

weekends at two Kentucky prisons.

■ Sponsoring teenager Kentucky Changers construction projects in Pike County and Covington.

■ Holding eight Royal Ambassador mission congresses and two track meets.

■ Hosting a state fishing tournament.

■ Working with equestrian ministries at the Wrangler Campground at Land Between the Lakes state park and at the Equitana convention in Louisville.

■ Collecting 92, 34-pound boxes of food for North Korean hunger relief.

Disaster relief feeding units remain among Brotherhood's most visible ministries. Kentucky Brotherhood responded to three disasters this year, and associational Brotherhood groups responded to three local incidents, Simpkins said.

Larry Koch, Kentucky Brotherhood disaster relief coordinator, noted that Brotherhood's feeding unit is the most tangible expression of Christianity seen by many who do not attend church.

Recalling a group who heard about Christ's love after a disaster, Koch said, "It wasn't a pastor standing behind a pulpit. It was laymen out there willing to get dirty, ... willing to put

their faith into action."

Kentucky currently has three feeding units, 1,800 volunteers trained for disaster relief and a capacity to produce 50,000 meals a day, said Koch.

"God has blessed us with some marvelous equipment that will enable us to do some marvelous things in the name of Jesus Christ."

Koch noted that helping feed people is good but not enough. "It's all together something else after giving something for the stomach you give something for the hungry soul."

The conference featured training for more than 20 missions and discipleship programs, including Legacy Builders, a church-based discipleship program designed to support the concepts promoted at Promise Keepers stadium rallies for men.

Simpkins said Brotherhood will work with churches this year to better communicate missions opportunities.

Project M.I. will ask every church to name a liaison with which Brotherhood can communicate activities and ministries, he said.

"We have a lot of things that people are just really learning about," he said. "We still find people who don't know we do disaster relief as Southern Baptists."

Doctor-assisted suicide proponents say tide turning

By Tom Bate & Patrick O'Neill
Religion News Service

PORTLAND, Ore. (RNS)—Why should physicians help terminally ill patients end their lives? In Oregon that question is already out of date. For the past two years, the question has been when—and how.

Now that the U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to review right-to-die cases from the states of New York and Washington, medical professionals throughout the country are asking the same question: If physician-assisted suicide becomes the law of the land, what are doctors going to do about it?

The American Medical Association officially remains opposed to assisted suicide.

"Physicians should never be put in a position to act with the intent to end the lives of their patients," said Nancy Dickey, the AMA's board chairwoman.

In recent years, a growing belief in individual control of one's own life has eroded traditional opposition to assisted suicide.

In 1994, Oregon became the first state to allow it, but legal challenges have stalled implementation of the new law.

Forty-four states still consider it a crime to help others hasten their deaths, but polls claim most people support the practice, and physicians rarely are prosecuted for the offense.

In Oakland County, Mich., residents voted out the local prosecutor

who was pursuing assisted-suicide activist Jack Kevorkian.

In the nation's capital, a proposal to use federal Medicaid funds to reimburse assisted-suicide services in Oregon prompted lawmakers to introduce a bill that would block such funding.

"Society must not allow doctors to be killers as well as healers," former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop told reporters while promoting the measure.

Janet Good, an assistant to Kevorkian who is herself terminally ill, said the legislation is reminiscent of the abortion wars.

"I see the exact same tactics that were used on women's right to choose," Good said.

But Elie Stutsman, a Portland, Ore., attorney and spokesman for Death with Dignity, said the legislation signals a new point in the debate.

"The issue no longer is the legality of assisted suicide, but—as in the abortion debate—how can opponents restrict access?"

The controversy about assisted suicide forces doctors to wear both a public and private face.

In public, mainstream medicine is unequivocally opposed to physician-assisted suicide.

But in private, doctors who treat dying patients say something quite different.

A survey of Oregon physicians released in February showed that 60 percent said doctor-assisted suicide

should be legal in some cases. And 46 percent said they might be willing to prescribe a lethal dose of medication for a terminally ill patient if it were legal to do so.

The survey, the first to look at Oregon doctors' attitudes toward assisted suicide, reported that 187 doctors, 7 percent, had actually written life-ending prescriptions. Of that number, 124 said their patients had taken the medication.

Surveys in other states had similar results.

In a 1994-95 Washington state study, 12 percent of the physicians who responded reported receiving at least one request for assisted suicide in the previous year.

Of the 156 patients who asked for suicide, 38 received prescriptions.

In a 1994 Michigan survey, 39 percent of the doctors polled favored a law allowing physician-assisted suicide for terminally ill patients with intractable pain.

Mark Rarick, a Portland oncologist, said doctor support for assisted suicide cuts across party lines. "Right and left both support government allowing the patient to make the decision," he said.

Jim Kronenberg, associate executive director of the Oregon Medical Association, said many doctors feel about assisted suicide the way they feel about abortion.

"Most physicians see it as an issue of patients' choice," Kronenberg said.

But more physicians would be di-

rectly affected if assisted suicide becomes legal, he said.

Few doctors are called upon to terminate pregnancies, but many doctors have terminally ill patients.

The debate points to just one thing for Alicia Super, a registered nurse who coordinates national efforts by Catholic health care organizations to improve care for the dying: Doctors and nurses must do a better job of helping people die.

Super attended 55 focus groups in 11 cities across the United States, trying to find out how the health care system could help dying patients and their families.

Although the study is not complete, Super said people aren't afraid of death.

"They're afraid of the final phase of life before dying," she said. "Most were willing to go through that final phase with adequate support."

But mundane problems such as worker productivity get in the way of physicians and nurses helping patients die, she said.

Often, health insurers won't reimburse for time spent holding the hands of dying patients, she added.

Susan Tolle, director of the Center for Ethics in Health Care in Portland, welcomed the Supreme Court's attention to assisted suicide.

"Past trends have been that every time there's been a vote, an injunction, or a court ruling, the medical profession is more interested in the care of the dying."

Computer software used in Australia suicide

NORTHERN TERRITORY, Australia—A 66-year-old man with prostate cancer recently took his life with the help of a computerized suicide machine.

The software was developed by the man's physician, Philip Nitschke, and computer programmer Des Carne. Assisted suicide is legal in Australia's Northern Territory for the terminally ill.

To use the program, the computer is wired to an external syringe depressor and intravenous tubing. The software asks such on-screen questions as "Are you aware that if you go ahead to the last screen and press the Yes button you will be given a lethal dose of medications and die?"

From reporting by Harper's Magazine and Religion News Service.

Panelists raise issues in right-to-die discussion

Continued from page 1

were denied that conversation. We need to talk about death as a normal part of life."

Instead, death has become a technological event, he said, and technology treats death as failure. But a loving community considers death a natural part of life, Chatham added.

Technology's unreasonable prolonging of existence is the other side of the moral coin in right-to-die issues, said Paul Simmons, adjunct professor of ethics at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary and the University of Louisville.

"If medicine is to be moral, it calls for more than simply applying technology," said Simmons, a former Southern Seminary professor who moderated the discussion. "Sometimes good morals call for refusing the machine."

Jack Kevorkian has received the lion's share of media attention on that issue for his push to decriminalize assisted suicide. But Simmons said other doctors are doing the same thing quietly.

Mark Pfeiffer, an associate medical professor at the University of Louisville and a general internist, recalled two of his patients who wanted to die.

One was a seriously-ill woman in her 80s who asked him to give her something to "get this over." The other was a man in his 50s who had a degenerative nerve disease.

Pfeiffer said he treated the man, named Dan, five years. The patient's pain became so bad he purposely

overdosed on medication. Before dying of complications from the overdose, the patient asked for something to end his life.

"I can't say it was tempting to help Dan die, but he gave me a deeper empathy with the issue than I ever felt before," Pfeiffer said. "I'm no longer as zealous in my opposition to physician-assisted suicide."

No panelist spoke firmly against the practice, but each mentioned problems that could accompany legalization.

Simmons quoted an article by doctor Edmund Pellegrino arguing that if doctors helped people end their lives, patients might fear seeking doctors' help.

Pellegrino questioned whether:

■ Doctors can be trusted to make the right judgments.

■ Physicians might suffer such guilt they become dysfunctional.

■ The practice ultimately could lead to debilitated people having to prove they are worth keeping alive.

Attorney Mary Ceridan raised the specter of the poor, disadvantaged and expensive Medicare patients being put to death as a way of saving money. She noted that Oregon's Medicaid director already has said he plans to reimburse doctors for assisted-suicide costs.

Still, she advocated allowing individuals to decide the issue, recalling a recent visit with an 82-year-old woman who doesn't want to live if her quality of life diminishes.

"I believe with appropriate regula-

tions we can have protections for the less powerful," Ceridan said. "If it's my decision, I ought to have the right."

Four of the five panelists expressed at least limited approval for physician-assisted suicide. That consensus bothered several audience members.

Among those raising objections were a neurologist who said human nature tries to expand boundaries further every time they are enlarged.

One woman questioned the absence of a strong opponent of assisted suicide on the panel, saying she is concerned the United States could pursue a path of involuntary euthanasia, like Holland.

"Years ago when we legalized abortion we said doctors are doing it anyway...and now the floodgates are open," she said. "Are we headed in the same direction?"

Simmons responded that one of every five people who request assisted suicide in the Netherlands is denied it, and quoted a professor from there as saying there are careful controls on its use.

When another woman questioned who would draw the parameters and expressed concern about abuses, Simmons said, "Can we agree there will be abuses? But can we agree, secondly, that there are a lot of abuses now?"

"We have some serious moral reservations about its application," he concluded. "It's a tough question. But it's one which good minds and good hearts must resolve."

Ethicists question new law to castrate sex offenders

By Gerald Renner
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Concerned over the implications of measures designed to control the sexual impulses of sex offenders, ethicists of various religious traditions are questioning a new California law that requires repeat sex offenders to take drugs or be surgically castrated on being paroled from prison.

For some ethicists, the permanence of surgical castration raises moral and ethical concerns. Others wonder whether chemical or surgical means of lowering the sex drive is an effective deterrent to future crimes. But the larger issue is philosophical: What does sanctioned mutilation say about society as a whole?

"I certainly would have difficulties with it, especially the surgical castration. It is such an assault on the body," said Timothy Jackson, a Christian ethicist at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta.

"If someone behaves violently, we don't say he should have a frontal lobotomy," observed Catholic theologian Richard Sparks of Chicago.

"Castration does not inhibit his activity at all," said Rabbi Moses Tendler, professor of Jewish medical ethics at Yeshiva University in New York. "A pedophile will not be stopped by the fact he has no testicles," Tendler said, adding that the rate of recidivism for sex offenders is so high they should be jailed for life.

The issue has been raised to a national debate because of the California measure, recently signed into law by Gov. Pete Wilson. Under the law, anyone convicted twice of molesting a child would not be released from prison unless he agreed to be periodically injected with a chemical to reduce his sex drive or to be surgically castrated.

Speakers: Too many think Coalition is only Christian view

By Mark Wingfield
Editor

"They beat my brains out in Christian love."

John Buchanan, an ordained Baptist minister and former U.S. representative who credits his 1980 political defeat to the Moral Majority

WASHINGTON—Too many Americans wrongly think the Christian Coalition represents the only Christian perspective in American society, speakers said during the 60th anniversary celebration of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

During the Oct. 6-8 event at Calvary Baptist Church in Washington, a procession of government and religious figures praised the Baptist Joint Committee for its efforts and simultaneously sounded the alarm that "mainstream" Christians must speak up to counter the message of the Christian Coalition, Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell and other Religious Right figures.

A Baptist historian also warned that many modern Baptists have adopted the agenda of the Religious Right out of convenience and forsaken the principled fight for religious liberty that characterized Baptists in early U.S. history.

"I would rather be in the lion's den with Daniel or the fiery furnace with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego than in the tender mercies of the Christian Coalition," declared John Buchanan, a former U.S. representative from Alabama. Buchanan, a Republican who served in the primary race in 1980 defeated in his primary race in 1980 through organized opposition by the Moral Majority, precursor to the Christian Coalition.

An ordained Baptist minister, Buchanan now works with Washing-

ton-based Podesta Associates as a legislative analyst.

In a breakout session, Buchanan told a group of conservative Christians from his district first approached him and declared themselves to represent "the Christian position" on issues. They were unsatisfied with his declaration that Christians of good faith held a variety of positions, and they successfully opposed him in the primary race.

"They beat my brains out in Christian love," he said.

Buchanan, who describes himself as an "Abraham Lincoln Republican," said he is convinced that although the Christian Coalition may be the loudest voice heard from the Christian community, it is neither the only voice nor the majority voice. "There is a great need for other people who are Christians to be heard," he declared.

Buchanan and other speakers said they agree with the Religious Right that Christians have a responsibility to speak out on political and moral issues.

"I agree with Falwell that churches must get involved in the political process," said Robert Tiller, a veteran American Baptist lobbyist on religious liberty issues.

The difference between his view and Falwell's, Tiller said, is the scope

and nature of what issues should be addressed. He told about attending a recent Falwell public policy briefing at which the only issues discussed were abortion, homosexuality and schools. "Not a word was uttered about hunger, homelessness, health care" and a host of other issues the Christian community should speak out about, Tiller said.

