


PRACTICAL RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING
WESTERN RECORDER

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FOR THE RECORD

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Couple proves missionaries do more than just win souls

By Alberta Lindsey
Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch

KAMPALA, Uganda (BP)—The young girl, wearing a blue and white striped dress, walked slowly into Lake Victoria to be baptized.

"I decided to be baptized and die together with my Lord Jesus Christ," she said as she stood almost waist deep in the lake.

Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board missionary Jim Rice dipped her back into the water for an instant, then brought her up and said:

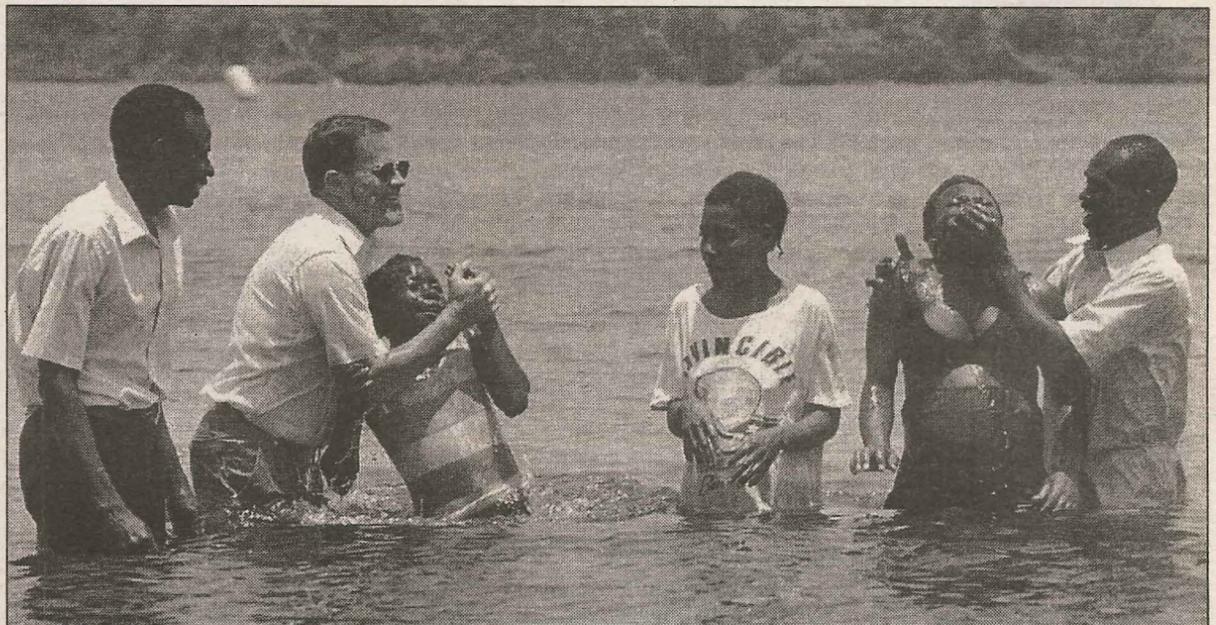
"My sister, we are baptizing you to show what has already happened on the inside. This is a symbol to show you are dead to your sins so you can be a new person in Jesus Christ. We are here to share your joy and say thank you, Lord, for the Holy Spirit that now lives within you. I baptize you, my daughter, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost."

Jim Rice has been a missionary since 1974. This was his first baptism.

"I really enjoyed doing that," he said later. "It deepened the meaning of baptism for me."

Bringing people to Christian faith is at the heart of a missionary's work. For the new believer, Rice explained, it may mean letting go of traditional beliefs. Some people want to be part of a Christian church but also hold on to spirit worship and other tribal rituals.

"They go to church on Sunday but don't take it seriously. They think it



NEW LIFE Jim Rice (second from left) and other clergy baptize Christians in Lake Victoria. He and his wife, Linda, have been Southern Baptist missionaries in Uganda 22 years. (Richmond Times-Dispatch photo by Kevin Morley)

makes them seem more civilized," he said. "But they have to make a choice. The Bible says: 'There are no other gods before me.'"

Rice and his wife, Linda, both from Richmond, Va., have been missionaries in this East African country 22 years, all but four in Kampala, Uganda's capital.

Missionaries don't just win souls. The Rices are called on for all sorts of things. Because of the country's extreme poverty, the people have many physical and social needs

as well as spiritual needs.

People needing medical care and those seeking spiritual support turn to missionaries for help. The Rices accompany people to funerals, sometimes even transporting the body. People come to the missionaries wanting someone to pray with them; others ask for money.

The Rices also serve as mentors to local church leaders and generally offer examples of Christians living out their faith, sometimes under difficult conditions.

Their primary assignment is to be sure Bibles and other Christian writings are available in Uganda, a vital part of the church's ministry.

Rice, whose background is in public education and business administration, has been treasurer and business manager of the Uganda Baptist Mission. In Kampala he started a bookstore that stocks Bibles, Sunday school curriculum and other religious materials. He also is assistant pastor of Nakawa Baptist Church, where he does some preaching and teaching.

Mrs. Rice, a former medical technologist, oversees the Bible Way Correspondence School, which has had more than 37,500 students since she started it in 1977. Materials from the school have been used not only to teach individuals about Christianity, See *Missionaries perform ...*, page 9



Policies help churches respond to AIDS/HIV

By Charles Willis
SBC Sunday School Board

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—An athletic young man has joined your church and expressed an interest in the softball team. He tells you he is HIV-positive. What can you do?

A child who acquired HIV through a blood transfusion wants to participate in day camp, but the parents of other children are nervous. How can the recreation minister help?

A written plan, a set of policies and faithfully followed health precautions can help churches deal safely and compassionately with situations related to people with HIV/AIDS, said Ronney Webb, minister of activities at First Baptist Church of Laurel, Miss.