Sessions were laced with calls for Baptists not to forsake their history of supporting religious liberty for all people in America.

Baptist historian Walter Shurden, who teaches at Mercer University in Georgia, traced the history of Baptists' passionate calls for religious liberty in England and New England since the

1600s.

He said Baptists have moved from being a persecuted minority in those days to being an apathetic majority today. "Today, many Baptists know the words of freedom, but they've forgotten the music."

Shurden said early Baptists became champions of religious freedom in England and America because they were born in adversity, believed in diversity and behaved with activity that brought results.

The 17th century was a "scrambled egg society," Shurden said. "Church and state came on the same plate, all

mixed together."

But Baptists led the fight to "unscramble the plate," he reported. In doing this, they allied with all kinds of people who supported the call for religious liberty. He cited numerous excerpts from the writings of 17th and 18th century Baptists that highlighted this concern with freedom of religion.

Contrast the adversity in which early Baptists operated with the prosperity in which modern Baptists live "and you begin to get a hunch about why the notes of religious liberty are sounding fainter," Shurden said.

Championing religious freedom for all does not require diluting religious fervor or doctrinal commitment, Shurden explained. Early American and English Baptists "were as certain, as dogmatic as any bishop in the Church of England."

The difference, he said, is that the bishops' convictions led to conformity while the Baptists' convictions led to diversity.

Also, the fight for religious liberty united Baptists long before missions became a central rallying point, Shurden said. "Many Baptists in America have forgotten that it was the struggle for ministerial education and for religious liberty that first brought Baptists together, not their missions."

Shurden said he worries about modern Baptists who do not recognize the stand early Baptists took on principle for religious liberty. Modern Baptists have "exchanged those principles for expediency," he charged.



Baptist Joint Committee thrives despite SBC defunding

By Mark Wingfield
Editor

WASHINGTON—Ten years ago, when the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs closed its 50th anniversary, many Baptists close to the religious-liberty agency feared it had entered its last decade.

The agency had come under increasing attack from political conservatives who had gained control of the Southern Baptist Convention, historically the largest single contributor to the Baptist Joint Committee's work.

After several years of acrimonious investigations and tense board meetings, the SBC defunded the Baptist Joint Committee of its nearly \$400,000 annual allocation in Cooperative Program funds. Half the agency's budget was slashed in a single day in 1990.

But as the Baptist Joint Committee celebrated the beginning of its sixth decade Oct. 6-8, neither the strife of the past nor the budget problems that could have resulted were in evidence.

"We have more money from Southern Baptists today than we ever had from the Southern Baptist Convention," Executive Director James Dunn said in an interview.

In addition to support from nine other Baptist bodies who participate in the cooperative effort, the Baptist Joint Committee now receives about \$300,000 annually from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, a group of

disaffected Southern Baptist moderates, plus about \$160,000 annually from three state Baptist conventions—Texas, North Carolina and Virginia.

Soon, the Baptist Joint Committee will begin receiving an annual allocation from some Kentucky Baptists who have contributed to a special endowment fund. That fund now has about \$90,000 raised toward an ultimate goal of \$200,000. Once the fund reaches the \$100,000 mark, the Baptist Joint Committee will begin receiving earnings.

During the anniversary celebration, Dunn announced that a national endowment fund drive for the Baptist Joint Committee has netted \$201,000 in gifts and pledges toward a \$600,000 goal.

Dunn, an outspoken Texan who has been described as "telling the truth with the bark still on it," said his tenacity and the tenacity of his staff and the other Baptist bodies in the coalition are the reasons the agency not only survived the changing winds of the SBC but has thrived since.

He particularly commended his staff for staying with the agency. "There were months when they didn't know if they'd get their paychecks," he explained.

After the SBC cut its funding, donors began sending money without prompting, Dunn said. "We didn't go out to find these people. They knew enough to step up to the plate."

Today, the Baptist Joint Committee has a core group of about 2,000

donors, he said, plus about 50 churches that include the agency directly in their budgets.

The other Baptist groups that form the Baptist Joint Committee also maintained their support and even increased their financial contributions, Dunn said. Those include American Baptist Convention in the USA, Baptist General Conference, National Baptist Convention of America, National Missionary Baptist Convention, North American Baptist Conference, Progressive National Convention, Seventh Day Baptist General Conference and Alliance of Baptists.

Throughout the SBC battles of the 1980s and early '90s, the names of Dunn and the Baptist Joint Committee became inextricably intertwined. Critics lambasted the agency's most visible figure perhaps more frequently than the agency itself, generally for taking stands against organized school prayer and tax-funded vouchers for parochial schools.

Ironically, Dunn had been at the helm of the Baptist Joint Committee only since 1981, two years after the battle for control of the SBC began. His predecessor, Emanuel Carlson, had been a frequent target of political conservatives.

The intertwining public image of Dunn's personality and the Baptist Joint Committee continued during the anniversary celebration, which also marked his 15th year at the helm.

"Circumstantially, that has happened," said Dunn, who nonetheless

declared that the Baptist Joint Committee remains a cause far larger than his Texas-sized personality. "We personify our causes. I didn't choose to do that. As far as I was concerned, I was just the target and the cause."

During the anniversary celebration, numerous figures from government and the Washington lobbying community lauded both Dunn and the agency he heads.

Despite accolades from these and other religious figures, the Baptist Joint Committee remains the target of some religious and political conservatives both inside and outside the SBC. The SBC has given its assignment for religious liberty issues to its Christian Life Commission, which now has Washington offices and often testifies before Congress on the opposite side of church-state issues from the Joint Committee.

Ironically, until the SBC withdrew its support, the Baptist Joint Committee had been the one thing ever to unite most of the major Baptist denominations in the U.S. since slavery.

Baptists in the North and South had split in 1845 over the issue of slavery. But Northern Baptists—who now are called American Baptists—and Southern Baptists had joined hands through the Baptist Joint Committee. The Baptist Joint Committee became the first national organization to unite Baptists across denominational lines in a joint endeavor, an accomplishment that lasted only half a century.



"We have more money from Southern Baptists today than we ever had from the Southern Baptist Convention."

James Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs

CORNELL TRACE

A Supplement to the
Western Recorder

Inside

Cornell benefits
Cornell Trace will offer a variety of services and amenities to make retirement living more carefree.

Steady leadership
Longtime Kentucky Baptist pastor Jim Lewis gives guidance to Baptist Homes for the Elderly Inc. and Cornell Trace.

Experienced board
Members of the Cornell Trace board represent a variety of churches and professions.

Cornell Trace: A new development with a rich past

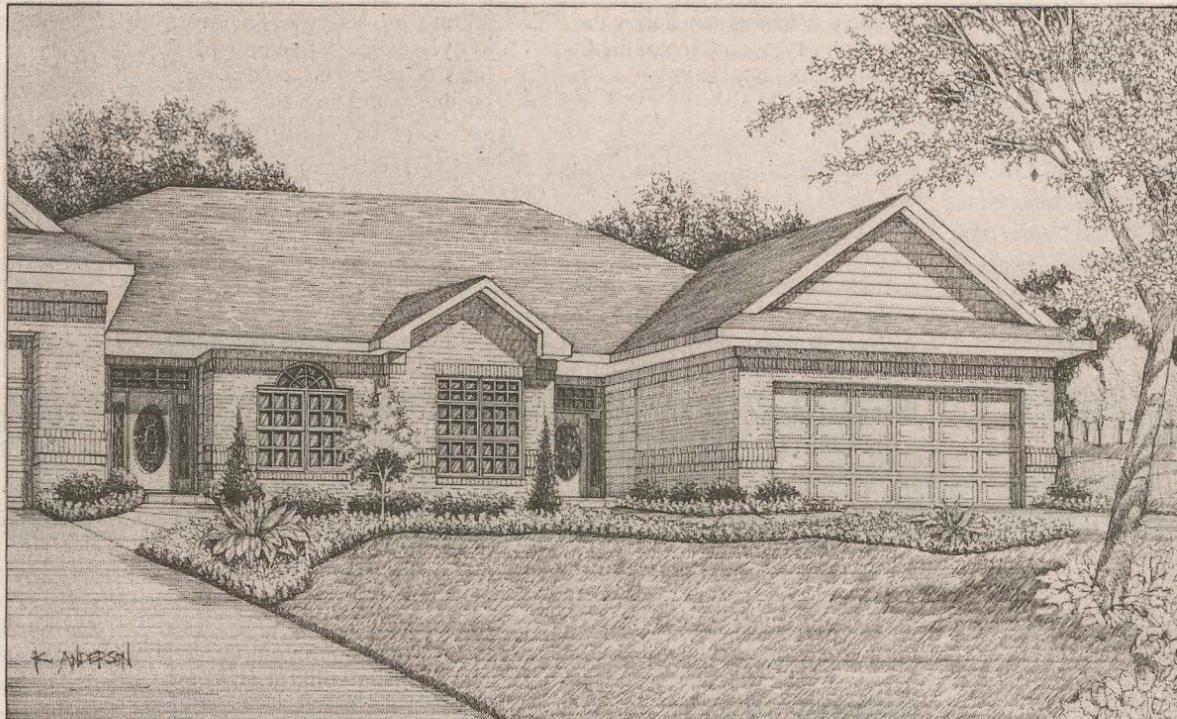
The sound of clanging hammers and the sight of freshly moved earth are common in the section of eastern Jefferson County where Cornell Trace is under construction.

Yet Cornell Trace, a retirement community being built by Baptist Homes for the Elderly Inc., is a new development with an old story.

Its story begins in 1953 when a committee was formed by the Long Run Baptist Association to study the possibility of starting a Baptist nursing home. The committee was led by Baptist layman Cornell Snow, and eventually its work was assumed by BHE when it incorporated in 1963. Snow's work on behalf of senior citizens for nearly four decades led BHE to name Cornell Trace in memory of Snow, who died in 1990.

The 58 patio homes that will compose Cornell Trace were part of Snow's long-term vision. Most Cornell Trace residents will be people who sell their houses and use the proceeds to acquire a home at Cornell Trace. They will pay a monthly service charge to cover all maintenance costs.

Until recently, BHE has been mostly concerned with nursing home care. Primarily with funds from a bequest from Sarah Wigginton, a Louisville Baptist, BHE opened its first home in downtown Louisville in 1967. That home closed after BHE opened Baptist Home East, a 110-bed facility, in 1979. Long Run churches collect-



NEW NEIGHBORHOOD Cornell Trace, a Baptist-managed retirement community in eastern Jefferson County, will offer two-bedroom patio homes that have an elegant design and an open floor plan that features 9-foot and 12-foot ceilings. Some of the homes will be ready for occupancy in early 1997.

ed money to help finance the construction of Baptist Home East.

"Cornell Snow was the driving force for a number of years," said BHE President Jim Lewis. Snow persuaded a Methodist farmer to donate 10 acres for the construction of Baptist Home East. He also spearheaded efforts to buy 10 additional acres where Cornell Trace is being built.

Snow's dream was to thoroughly ground all of BHE's activities in Christian convictions and that re-

mains central to BHE's mission, said Lewis.

"We provide a wholesome atmosphere that has its roots in the teachings of Jesus," Lewis said. "I don't think there are Christian institutions but there are Christian people who operate institutions according to Christian principles."

Excellent service and superb care rather than profits have guided BHE's efforts over the years, said Bill Wallen, campus administrator of Cornell Trace.

Wallen, who has been Baptist Home East's administrator for several years, said Baptist Home's main interest has always been quality. That same focus will guide Cornell Trace, he said.

"Our emphasis at Baptist Home East is different than proprietary homes," Wallen said. "It's not that they are not interested in quality. It's that we are not interested in dividends. We are interested solely in providing a better quality of life."

More seniors choosing to live in retirement communities

America's population of seniors is growing at a rapid pace and an increasing number of them will move into retirement communities.

According to a Georgia State University study, nearly 30 percent of people over 55 plan to move into a retirement community.

The survey, conducted by the Atlanta school's Center for Mature Consumer Studies, cited social contacts and access to personal care services as reasons people are choosing to move into retirement communities.

At Cornell Trace, residents will have access to a variety of services and will be part of a strong neighborhood, said Bill Wallen, campus administrator.

"We don't want this to be a place where it is simply 29 buildings with two patio homes each," Wallen said. "We want this to be a community."

The residents will not only have the benefit of a caring staff, but they will also have close friends

who live nearby, he said. "There is a safety net or a parachute," Wallen said. "It is our staff, but it will also be the neighbors next door and across the street."

Cornell Trace residents will enjoy the advantage of independent living, but they will also have the assurance of knowing that medical care and other services are always close by.

More than 30 million Americans are 65 and older. The U.S. Census Bureau predicts that number will climb to 39.3 million in 2010 and 65.6 million by 2030.

One telling indicator of the growth in the population of seniors is the rise in circulation of Modern Maturity magazine. It now has over 20 million subscribers.

More and more seniors are living longer and enjoying better health. Medical advances and healthier lifestyles are often cited as reasons for greater longevity.

One market research survey has shown that people age 65 or older

buy more warm-up suits per capita than any other age category. Demographers say that four or five generation families are becoming more common.

Yet America's mobile society has placed many sons and daughters hundreds of miles away from aging parents. Children often worry about their parents' health and wonder if there is anybody nearby to check on their well-being.

A place like Cornell Trace can help put those fears to rest, Wallen said. He advises people to develop retirement plans so that they can maximize the enjoyment of their retirement years.

Retirement communities, assisted living apartments and adult day care facilities are among options that people may choose, he said. People too often mistakenly think their only options are living independently in the home they've occupied for years or move into a nursing home.

"Most people wait until they

are in crisis to make a decision and that makes a transition very traumatic," Wallen said. "The transition can be much easier if it is planned."

Baptist Homes for the Elderly Inc., Cornell Trace's parent organization, has plans to expand its offerings beyond the retirement community and its nursing home, Baptist Home East. BHE hopes to build assisted living apartments and adult day care facilities on the same campus as Cornell Trace and Baptist Home East, Wallen said.

While retirement communities are on the rise, the perception that their appeal is limited to sunbelt states such as Florida, Arizona and California is erroneous. According to a recent study, fewer than 1 in 10 of retired persons live more than 200 miles from where they lived before retirement.

People who retire closer home have the advantage of maintaining ties they have developed over the years, Wallen said.

Cornell Trace offers residents convenience & comfort

Cornell Facts

- ◆ **Location:** Cornell Trace Road in eastern Jefferson County near Hurstbourne Parkway and Westport Road.
 - ◆ Units: 58.
- ◆ **Size:** 1,330-1,885 square feet. All have two bedrooms. Largest unit includes a study.
- ◆ **Residents:** People 62 and older.
- ◆ **Occupancy:** Early 1997
- ◆ **Management:** Baptist Homes for the Elderly Inc.
- ◆ **For information:** Call (502) 326-9838

When Cornell Trace promises that residents won't have to worry about upkeep and repairs, it makes that claim with utmost seriousness.

Many similar developments offer routine maintenance services. Yet Cornell Trace's maintenance guarantee extends even to household appliances.

In addition, outdoor chores such as lawn mowing, leaf raking and snow removal are somebody else's worry if you live at Cornell Trace. In the spring and summer months, residents will be able to walk across plush green grounds that are manicured by a professional staff and watered by an underground irrigation system.

"For people who like to do home maintenance, this is probably not for them," said William Galloway, treasurer of the Cornell Trace board.

For those who like the idea of no maintenance, there are numerous other benefits that will be available in the patio homes at

Cornell Trace.

The units feature an elegant design and open floor plan. That sense of openness is enhanced by the 9-foot and 12-foot ceilings.

Three types of two-bedroom units are available, and they range in size from 1,382 to 1,855 square feet of living space. The mid-size unit, the two bedroom deluxe, has 1,640 square feet of living space. The largest unit includes a study.

Located on a spacious 10-acre plot near the intersection of Westport Road and North Hurstbourne Parkway, Cornell Trace will sit on a quiet street near the bustling activity of Louisville's East End.

Residents will be within five minutes of shopping centers, medical offices and a golf course. For trips to other parts of Louisville or outside the city, freeway access is just minutes away.

Life at Cornell Trace promises to be a homey environment. Each unit will contain a fireplace with gas logs and a porch that is



GOOD COMPANY Cornell Trace will nurture a sense of community among its residents and people with similar interests, lifestyles and hobbies will be living in close proximity to each other.

screened. Those who buy units in the pre-construction stage can, for an additional charge, get a glass-enclosed porch. Residents also will enjoy an attached garage, and all but the smallest units will have a two-car garage.

In addition, Cornell Trace will provide a setting where neighborliness should abound. "We believe Cornell Trace will be a place where neighbors will be looking out for each other," said Bill Wallen, the campus administrator.

The clubhouse will give residents a place to gather and a venue to host events for friends who live outside the Cornell Trace community. The clubhouse will host health screenings and social activities for residents.

The clubhouse also will include an exercise room for the residents' use. After a workout, residents can return home and relax in a whirlpool tub.

At Cornell Trace, management will also be concerned for the per-

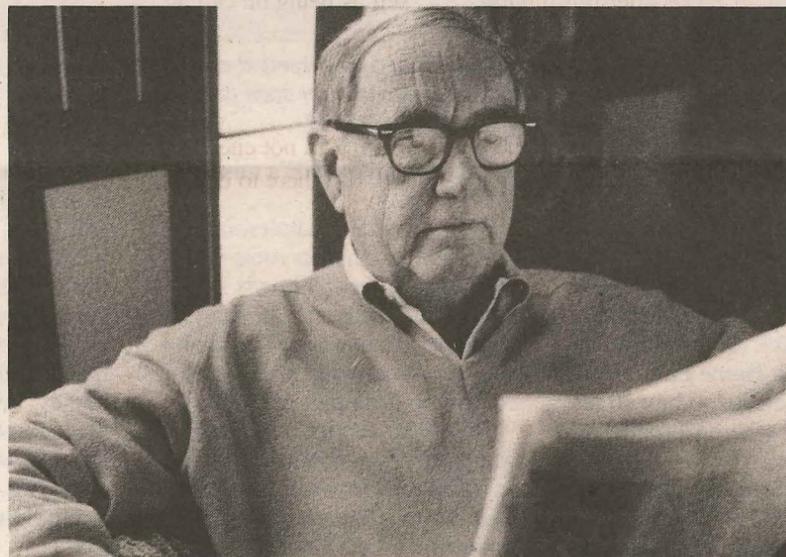
sonal welfare of residents. "If somebody gets the flu and needs a meal carried to them, we can arrange for that," said Wallen. Transportation and housekeeping services will be optional benefits for Cornell Trace residents.

Residents' sense of safety will be enhanced by a state-of-the-art security system. At the press of a button, a resident will be able to call for help at anytime.

Should residents need short-term or long-term nursing home care, they will be given priority consideration for admission to Baptist Home East, a nursing home facility next door to Cornell Trace.

In an area where nursing homes have long waiting lists, that could prove to be a great advantage some day, Wallen said.

However, he emphasized, the most immediate advantage for Cornell Trace will be a more leisurely life away from the annoyance of home repairs and maintenance.



RELAXING ATMOSPHERE The spacious floor plans of Cornell Trace will provide residents a comfortable place to call home.

Home upkeep and maintenance can be costly concern

Most people may not put a pencil to the yearly cost of maintaining a home.

However, the annual expenditure for conscientious homeowners can be sizable, according to William Galloway, a retired vice president of Hilliard Lyons, a Louisville brokerage house.

Galloway, who is treasurer of the Cornell Trace board, said taxes, insurance, maintenance and upkeep can easily top \$5,500 yearly. His calculations are based on a \$155,000 home in Louisville.

Included in the maintenance estimate are mundane lawn duties—mowing, shrub trimming, lawn fertilization and leaf removal—and routine inside and outside repairs. Galloway also factored in the depreciation of the roof, the annual cost of painting, monthly charges for water and sewer and various

other expenses.

For homeowners 62 and over who want to avoid maintaining a home themselves or who are tired of hiring the work done, Cornell Trace may be the solution to their problem, Galloway said.

All lawn work, maintenance and repairs will be covered by a monthly service charge and therefore will be the responsibility of Cornell Trace management. The service charge also will pay the monthly water and sewer bill.

Cornell Trace residents will not have to worry about property taxes or insurance, except for coverage on the contents of their unit. Most Cornell Trace residents will avoid capital gains taxes by exercising the one-time exemption granted to senior citizens.

When residents move into Cornell Trace, they will pay \$139,900

to \$169,900, depending on the size of the unit. If residents leave before 18 months of occupancy, they or their estate will be refunded the entire amount minus 1 percent for each month of occupancy. After 18 months, the refund freezes at 82 percent and residents will be guaranteed that amount regardless of how long they live at Cornell Trace.

Cornell Trace will use the difference between the entrance fee

and refund to keep the units refurbished and updated, Galloway said. The rest of the entrance fee will be held in reserve to pay residents when they leave.

People who move into a Cornell Trace patio home will avoid sales commissions, lengthy price negotiations and sales tax. And, at the end of their occupancy, residents or their estate will not have to pay sales commissions or worry about selling the unit.

Curious about seniors' issues?

Baptist Homes for the Elderly will supply a speaker for your seniors' group, circle or Sunday School class. Topics include medicare, medicaid, retirement living and nursing home care. Call (502) 426-5531

Jim Lewis maintains pastoral calling at Baptist Homes

When Jim Lewis retired from the pastorate in 1990, he did not leave behind his calling to care for people.

Instead, Lewis turned his attention in a new direction. He began focusing his main energies toward Baptist Home East, a nursing home facility next door to Westport Road Baptist Church, where Lewis served as pastor for 22 years.

Lewis is chairman of the board of Baptist Home East and president and chairman of the board of its parent organization, Baptist Homes for the Elderly Inc. Every day Lewis comes to the home, assisting the administrative matters, trouble shooting problems and listening to the concerns of staff and patients.

"I'm a firm believer that you don't retire from something, but you retire to something," Lewis said.

Lewis' "retirement job" is with an organization poised for growth. He is excited about BHE's plan to build a retirement community adjacent to the nursing home facility.

When Lewis looks at the architectural drawings for Cornell Trace, he points to details of the plans with the enthusiasm of a child showing off a new coloring book. The drawings, he said, reminds him of church building programs that he led during his years as pastor.

Lewis views the addition of Cornell Trace as an expansion of BHE's ministry. "It is an extension of our desire to minister to the total person."

That holistic view of individual also guides Lewis in his daily activities. He is concerned for matters that reach beyond routine staffing and administrative responsibilities. "I minister to people in a way not unlike what I've done all my life," he said.

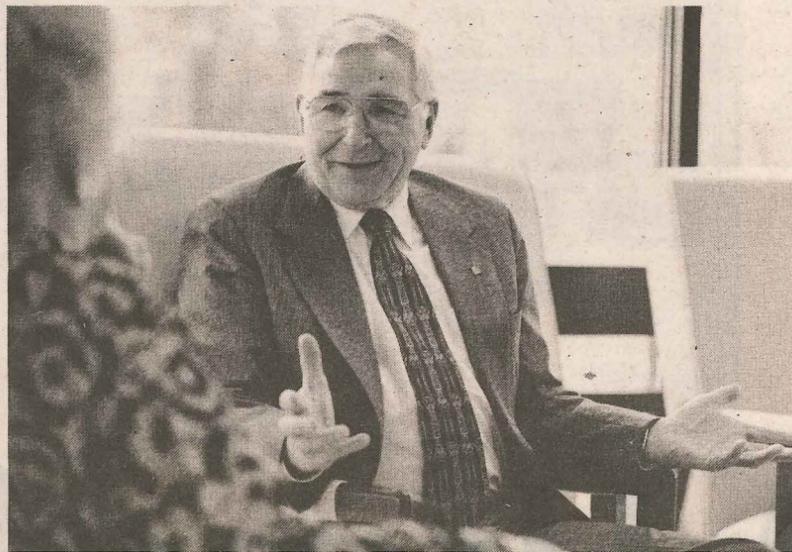
Lewis is quick to point out, however, that he is not the chaplain. Those duties, he said, are in the capable hands of D.E. Jones. Nevertheless, Lewis said his position allows him to maintain the pastoral identity he has nurtured over the years.

"That's who I am at heart," he explained. "I'm a pastor. I'd rather be referred to as 'pastor' than any other way except 'brother.' I like the word pastor. That's what the Lord has called me to do."

Lewis has been pastor of three churches in addition to Westport Road—Ormsby Heights Baptist Church in Louisville, First Baptist Church of Corbin and Rockford Lane Baptist Church in Louisville.

At Westport Road, Lewis' leadership skills helped the church make the transition from a rural to a suburban congregation. When the surrounding community's population began to swell, so did the membership of Westport Road. When Lewis retired in 1990, the church had over 1,000 members.

His leadership has also been tapped by his fellow Baptists in Kentucky. He has been a trustee of Georgetown College, a trustee of Baptist Health Care System, a member of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board and president of the KBC.



LISTENING EAR Baptist Homes for the Elderly President Jim Lewis, a retired pastor and former Kentucky Baptist Convention president, confers with Sudie Dunn, resident ombudsman at Baptist Home East.

"I have always felt that I should be involved in ministry beyond the local church," Lewis said.

His service as a trustee of Baptist Homes for the Elderly began in the mid 1960s after finishing a term as moderator of the Long Run Baptist Association. When Baptist Home East opened next door to Westport Road church in 1979, Lewis naturally became one of the board's best informed members.

After the death of Cornell Snow in 1990, Lewis began participating in the day-to-day operation of Baptist Home East. Yet Lewis views his role in the daily management of the home as secondary to Bill Wallen, the home's state-licensed administrator.

"Bill and I meet every day,"

Lewis said. "I'm in a support role for him and I fill in for him when he's gone."

Lewis maintains a busy schedule related to BHE. He sees himself as being on call 24 hours a day and frequently pays weekend and late night visits to the facility.

"Sometimes I just stop by to let the staff know I'm available," he said. "I'm not checking up on people. I'm there to encourage them."

His encouragement often comes in the form of an attentive ear or an enthusiastic pat on the back and a loud laugh. Lewis said his motivation for service closely identifies with BHE's purpose.

"We are here because we believe this is in keeping with the life, teachings and spirit of Jesus," he said.

"I minister to people in a way not unlike what I've done all my life."

Jim Lewis, president, Baptist Homes for the Elderly

Cornell Trace Board of Trustees



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Retired Educator
Shively Baptist Church



Ted Boehm
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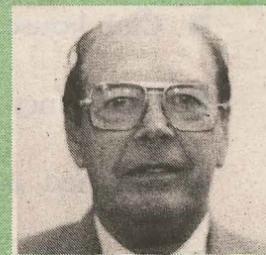
Steve Danzinger
Owner
Danzinger Associates
Church Construction Managers
Shively Baptist Church



Sudie Dunn
Resident Ombudsman
Baptist Home East
Walnut Street Baptist Church



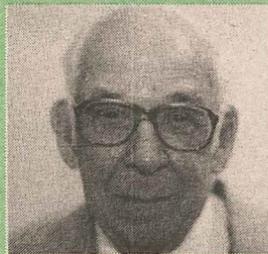
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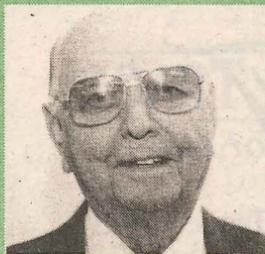
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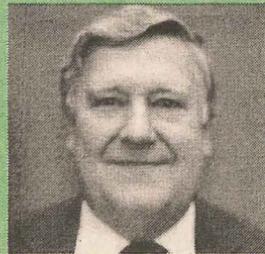
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Rev. D.E. Jones
Pastor
Westport Baptist Church
Chaplain of Baptist Home East



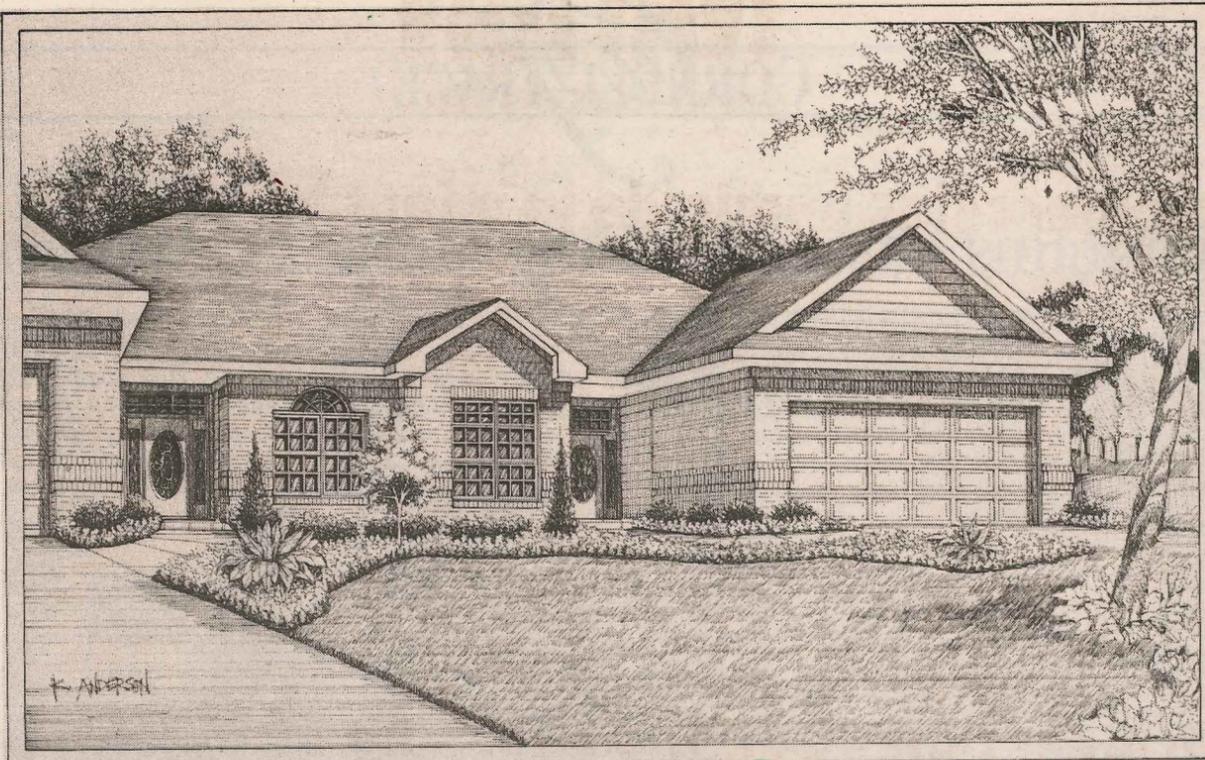
Rev. Jim Lewis
Retired Pastor
Westport Road Baptist Church
President
Walnut Street Baptist Church



Ken Streble
Owner
Streble Building Supplies
South Jefferson Baptist Church



Bill Wallen
Administrator
Baptist Homes East
Walnut Street Baptist Church



A Home for Life

At Cornell Trace, we are doing more than constructing a housing development. We are building a community of friends. We offer a lifestyle where upkeep and repairs are somebody else's concern and where shopping, medical offices, recreational facilities and major highways are nearby. Our community is uniquely designed to serve seniors. As your need for care increases, we will make every effort to provide you the assistance you require. Any way you look at it, Cornell Trace is a home for life!

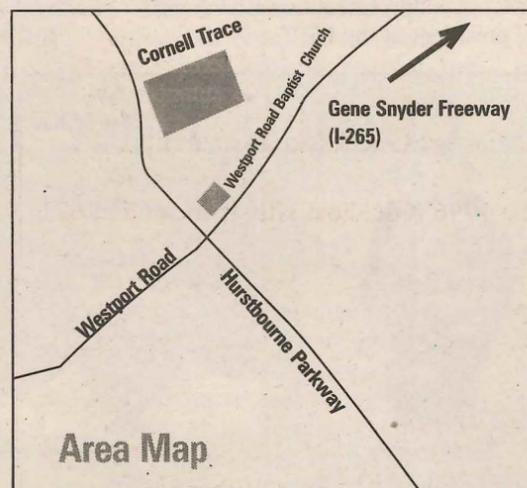
In addition to an elegant design that features vaulted ceilings and an open floor plan, our two-bedroom patio homes will offer:

- Fireplace with gas logs
- Whirlpool tub
- Club house
- Chaplaincy services
- Attached, 2-car garage with automatic opener
- State of the art security system

- Walk-in closets
- Comprehensive inside and outside maintenance
- Gas heat
- All appliances

Prices start at \$139,900.

Floor plans range in size from a basic two-bedroom unit with 1,330 square feet to a two-bedroom unit with a study that encompasses 1,885 square feet.



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CORNELL TRACE
A Home for Life

9729 Cornell Trace Road
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(502) 326-9838

Medical examiner rules homicide in infant baptism death

WASHINGTON (RNS)—The death of an infant girl who was immersed at a baptism ceremony has been ruled a homicide by the District of Columbia medical examiner.

The child, Sade Omotola, was baptized Sept. 8 at Imani Temple on Capitol Hill by associate pastor August Griffin. After the baptism, the 4-month-old was rushed to a hospital when observers noticed blood and mucus coming from her nostrils. She died Sept. 19.

Church spokesman William Marshall Jr. said the baptism was done under normal church practice. Omotola was baptized with three rapid dips—symbolizing the Trinity—in an 18-inch-deep plastic tub.

Linda Boyd, spokeswoman for the D.C. Commission on Public Health, which oversees the medical examiner's office, said homicide is a medical term, not a criminal one.

"The medical examiner has determined that the cause of death was drowning. The manner of death is homicide," Boyd said. "As a medical term, it simply means that a person dies at the hand of another. ... Homicide is not murder, nor does it imply intent."

Imani Temple is the cathedral of the African American Catholic Congregation, a group of breakaway black Catholic churches founded by Archbishop George Augustus Stallings Jr.

Stallings said his church was "deeply shocked and taken aback" by the medical examiner's report.

"We firmly maintain that baptism by immersion is sound and safe," Stallings said, reiterating the medical examiner's definition of homicide.

"This matter could possibly, now, have legal ramifications and at this time, we cannot comment any further," Stallings added.

Acting Medical Examiner Humphrey Germaniuk was asked if the death could have been determined to be an accident.

"An accident is something that is unforeseen and unavoidable," he responded. "If you immerse a 3 1/2-month-old not once, not twice, but three times, the actions of that immersion are certainly foreseen."

After the child's death, Stallings announced parents will be required to sign medical waivers before full immersion baptisms of infants. The church also christens babies by pouring water over a child's head.

"An accident is something that is unforeseen and unavoidable. If you immerse a 3 1/2-month-old not once, not twice, but three times, the actions of that immersion are certainly foreseen."

Humphrey Germaniuk, acting medical examiner

Madalyn Murray O'Hair's son files missing persons report

AUSTIN, Texas—(RNS) The son of well-known American atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair has filed a missing persons report on his mother, who has not been heard from since August 1995.

William Murray, a Christian advocate who has been estranged from his mother for more than 10 years, said Oct. 3 that Texas police have opened an investigation into O'Hair's disappearance but have few leads.

O'Hair vanished after telling colleagues that she was going to New York to picket Pope John Paul II's visit. Her younger son, Jon Murray, 44, and 31-year-old granddaughter, Robin Murray-O'Hair, disappeared at the same time.

William Murray said police told him earlier last week that they had located his daughter Robin's 1985 Porsche in a long-term parking lot at the Austin, Texas, airport.

"The car has been processed and there is nothing suspicious," said Mike Burgess, an Austin police spokesman. The vehicle had been at the airport for several months and "there is no indication of foul play," he added.

O'Hair, founder of American Atheists, is best known for winning the landmark 1963 U.S. Supreme Court decision outlawing organized prayer in public schools.

Burgess said that if O'Hair is found and asks police not to reveal her whereabouts, they will quietly close the investigation.

"It is not against the law in Texas to be missing," he said.

On the day O'Hair disappeared, Murray said his mother left a note on the door of American Atheists' headquarters telling the staff they had been laid off. But he said the atheist group still occupies a "million-dollar office complex" as well as a "quarter-million dollar home" that belongs to his mother.

Murray said he filed the missing persons report to bring "some kind of closure" to media interest, but American Atheists spokesman Spike Tyson said Murray is more interested in gaining access to his mother's assets.

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1996 Kentucky Baptist Convention Annual Meeting November 12-13 • First Baptist Church, Bowling Green

The facilities listed below represent those with blocked rooms. Room rates are for 1-4 persons per night.

Messengers are responsible for making their own reservations. You must identify yourself as a Kentucky Baptist Convention attendee in order to receive established blocked room rates. Also, pay close attention to deadline reservation dates.

Add 10.18% tax
*Reservation deadline
NS - non-smoking; S - smoking

- Best Western Motor Inn (*October 27) Highway 231 at I-65, 42104
1/800/343-2937; 502/782-3800
Singles-\$50; doubles (2-4 p)-\$55 (S; NS)
Denny's Restaurant on site
- Hampton Inn (*October 28) 233 Three Springs Road, 42104
502/842-4100
Singles and doubles - \$57 flat rate (S; NS)
Continental breakfast provided
- Budgetel (*October 27) 165 Three Springs Road, 42104
502/843-3202
Doubles-\$45; kings-\$47.65 (All NS)
- Holiday Inn (*October 27) 3240 Scottsville Road, 42104
502/781-1500
Doubles-\$57 (S; NS)
Restaurant; room service
- Comfort Inn (*October 27) 4646 Scottsville Road, 42104
502/843-1163
Doubles-\$56.88; kings-\$49.88 (Most NS)
Continental breakfast provided
- Ramada Inn (*October 27) 4767 Scottsville Road, 42104
502/781-3000
Queens (1-4)-\$52; mini suites (1-2)-\$46 (S; NS)
Restaurant; room service
- Greenwood Executive Inn (*October 27) Off Scottsville at I-65 exit 22
1/800/354-4394
Singles and doubles - \$49 flat rate (S; NS)
Restaurant; room service
- University Plaza Suites (*October 28) 1021 Wilkinson Trace, 42103
502/745-0088
Singles, doubles - \$74 flat rate (S; NS)
Restaurant; room service

Need a place to stay?

A guide to Bowling Green accommodations

All accommodations are directly on or within a close proximity to Scottsville Road (Highway 231). Scottsville Road is off I-65 exit #22. This area has great access to restaurants.

First Baptist Church, the 1996 KBC host site, is located at 621 East 12th Street, on the corner of 12th and Chestnut streets.

Scottsville Road (231) eventually becomes 12th Street. The church is about four miles northwest of I-65 exit 22.

For additional information, contact Denise Withers at 502/245-4101, ext. 212.

LIVING THE TRUTH
(being & doing) James 1:22

Controversial Jesus Seminar to study options this week

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (RNS)—For more than a decade, the Jesus Seminar has upset traditional Christian scholars as it deconstructed the text of the New Testament Gospels and reported their views of what Jesus said and did.

Its task largely completed, the controversial group of religion and biblical scholars now must decide its future course. That decision could come at the group's fall meeting, set for Oct. 16-20 in Santa Rosa, Calif.

Jesus Seminar participants are considering taking critical looks at the biblical writings attributed to the Apostle Paul, the development of Christian creeds and the way early church leaders decided what texts should be included in the New Testament.

Since its inception, the Jesus Seminar has garnered media attention—and the hostility of more traditional Christian scholars—by applying contemporary standards of historical-critical analysis to Jesus' words and deeds as stated in the Gospels.

Seminar members have rejected as historically unlikely more than 80 percent of the words attributed to Jesus, as well as his virgin birth and physical resurrection.

Critics dismiss the Jesus Seminar as a publicity-seeking group hostile to traditional Christianity. "The historical quest for Jesus is not the problem; the subjectivity of the quest is," wrote George Rutler, a Roman Catholic priest in New York. His comments were contained in a biting attack on the Jesus Seminar published in the September issue of *Crisis*, a conservative Catholic magazine.

CLASSIFIED ADS

SEEKING: Minister of music. Ridgewood Baptist Church, Louisville (CBF-affiliated), is seeking a part-time minister of music. Send resumé to: Ridgewood Baptist Church, 6209 Greenwood Road, Louisville, KY 40258.

SEEKING: Minister of youth. Ridgewood Baptist Church, Louisville (CBF-affiliated), is seeking a part-time minister of youth. Send resumé to: Ridgewood Baptist Church, 6209 Greenwood Road, Louisville, KY 40258.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music at Farmdale Baptist Church. Send resumé to: 5610 U.S. Hwy. 127 S., Frankfort, KY 40601.

SEEKING: Minister of adult education and new member assimilation. Dynamic, growing church has an opening for a committed, growth-minded minister. Present membership is approximately 4,000 with average attendance of approximately 1,700. Resumé should be forwarded to: Personnel Committee, 11704 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37922.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music. Send resumé to: Plano Baptist Church, 600 Plano-Richpond Road, Bowling Green, KY 42104, Attn: Search Committee.

WANTED: Part-time church organist—eight to 10 hours per week (Sunday mornings and evenings and Wednesday evenings). Organ is a 28-rank Aeolian-Skinner. The church appreciates a variety of music styles. Organist should possess excellent sightreading and accompanying skills. Competitive salary. Phone Mr. Douglas at the church office: (502) 683-0269.

SEEKING: Youth minister; bivocational experience preferred. Person to provide dynamic, fun, biblically-based leadership of youth ministry. Send resumé to: Buck Grove Baptist, 255 Buck Grove Road, Ekron, KY 40117, Attn: Beth.

SEEKING: A multiple-staff, seeker-sensitive, purpose-driven church is looking for a full-time youth and children's minister to provide vision, direction, training and leadership to a team of volunteers. Individual must be gifted in teaching and must have management skills, a high energy level, fresh ideas and the ability to function in a team approach to ministry. Interested? Experienced? Challenged? Send resumé to: Search Committee, Springfield Baptist Church, P.O. Box 286, Springfield, KY 40069. Phone: (606) 336-3544.

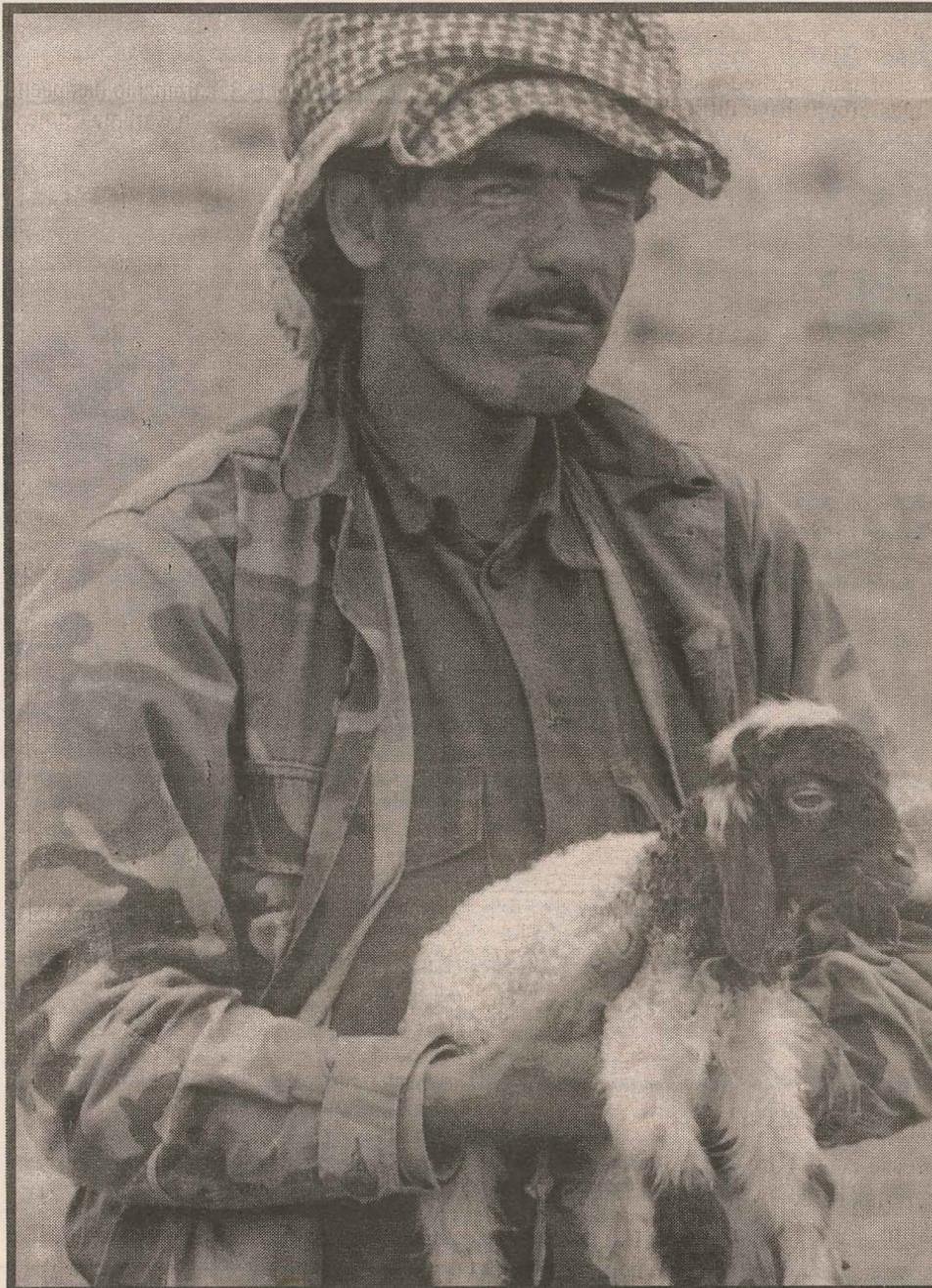
TOUR: 10-day Holy Land tour plus Greece, departing Feb. 24, 1997, for only \$1,795. Call Jack R. Studie for a color brochure and more information at (502) 247-8331. Experience you can trust!

SEEKING: Taylorsville First Baptist Church is seeking a part-time minister of music. This position involves leading the congregational singing, sanctuary choir, and overseeing the music program. If interested, send resumé to: Minister of Music Search Committee, P.O. Box 446, Taylorsville, KY 40071

FOR SALE: 22 12-foot pews, pulpit, altar bench, communion table, 2 clergy benches. Call (502) 866-2089.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of youth, either single individual or couple, interested in building an exciting youth program. Salary plus use of parsonage negotiable. If interested, send resumé to: Hillcrest Baptist Church, Personnel Committee, 684 Devils Hollow Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

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.



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Bedouins roam the deserts of the Middle East and North Africa, searching for greener pastures for their cattle, sheep and camels. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's 1996-97 Offering for Global Missions will provide resources to help Bedouins adjust to changing economies and find an oasis in the desert of life.

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U.S. decries Iranian religious persecution

By Kim Lawton
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Amid new reports of persecution against religious minorities in Iran, the U.S. State Department has called on the Islamic republic to grant full religious liberty to members of all faiths.

The State Department condemned a death sentence imposed on Musa Talibi, an Iranian member of the Baha'i faith who has been convicted of apostasy, or forsaking Islam. Talibi has been in prison on apostasy charges since 1994.

Meanwhile, Christians in the West report that an Assemblies of God pastor was found dead at the end of September under still-unexplained circumstances. The minister had close ties to two other Iranian Assemblies of God pastors who were murdered in 1994.

"The United States once again calls on the government of Iran to desist in its persecution of members of the

Baha'i and other religious minorities residing in Iran, and to comply fully with the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights," State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said in a statement released Tuesday Oct. 1.

The Baha'i community, which has some 300,000 members, is the largest minority religion in predominantly Shi'a Muslim Iran. The Baha'i faith, which teaches the unity of all religions, was founded in Iran in the mid-19th century by Mirza Husayn Ali, who proclaimed himself a prophet. Muslims believe Mohammed, who died in the 7th century, was the final prophet, putting them at odds with the Baha'is.

Talibi is one of four Iranian Baha'is currently facing death sentences because of religious beliefs.

At the same time, Western Christian organizations are condemning the suspicious death of Mohammed Yusefi, an Assemblies of God pastor who died in late September in north-

west Iran.

Yusefi died days before Christians in 117 countries around the world participated in an International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church Sept. 29.

According to a statement from the Colorado Springs-based Iranian Christians International, Yusefi's body was discovered hanged on a tree in a forest of a northwestern province.

Sources inside Iran told the group Yusefi had been detained by police prior to his death.

Elam Ministries, an Iranian organization based in Great Britain, alleges that Yusefi left his house at 6 a.m. that day to pray and never returned. Local authorities informed Yusefi's family of his death later that evening, Elam Ministries said.

He is the third Assemblies of God pastor in Iran to die under suspicious circumstances in the past two years.

Doug Clark, Assemblies of God director for the Middle East, said the deaths of so many pastors has been devastating to his denomination, which has only a tiny presence in Iran. "The Iranian Assemblies of God has lost nearly 25 percent of its ministers," he said. "This would be equivalent to the U.S. Assemblies of God losing some 3,700 of its ordained ministers."

About half of Iran's 15,000 Protestant Christians are estimated to be converts from Islam.

Because of Iran's closed society, human rights groups have difficulty getting reliable information about ongoing abuses. However, since the 1979 revolution, Iran has come under repeated fire from the West for its record of religious intolerance.

NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Appeal of abortion clinics law rejected.** The U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear arguments from Wisconsin anti-abortion advocates against a federal law restricting protests in front of abortion clinics. The court will examine other issues involving abortion clinic protests this term in a separate case about the constitutionality of a court injunction imposing a 15-foot "bubble" between abortion clinic patients and protesters.

■ **Muslim Arab-Americans favor Clinton.** President Clinton holds a double-digit lead over Bob Dole among all Arab-Americans, with Muslim Arab-Americans favoring Clinton by a margin of more than 40 percentage points, according to a national survey of Arab-American voters. The survey showed Clinton leading Dole 43.4 percent to 29.6 percent, with Ross Perot favored by 6.5 percent of those polled.

■ **Caucus says Methodist denomination 'in crisis.'** Good News, an unofficial evangelical caucus within the United Methodist Church, has accused the mainline denomination of being in a "state of confusion about its identity and mission" and called on bishops to adhere to the doctrinal standards of the church. Caucus leaders said their "Resolution to a Church in Crisis" was prompted by the growing United Methodist debate over homosexuality.

■ **'700 Club' widens reach.** Religious broadcaster Pat Robertson has widened the reach of his talk show, "The 700 Club," by broadcasting on New York-based superstation WWOR. The move gives Robertson a potential audience of 92 percent of U.S. television households—the widest potential U.S. audience of any religious broadcaster.

■ **Mother Teresa an honorary U.S. citizen.** President Clinton signed legislation granting honorary U.S. citizenship to Mother Teresa, the Roman Catholic nun famed for her work among the poor. Honorary U.S. citizenship has been granted only three times before: to British wartime Prime Minister Winston Churchill; to Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, credited with saving 20,000 Jews from the Nazis; and to William and Hannah Penn, founders of Pennsylvania.



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Why ... the Foundation?

From time-to-time I am asked, Why support Baptist causes through the Kentucky Baptist Foundation versus giving directly to each cause? In a day when there are so many appeals from Baptist and other charitable organizations, such a question is understandable. Let me suggest three reasons.

First, the purpose for which the Foundation exists is unique. It is Kentucky Baptists' only "trust agency." It exists to receive gifts for which the giver wants the original corpus to be held until the Lord returns and only the income from the investments to be distributed to the beneficiary cause(s). Because that is the Foundation's purpose, then the Foundation should be the best at providing that service to Kentucky Baptists.

Second, the Foundation provides a simple, convenient, efficient way for a donor to make a single gift for the benefit of multiple causes. We find most Kentucky Baptists with whom we have contact are interested in more than one Baptist or other charitable cause. They are pleased to discover they can simplify the giving process and still benefit all of the causes they want to benefit. For example, a donor

may establish an endowment fund and ask that the income be distributed in perpetuity to a church, a Kentucky Baptist institution and a Southern Baptist institution.

Third, for one who desires it, the Foundation can provide anonymity. Some individuals want to provide financial support for one or more causes, but they do not want

the causes to know who they are or the amount of their gift. By utilizing the Foundation as a third party, that anonymity can be assured.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention-elected board of directors and the staff of the Foundation take very seriously this fiduciary responsibility.

To the extent Kentucky Baptists will utilize the Foundation to focus on what we do best, we think it will facilitate the rest of our Kentucky Baptist family of institutions and agencies to focus on what they do best. The result will be a more efficient stewardship of the collective resources of the family and a more efficient and effective witness for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Barry Allen is president of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, 10605 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40223.

KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen



All Kentucky Baptists are invited to a special event to be held at the University Plaza Suites, 1021 Wilkinson Trace, Bowling Green.

In recognition of his exemplary leadership, friendship, and administration for fourteen years as

Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Executive Board, Dr. William W. Marshall and his wife, Alice, will be honored with a reception on Tuesday, November 12 immediately following the evening session of the KBC annual meeting in Bowling Green. Please join us.

The William W. Marshall Book of Letters

You're invited to share special thoughts and experiences with Dr. Marshall by writing him a letter.

Please send your letter by October 29, 1996, on 8½" by 11" paper, flat, in an envelope (DO NOT FOLD), to Dr. Jim Hawkins, Baptist Building, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433.

MISSIONS

Fellowship joins those urging help for Kurdish workers

"Without immediate intervention, these people will die."
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionary Robert Anderson

ATLANTA (ABP)—Unless the U.S. government moves immediately to evacuate Kurdish employees of non-governmental organizations in northern Iraq, they and their families face near-certain death, according to representatives of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Included is a group of nearly 150 Kurdish employees and their families who have worked with Fellowship missionaries Robert and Roni Anderson in a non-governmental organization known as Concern for Kids.

In September, Baptists and other non-governmental Western aid workers, including the Andersons, evacuated northern Iraq.

But many of their Kurdish colleagues have no means to escape Saddam's forces.

"Without immediate intervention, these people will die," said Robert

Anderson, "The State Department acknowledges these people are in danger."

The Andersons were appointed in February 1995 as Fellowship missionaries. Kurdish workers have been carrying on the Anderson's ministry projects since their departure.

"We've already heard that (Hussein's) security agents have executed some Kurdish NGO (non-governmental organization) employees in northern Iraq. People are dying as we speak," Anderson said.

There are no reports yet of deaths among some 148 employees and dependents of Concern for Kids, Anderson said, but "tension and fear are building while time passes with no quick action."

Anderson's comments mirror those of Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board workers, who last

How to help

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—To appeal to the U.S. government to evacuate Kurdish workers associated with Baptist relief work and other Western humanitarian efforts in northern Iraq, call your U.S. congressman, senators and the White House to request their urgent intervention. Or contact:

■ **Phyllis Oakley**, assistant secretary of state for the Bureau for

Population, Refugees and Migration; (202) 647-7360; fax (202) 647-8162.

■ **Warren Christopher**, U.S. Secretary of State; (202) 647-5291; fax (202) 647-1533.

■ **Eric Schwartz**, Senior director for human rights, refugees and humanitarian affairs of the National Security Council; (202) 456-9141; fax (202) 456-9140.

month were in Turkey working to gain the evacuation of 300 Kurdish relief employees and family members.

Like the FMB, the Andersons and Fellowship Global Missions Coordinator Keith Parks are urging Baptists to appeal to U.S. leaders for an immediate evacuation of the Kurds.

The government has already done that for large numbers of its own Kurdish employees and should extend the same protection to Kurds and their families employed by non-government organizations, Parks stated in an Oct. 3 letter to Fellowship leaders.

Gospel radio broadcasts started to reach European Gypsies

TIRANA, Albania (ABP)—Gypsies throughout Europe will hear regular broadcasts of the Christian gospel in their own language for the first time this month because of a cooperative venture between Trans World Radio and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

The radio broadcasts will allow the biblical message to reach millions of shunned and neglected Romany, or Gypsy, people scattered across Europe.

A 15-minute program will be broadcast twice a week by the

500,000-watt AM Radio Tirana in Albania.

Broadcasts will expand next year to seven days a week when Thru The Bible ministry of Pasadena, Calif., joins the partnership to develop and underwrite 30-minute, verse-by-verse Bible study programs for Gypsies.

Fellowship missionaries T. and Kathie Thomas and Ralph and Tammy Stocks are the initial members of a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missions team focusing on the Romany people, one of the people groups least exposed to the Christian gospel.

They have spearheaded efforts to get the New Testament translated into the Romani language and to get radio broadcasts of the gospel in Romani.

Expanding the broadcasts to seven days a week is "a gigantic breakthrough," Thomas said. "We had prayed for God to help us find a way to fill up the other five days."

The Fellowship will play an active role in follow-up to responses from the broadcasts. Listeners who respond to the program will be encouraged to grow spiritually by participating in small groups to lay groundwork for

new churches.

The broadcasts, which eventually will include various formats and various Romani dialects, will be popular in the far-flung Gypsy culture, Thomas predicted.

"Wherever I go, Gypsies have radios even if they don't have electricity or even food. They love music and get it off the radio. They'll get really excited when they learn about these programs in their own language. Radio is a great evangelistic tool for Gypsies because many are functionally illiterate," he said.

Two who made a difference

By Robert Dunston

In the summer of 1982 two Cumberland College students developed a program that has changed many lives for the better. Robert Day, whose family lived close to Cumberland, took Dave Emmert, a student from Ohio, on a drive along some of the less-traveled mountain roads. As they drove, they noticed houses that were in need of repair. Knowing that some residents might be physically or financially unable to make the repairs, they decided to invest themselves in helping their neighbors.

Robert and Dave began repairing a house where an elderly man lived with his special needs son. After attempting to patch up the house, they realized that patching was not the answer. They determined to build a new house.

The two begged and salvaged materials. Other students learned of the project, and soon 20 students were volunteering time on weekends and weekdays. As they worked, they learned from their own mistakes and from Cumberland staff and local builders. Since the project was not located on a road, students had to carry all materials across a field and through the

woods to the site. It was difficult, but progress was made.

By the time Christmas break arrived, the house almost was complete but still not ready to be moved into. The students had patched the old house as well as they could and had cut enough wood to feed the stove until they returned for the spring semester.

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



When the students returned two weeks later, the stove was cold and the elderly man was dying. Robert and Dave called an ambulance, but the gentleman died in the hospital of frostbite and hypothermia.

Robert and Dave were grief-stricken but more committed than ever to their project. By the time they graduated in May 1984, they had helped build nine houses. The group they founded, Mountain Outreach, continued to flourish and now a total of 79 houses have been built.

And where are Robert and Dave now? Robert Day pastors a church in Anchorage, Alaska, and Dave Emmert serves as a Southern Baptist missionary. They are still changing their world.

Robert Dunston is chairman of the religion department at Cumberland College, 6000 College Station Dr., Williamsburg, Ky. 40769

Guests at your table

"The righteous are always generous and lend freely; their children will be blessed" (Psalm 37:26).

What a comfort this verse is to godly parents. But it is just as much comfort to those of us here at Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. Just as your children of birth depend on you to take care of them, our other children—those orphaned by the living through abuse and neglect—look to Kentucky Baptists to provide for them.

The annual Food Round-Up, which was recently completed, is just one of the ways you "lend freely." Every box of food represents money we can spend on other necessities that will help heal these boys and girls. Therapy, materials for school, recreation—all these things are more feasible because you have shared your pantry with us.

The staples you provide also go to help our foster families who unselfishly open their homes to hurting children and consequently have more mouths to feed.

Some of those canned goods you brought to church last month might end up on the shelves of a

young adult's first kitchen. The Center for Independence works with teenagers who are leaving residential or foster care and entering the world of rent, budgets and—thanks to you—leftovers.

Families in crisis receive these gifts through the Family Preservation and Reunification programs. It may seem like a small thing, but gathering a family together for a meal can keep the lines of communication open. Through the Round-Up, you are a part of that.

We are grateful to our Women's Advisory Board for sponsoring the Food Round-Up and other projects throughout the year. This group represents every region of the commonwealth and it is because of their work and "cheerleading" that your churches know about these needs.

The next time you gather your family for a meal, remember the unseen guests at your table and accept their thanks from me.

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Brenda Gray

Brenda Gray is vice president for development and communications for the Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, 10801 Shelbyville Rd., Middletown, Ky. 40243. Call (800) 456-1386. The World Wide Web address is: <http://www.iglou.com/kbhcl/>



FINANCIAL FORUM

Developing a family budget

By Doug Strader

If it is a family budget, then the family needs to plan the budget.

In other words, each member of the family needs to feel ownership of the budget. Naturally, the adults in the family will need to give leadership to children and teens in planning the family budget.

Southern Baptists are fortunate to have a simple family budget guide written by Lee Davis at the Stewardship Commission in Nashville. Davis' book is titled "5 Steps to Successful Money Management." The book and a companion workbook can be purchased at the Baptist Book Store.

Set some goals.

As a family, talk about your goals for the next year, then look at some goals for the next five years, and talk about long range goals, 15 or 20 years ahead. As a family, decide on your family goals.

Estimate your income.

In the workbook there is a form to help you estimate your income for the next year. For most of us, this will be a rather simple task, although your special circumstances might make this process a little more difficult.

Determine your expenses from last year.

This can be done by looking at your check register from the past 12 months. The workbook has a form to help you categorize your expenses.

Make a plan for spending.

Using the information from step 3 will enable you to make your plan for spending. Again, the workbook has a form that will assist you in this process.

Keep accurate records.

The workbook has forms to be used for this step. This program also is available as computer software from the Stewardship Commission, 901 Commerce St., Nashville, Tenn. 37203.

This is only one way to begin a family budget; there are many others. Whether you use this plan or another plan, keep it simple, leave room for adjustments and as a family make a commitment to make the plan work for you.

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

23 Scientologists on trial in France

LYON, France (RNS) Defense lawyers claim the trial of 23 French Scientologists, over charges related to the suicide of a follower of the group, is more about being "religiously incorrect" than about their involvement in the death.

This is a "veritable trial of heresy," Benoit Ducous-Adair said in opening arguments for the defense.

The trial centers on the 1988 suicide of 30-year-old Patrice Vic, who on the day he died had asked his wife to loan him the equivalent in French francs of \$6,000 to pay for church courses. Vic was accompanied by church official Jean-Jacques Mazier when he made the request, which was

denied.

Examining magistrate Georges Fenech, who led a five-year investigation, accused the church of "exploiting the good faith and gullibility of its victims for commercial profit, through pseudo-scientific and paramedical means, to their financial detriment and at their medical and psychological risk."

Marc Bromberg, a spokesman for the French church, which claims about 4,000 members, criticized the trial as "the return of the Inquisition."

The trial comes amid closer scrutiny by French authorities of unorthodox religious groups and sects sparked by incidences of mass suicide by

members of the Order of the Solar Temple in Quebec, Switzerland and France.

Earlier this year, the French parliament called Scientology a "cult" and placed it on a list of 173 groups it said should be tracked to prevent what it called cult activities.

Prosecutor Thierry Ricard said he would not debate over whether Scientology is "a religion, a sect or a new religious movement," but he did argue it is a "money pump ... always sucking in but never spitting out."

But another defense lawyer, Yves Leborgne, said prosecutors were asking the jury "to set an example" to those who don't follow conventional wisdom.

"You are not charged with protecting from themselves those who do not choose the path judged good or religiously correct," he said.

The Church of Scientology, headquartered in Los Angeles, claims more than 8 million followers worldwide. It was founded in 1954 by science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard and has been embroiled in controversy for most of its history. The Southern Baptist Convention classifies Scientology as a cult.

Hollywood street named for Scientology founder

LOS ANGELES (RNS)—The Los Angeles City Council has voted to rename a one-block stretch of Berendo Street in Hollywood after L. Ron Hubbard, the science-fiction writer and founder of the controversial Church of Scientology.

Despite passionate protests from a handful of residents, the council voted 8 to 3 in favor of the name change.

The one-block stretch is the site of the Church of Scientology's international headquarters. It owns more than half the property on the block.

The protesting residents, citing passages from some of Hubbard's writings, accused the deceased founder of the church of being a bigot, a charlatan and a cult leader who was biased against homosexuals.

But John Woodruff, executive director of Scientology's Los Angeles branch, called the vote a "fantastic victory."

"This is a kind of small thing in a sense," he said. "We're talking about 250 yards of street, but it's an acknowledgment of what we've done and what Mr. Hubbard has meant."

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Dr. Wayne Ward
Seminary Professor

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Kentucky Baptist Convention

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Office of Alumni Affairs by Nov. 8
1-800-264-6014, ext. 5216



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ART & SOUL:

Spirituality in the '90s

Join us as Art and Soul: Spirituality in the '90s continues this fall with the Congregational Sharing Series. All programs are free and open to the public.

October 24, 7 p.m.

Art & Spirituality in Appalachia
JBSpeed Museum Auditorium

Panel discussion—led by Loyal Jones, the former director of the Appalachian Center at Berea College— with Lee Shai Weissbach, an expert on the synagogues of Kentucky, and Sharman and Jeff Chapman-Crane, who are Eastern Kentucky artists.

November 17, 3 p.m.

The Eastern Orthodox Tradition

St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church,
3026 Hikes Lane

The Eastern Orthodox tradition is known in part for its use of visual imagery in worship and for its architecture. This program will explore the role of the visual arts in the tradition and in the life of the congregation.



PRAYER PARTNERS

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

- Money needed to build churches in Russia.
- The church in Tikhvin, Russia.
- Seven children in Sosnovi Bor, Russia, who have expressed interest in knowing more about Jesus.
- The Nov. 19 annual meeting of the Greater Boston Baptist Association.
- A church planting conference to be held Oct. 25-26 at First Baptist Church in Sudbury, Mass.
- Pastor Joseph Jovin and Bethesada Haitian Baptist Church in Boston.
- Pastor Bob Lawler and North Shore Baptist Church in Peabody, Mass.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **BATTLETOWN**—Blue River Island Church will hold revival services Oct. 18-20. **Billy Marcum**, former pastor of First Church in Brandenburg, will be the evangelist. Call (502) 897-4262 for information.

■ **BOAZ**—**Edwin Trammell** resigned as pastor at Wice Church.

■ **BOWLING GREEN**—Burton Memorial Church called **Howard Spencer** as part-time minister of music. He began his new ministry Oct. 13.

■ **CENTRAL CITY**—First Church called **Bob Lowery** as pastor. Lowery previously was pastor at First Church in Barbourville. He began his new ministry Sept. 29.

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Mount Zion Church will hold revival services Oct. 27-30 at 7 p.m. Evangelist **L.C. Gray** will be the guest speaker. Call (502) 737-7221 for information.

■ **ERLANGER**—Erlanger Church called **Andy Mays** of Myrtle Beach, S.C., as minister of activities. He will begin his new ministry in November.

■ **FRANKFORT**—Immanuel Church celebrated its 35th anniversary Oct. 13. Former Pastor **Malcolm Lunceford** was guest speaker.

■ **HIGHLAND HEIGHTS**—First Church will honor **Doris Holland** Oct. 20 for 25 years as organist. Call (606) 441-7274 for information.

■ **KENTON**—Kenton Church celebrated its homecoming Oct. 6.

■ **KEVIL**—**Terry Mitcheson** resigned as pastor of Kevil Church. Newton Creek Church called **Rod-**

ney Cude as pastor. He previously was pastor at Faith Church in Wickliffe, and presently is associate pastor at Vann Avenue Church in Evansville, Ind. Cude will begin his new ministry Nov. 3.

■ **LAGRANGE**—Eighteen Mile Church called **Terry Stallard** as pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Lakewood Church called **Casey Ross** of Greenville, S.C., as minister of youth. Ross is a student at Southern Seminary. He began his ministry Oct. 6. **Lee Warf** is pastor.

Carlisle Avenue Church will hold "Back to the Cross" revival Nov. 4-10. Call (502) 363-2606 for information.

■ **LOVELACEVILLE**—Love-laceville Church called **Bill Mason** as interim pastor.

■ **MARION**—**Joel Cox** resigned as pastor at Baker Church.

■ **MILTON**—**Brad Helton** resigned as youth minister at Milton Church.

■ **SOMERSET**—First Church will hold revival services Oct. 20-23. **Gene Garrison**, pastor at First Church of Oklahoma City, will be the evangelist. **Bob Browning** is pastor.

■ **SMITHFIELD**—Smithfield Church held special services Oct. 6 to dedicate its new fellowship hall. Former pastors **Harold Shirley**, **Charles Martin** and **Roy Jones** spoke during the morning worship services and dedication service. Dinner was served in the fellowship

hall of the church, which was founded in 1802.

■ **WESTPORT**—Westport Church called **Dwayne Doyle**, of the KBC brotherhood department, as interim youth minister.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—**Bill Woods**, longtime member and deacon at First Church, was elected deacon emeritus.

■ **WINCHESTER**—Central Church ordained **Paul Byarski**, **David Crump**, **Wallie Guerrant**, **Jeff King**, **Ron Ludwig** and **Herb McComas** as deacons Sept. 29.

MISSIONARY UPDATE

■ **David and Marsha Smith**, Baptist representatives to Israel, are on the field. Address is: Baptist Village, Mobile Post, Central Sharon, Israel. She was born in Louisville.

■ **Steven and Susan Jett**, Baptist representatives to Germany, are on the field. Address is: Wannsee Strasse 9, D-49661 Cloppenberg, Germany. She was born in Fort Thomas and considers Williamsburg her hometown.

■ **Kurt and Judy Lawrence**, missionaries to Thailand, are in the states. Address is: 5108 Dogwood Place, Charlotte, N.C. 28212. She is from Lexington.

■ **Mack and Audrey Shults**, missionaries to Brazil, are in the states. Address is: 150 Pennsylvania Ave., Louisville, Ky. 40206.

■ **Charles and Carolyn Warford**, Baptist representatives in Germany, are on the field. Address is: Kaiser-Wilhelm Str. 136, 12247 Berlin, Germany. He considers Bandana his hometown.

Help sought in gifts for Bosnians

LOUISVILLE—Ninth & O Baptist Church leaders say they hope to collect 4,000 shoe boxes filled with Christmas gifts for Bosnian children. Last fall, the church sent more than 3,000 boxes to Bosnia, said Pastor Rodney Burnette. "These acts of kindness are giving our missionaries an opportunity to witness," he said. Leaders are asking for help with this project of the church and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Suggested items for the boxes include stuffed animals, balls, flashlights, school supplies and hard candy. "Just things you would buy a child here in America," Burnette said, with the exception of toy guns. "Those kids have seen enough war."

Boxes should be wrapped so the lid can be removed for inspection by customs authorities and secured by rubber bands.

Boxes will be labeled for mailing and to describe the sex and age of the child. Boxes are age graded for infants to age 3, 4 to 6 years, 7 to 10 years and 11 to 13 years.

English books and Bibles are not being included because few Bosnians speak English, Burnette added. But a photograph with the sender's mailing address is welcome.

Anyone wishing to sponsor a box for \$20 can do so. Boxes or money should be delivered to the church by Sunday, Nov. 17. More information is available from the church office at (502) 636-5576.

'Still other seed fell on good soil'

We never know how we are going to impact the lives of students who come our way. I am always reminded of the parable Jesus told in Luke 8:5-8. Every week, students who are considering enrolling in our school come to visit. Some decide that day to stay. Others may wait a week or two to think about their decisions. Most of these boys and girls are not Christians and have some reservations about attending a "Christian" school.

In the parable of the sower, I am reminded of the fact that we never know the kind of spiritual soil we are working with. Many students I have interviewed over the years impressed me as being "good soil," but we never saw any evidence of spiritual growth in their lives. On the other hand, many who did not impress me as "good soil" accepted Christ and made tremendous growth as young Christians.

We just baptized 15 students who made professions of faith during our fall revival. I thought you would like to know a little about their backgrounds.

One student who was baptized came to Oneida when school began in August. He was making failing grades and said schoolwork was hard to understand. We put this student in our special help program, where he is being tutored. All reports are positive. While he is not making good grades, much improvement has been made in less than two months. Even though this student came to us in the seventh grade, he is doing only fifth-grade work.

"Alice" (not her real name) came to us in summer school and is repeating the ninth grade. Before arriving, her grades had gone from A's to F's. Alice was in a Christian home, but had not

made a profession of faith. Academic progress was made in summer school with one A and three B's, and her grades this year have been very good. We check every student's grades every four and one-half weeks. As of two weeks ago, all her grades were C's or higher. We ask every student what they want to achieve while attending Oneida and what they want us to do for them. Alice said she wanted to learn "not to be lazy, make friends, make good grades and learn new skills."

I am happy to say that it looks like we are well on our way in helping Alice reach her goals.

"Frank" is another success story. Frank came to Oneida from a broken home. He lived with one parent for a while, then with the other. He was having a problem following rules at home and did not get along well with siblings. His grades were not good and were getting worse. Frank decided to come to Oneida this past winter. His grades improved, but he is still not achieving his potential.

Frank is a hard worker and loves the work program we provide. He has been a supervisor nearly all of the time he has been in the work program. He only has one low grade at this time. Much improvement has been made in getting along with parents and siblings. Both Frank and his parents report that on breaks he is a much different boy.

We did not know these and 12 others would make professions of faith in Jesus and be baptized when they came to us. It is very exciting to watch this seed grow, hopefully, to a hundred-fold increase.

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

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Vision to victory

A banner with Proverbs 29:18 and the words "Vision to Victory" hangs above the pulpit of Briggs Road Baptist Church located on the edge of Columbus. Alumnus Ron Hopkins soon will celebrate 12 years as pastor, and the church continues to celebrate victories.

I was invited to speak at the Greater Columbus Association annual meeting, and Hopkins asked me to come a day earlier and preach at Briggs Road Church.

The day was Ron's 50th birthday, and "over the hill" remarks abounded. Black balloons welcomed the Sunday evening crowd to a birthday celebration. The church surprised Ron with an inspiring painting of Jesus' compassion over Jerusalem—an appropriate reflection of Hopkins' concern for people and the evangelistic emphasis of the church. Six "Evangelism Pacesetters" certificates hang in the vestibule, recognizing the church as an Ohio Baptist leader in baptisms.

The church recently called 1966 Clear Creek graduate Mike Thomas as associate pastor and minister of education. Bible study attendance has increased 35 per month during the past five months. Kris Garris, a 1995 music emphasis graduate and

a product of the church, directs choirs and special ministries. Kris expects soon to begin two more groups for singles. Worship services blend traditional and contemporary music.

Briggs Road Church has worked with Cambodians for 10 years and 65 Cambodians usually attend a simultaneous service in the chapel.

The church and association share the support of Pastor Phal Chhith.

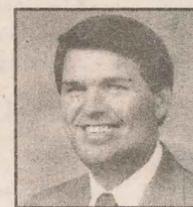
Church leadership positions rotate to involve more members. No one can hold a primary leadership task longer than three years, and during that time leaders must have another member in training.

"Our emphasis is on reaching people through Sunday school and discipleship," Hopkins stated. "One of the main factors in our growth has been the Experiencing God groups; 68 members have taken the course. Members have a deeper level of commitment and a better understanding of responsibility."

The vision continues to be fulfilled at Briggs Road Church, and the church looks forward to celebrating many more victories.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

With Charlotte crusade, Billy Graham comes home

By David Waters
Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (ABP)—The old evangelist held out a Bible in a trembling hand and told them to come just as they are, just as he did here so many years ago when this was a small town and he was a farm boy.

"This is the most important night of your life," the grandfatherly man said from the stage, and as he said it they began to believe it. "I want you to get out of your seat and come here. We will wait for you."

He waited. And they came. Elderly couples stepping gently arm in arm. Parents tugging children. Teenagers, some smiling, others crying their eyes out.

The choir softly sang "Just As I Am." Over the north end scoreboard, the Earth's shadow crept across the moon. For a moment, the old evangelist felt his own presence eclipsing the true light.

"You're coming tonight not to Billy Graham," he reminded them. "I know my name has been used too many times. Far too much. And it's embarrassing. No, you are coming tonight to the Lord Jesus Christ."

They came, thousands of them, during the Carolinas Billy Graham Crusade, because of the hope of the gospel and its promise of new life. They came to meet Jesus, to give their lives to him for once or once again. But they also came because the invitation was issued by Billy Graham, their hometown hero and the world's most famous preacher.

The Carolinas Billy Graham crusade, which ended Sept. 29, may or may not be Graham's last crusade. It certainly will be his final crusade in his Carolina home.

The 77-year-old evangelist suffers from Parkinson's, a progressive disease that cripples the body's ability to control muscles. He can't write. He doesn't move well. His hands shake

and his voice fades.

His faith is steadfast. "I think God has sent (Parkinson's) at this age to show me that I am totally dependent on him," Graham told reporters in Charlotte.

"And when I go into the pulpit to preach, I may have to have a little bit of help getting to the pulpit. But when I get there, I can sense the presence and power of the Lord ..."

Billy Graham has the faith of a child. It's his life-sustaining secret, one he has shared personally with the entire world.

Read the Bible and believe what it says, he tells people. Trust God. No one is more powerful. Follow Jesus. No one is more worthy. We're all sinners but we're all forgiven. We'll all die but we all can have eternal life. Repent and believe.

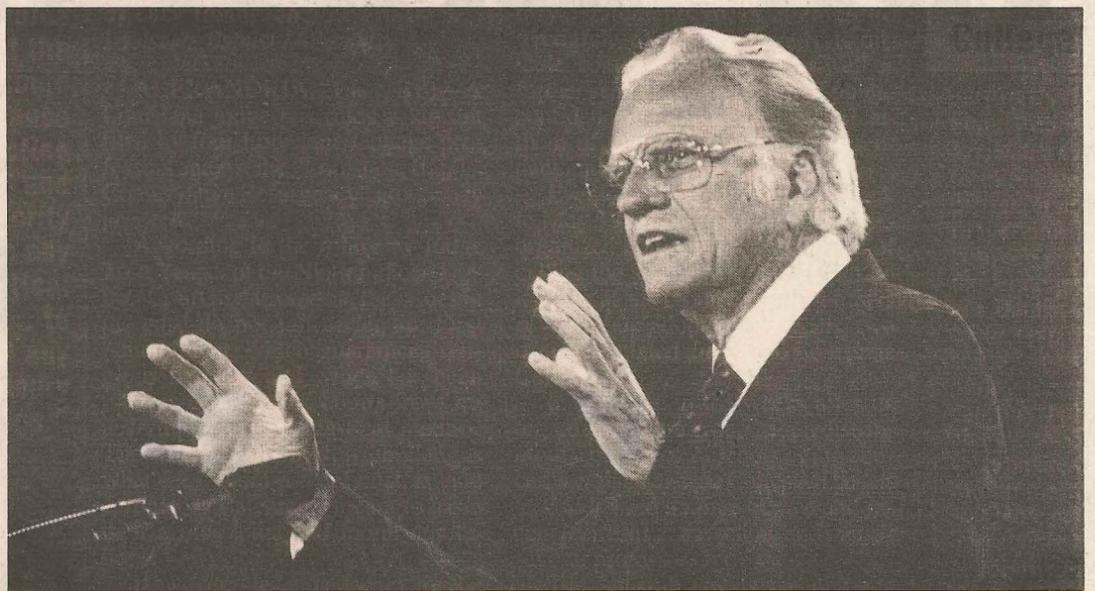
Graham left home to evangelize the world in 1945. He has delivered the same clear, simple gospel message personally to more than 200 million people in more than 185 countries.

By pulling the old-time tent revival out of the hills and plugging it into the 20th century, he revolutionized the evangelical element in world Christianity, Martin Marty, senior editor of the Christian Century, told the Charlotte Observer.

Had he not, Marty added, "I fear that North American Protestantism might have gone the way of tired, late-establishment Anglo-European Protestantism, with its empty monumental cathedrals and its often listless parish churches."

There's nothing empty and listless about a Billy Graham crusade. He takes the guts of the old camp meeting—a soulful engine finely tuned to run on a combustible mixture of sin and salvation—and puts them in the biggest, most modern state-of-the-art arenas the world has to offer.

Wonder what happens to all those souls saved each night? Trained counselors meet them on the spot. Their



names and church preferences are passed on to local clergy.

Charlotte crusade coordinators also started an outreach for needy kids that will continue after Graham is gone.

"It's kind of like the circus come to town," said Bill Wood, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. "Except when they leave, they leave something good behind."

Graham still believes there is a hell for those who reject Christ. But heaven is the promise he delivers now.

"The overwhelming message is the grace and the love and the mercy of God," he told reporters. "That's what I emphasize now a lot more than I did in the earlier years."

The crusade also works because Graham has been tested and can be trusted. He has avoided scandal by avoiding the temptations of sex, money and power.

He never allowed himself to be alone in a room with a woman he wasn't related to. A board in Minnesota runs his entire operation. Local committees run each crusade.

Graham gets no speaking fees, spe-

cial offerings or book royalties. Each year, he is paid a salary of about \$100,000 and a housing allowance of \$35,000. That's it.

Graham still keeps company with presidents but he stays out of politics. He didn't join the Moral Majority and won't join the Christian Coalition.

Graham is an ordained Southern Baptist minister, but doesn't let himself bog down in denominational struggles or theological debates.

The crusade still works for all those reasons. But mostly, it works because Billy Graham speaks to thousands of people as if he knows each one.

He talks to them about their fears and doubts. He talks plainly about guilt and temptation and death. He offers them the gospel, pure and clear with its promise of peace, hope and unconditional love.

"He doesn't pretend to speak to God, he doesn't come off holier-than-thou," said Jenny Ryan of Atlanta, who answered Graham's invitation Friday evening. "But when he speaks I feel the presence of God. He makes it so clear, so simple. And it really is."

HOMETOWN BOY More than 22,240 people came forward at Graham's invitation to make a commitment for Christ during the Charlotte crusade. About 336,100 people attended the four-day event. Graham quipped: "I told you I had a lot of relatives here."

Forgiveness & clean socks offered at laundry ministry

WINTER PARK, Colo. (BP)—Church members sidle up to strangers at a laundry machine and plunk in quarters for their wash.

"Why did you do that?"

"Because Jesus loves you and this is our way of showing you that."

Not everyone at Colorado's resorts has the money to buy \$1,000 ski equipment and stay in \$300 hotel rooms. Some people work for low wages, serving those with money.

It is this group of seasonal workers Fraser Valley Baptist Church has chosen to minister to through its laundry ministry.

"It started in our Sunday school," said Collette Schoenegge. "We went through what the Bible says a church is, what it should do. We went through our four purpose statements and said, 'Are we meeting these? What can we do to share Christ with everyone we come in contact with, directly and indirectly?'"

It was during that brainstorming session they developed the idea of \$1 laundry night.

Schoenegge opened a laundry ma-

chine business. Each month, church members hand out coupons allowing people to wash and dry up to three loads of clothes for \$1 on the first Monday of each month.

The \$1 prevents people from thinking they're a charity case, Schoenegge said.

"We pass out the coupons at low-income housing, at the ski lift (to workers) and to people we come across," Schoenegge said. "We get more opportunities to share Jesus by passing out the coupons than we do with those who come to do their laundry."

Church members pass out 30 coupons each month. About 15 are turned in, she said.

"We meet them at the door and say, 'How are you doing?' We put quarters in the machines for them and talk to them," Schoenegge said.

The ministry, which began April 1, is attracting repeat customers, and organizers are building relationships, she said.

"It's mostly getting to know them, talking about things they want to talk

about," Schoenegge said. "Everyone touched by this ministry is unchurched."

The laundry ministry primarily touches seasonal workers in their early 20s. One unmarried couple lives together, Schoenegge noted.

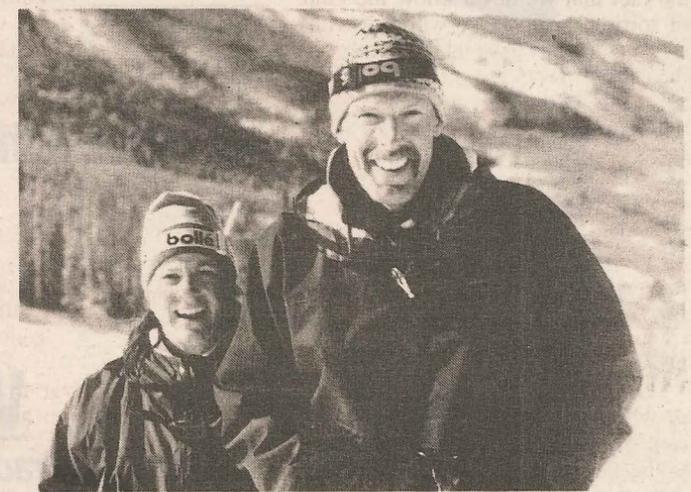
"She said she wanted to go to church, but she didn't think anyone would accept her because of her lifestyle," Schoenegge said. "I got to give her my whole testimony, and I told her there's forgiveness and there's so much more."

Schoenegge and her husband, Pat O'Connell, lived together before he became a Christian and they married. She followed after watching her husband grow spiritually.

O'Connell now is associate pastor at the church and leads preaching services near the ski lifts in the winter.

This summer, he started a Friday night worship service for residents who work Sundays.

Laundry customers also receive information about Fraser Valley Baptist Church. On the handout are the date for the next laundry night and



words from Psalm 51: "Wash me and I will be whiter than snow."

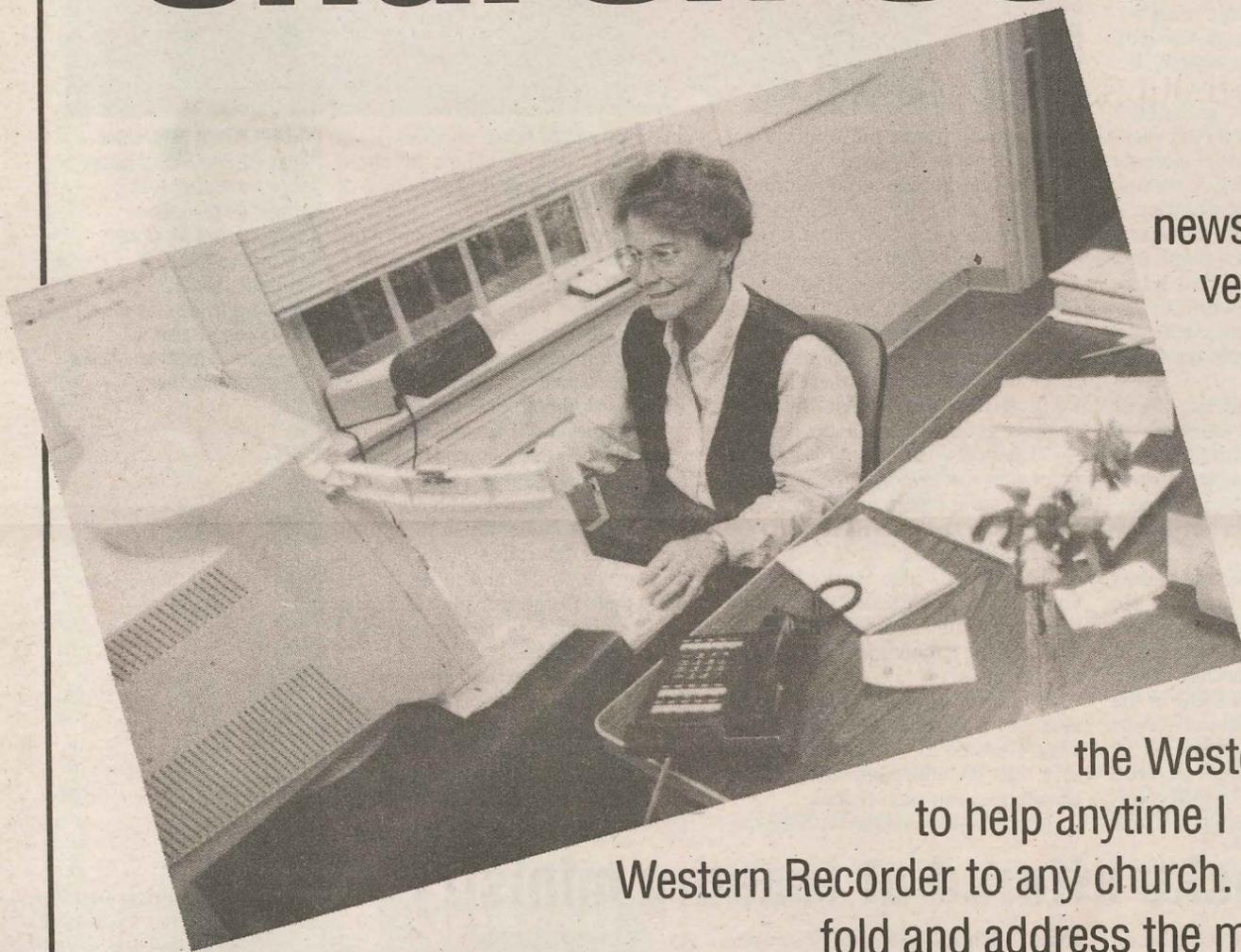
"This winter we'll have Monday night football, pizza and laundry," Schoenegge said. "We're hoping it goes to two nights a month."

Fraser Valley Baptist Church, which financially supports the laundry ministry, is growing, she added. "It's the Lord working in this valley."

RESORT MINISTERS Collette Schoenegge started a laundry ministry to reach seasonal workers. Her husband, Pat O'Connell, is associate pastor of Fraser Valley Baptist Church in Winter Park, Colo.

Don't just take our word for it

Listen to the church secretary



“When we first started using the Western Recorder newspaper, I have to admit, I was very apprehensive. I just knew that page layout would be difficult to learn. Now I look forward to working on our weekly mailout because it allows me to be creative and isn't nearly as difficult as I thought. The staff at

the Western Recorder is always there to help anytime I call. I would recommend the Western Recorder to any church. Besides, now I don't have to fold and address the mailout. They do that for me.”

Alice White, secretary, Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville

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