"Education works wonders for calming folks and making them more comfortable with each other," Webb said at a RecLab conference, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Webb said a range of resources is available to help churches making decisions related to who may participate in church activities and how medical assistance is provided

to people injured during a church-related event. Athletic and medical organizations frequently offer health guidelines, and Christian bookstores offer resources that deal with moral and health issues. Other churches often are willing to share their guidelines and experiences, he added.

The U.S. Olympic Committee report in 1992 stated no cases of HIV transmission through sports had been documented, Webb said. The report ranked sports in order of risk, with the greatest risks being those where bleeding is most likely to occur.

Other areas of concern for churches, he said, include nursery sanitation, counseling issues, food preparation and confidentiality. Many churches already use precautions related to health issues for children in church and sanitary food preparation. Some of those same procedures apply in dealing with health needs related to people with HIV/AIDS, he said.

Guidelines for team sports at his church have added precautions in recent years, Webb said. Games are stopped if bleeding occurs, and the injured person cannot re-enter the

game until bleeding has stopped and no sign of blood can be seen on clothing or a bandage. Also, blood must be cleaned up using protective gloves and an appropriate bleach-oriented cleaner, he said.

Equally important is the way ministers and church members relate to people with HIV/AIDS, he said. The stigma may be compared to the way people felt toward lepers when Jesus ministered to people labeled as "unclean," Webb said.

"Jesus modeled common sense and compassion. He knew the people had a problem relating to lepers, so he had them tell the priest they had been healed, and the priest assured the public the lepers had been cleansed.

"We also must realize people are afraid, and we have to take precautions. The people with HIV/AIDS must be educated about the concerns of others to understand their responses.

"Try to treat them as you would want to be treated," Webb suggested. Visit, provide sitters and meals as needed, he said, and through friendship, Christians can find opportunities to witness to those who need God.

Kentuckians similar to U.S. in religion poll

LOUISVILLE—Kentuckians stack up similarly to the rest of the country in church membership and attendance, according to a survey by the Louisville Courier-Journal newspaper.

The paper found 64 percent of state residents said they are church members. Nationally, about 60 percent say they belong to a church, according to Gallup polls.

That doesn't mean they attend regularly. About a third of respondents said they attend church weekly. Another 10 percent attend almost every week; 13 percent claimed to go once or twice a month.

Meanwhile, 42 percent said they rarely if ever attend (26 percent said they go a few times a year; 16 percent said never).

Regionally, the poll found nearly three-quarters of respondents in the western and south-central regions are members, compared with 60 percent in the rest of the state.

Moving? See page 4 (06/10)

BAPTISTS

Kentuckian's nomination to SBC post challenged

By Mark Wingfield
Editor

"Does everybody who serves on a committee or as a trustee, do their churches give \$150,000 a year to the work of the SBC? If it's about support, I think we support."

Bill Crosby, pastor of Erlanger Baptist Church

ERLANGER—The nomination of a Kentucky layman to serve on the Southern Baptist Convention's committee on order of business has been challenged because the nominee's church allows members to contribute to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

At issue is whether the nominee's church violates a guideline adopted by this year's committee on nominations. That guideline states: "a nominee should neither personally support financially nor belong to a church which supports the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship through its budget."

Each year, the SBC's committee on nominations adopts its own guidelines regarding who is eligible for nomination to serve on the denomination's trustee boards and standing committees, according to Morris Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee. These guidelines supplement the few basic requirements mandated by SBC bylaws.

The nominee in question is Arnold Caddell, a Northern Kentucky banker who has been prominent in Kentucky Baptist Convention work. Caddell currently serves on the KBC Executive Board and is a trustee of Cumberland College. He is a past chairman of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation board and has been active in Northern Kentucky Baptist Association.

Caddell is a member of Erlanger Baptist Church, one of nearly 100 KBC churches that allow members to contribute through the church to the Fellowship. The Fellowship is a group of Southern Baptist moderates who

fund their own mission efforts.

Erlanger Baptist Church's pastor, Bill Crosby, said his church is a loyal and cooperating Southern Baptist congregation. The chairman of the SBC committee on nominations wrongly questioned that loyalty and Caddell's qualification to serve, he said.

Crosby said he was called June 5 by Lloyd Freeman, an Odessa, Texas, layman who is chairman of the SBC committee on nominations. Freeman told Crosby someone had challenged Caddell's nomination because of his church membership.

After making extensive inquiries into the church's budgeting process and views on SBC politics, Freeman said Erlanger Baptist Church appears to meet "the letter of the law but not the spirit," Crosby said.

Freeman also contacted Caddell, but Caddell declined to make any public statement about the issue or the content of Freeman's call at this time.

When contacted by the Western Recorder June 5, Freeman refused to discuss Caddell's nomination, saying the outcome depended on what Caddell decided to do and implying that Caddell could solve the problem by withdrawing himself from nomination.

At that time, Freeman refused to discuss the guidelines under which the committee made its selections. He said the only way he would talk further would be through a statement issued from Baptist Press, because "Baptist Press speaks for the Southern Baptist Convention."

However, the next day, soon after the Recorder contacted Executive Committee President Chapman for an

explanation of the rules governing work of the committee on nominations, Freeman called the Recorder and offered to talk about Caddell's nomination, explaining he had talked with Chapman. "I assume that when he speaks it's equal to Baptist Press speaking," Freeman said.

In the second conversation, Freeman said he now believes Erlanger Baptist Church "technically meets the requirements, in spite of the fact that they are sending money to the CBF."

The challenge to Caddell's nomination by the unidentified caller or callers will be presented to a seven-member subcommittee of the committee on nominations June 14, Freeman said. Whether the nomination is kept or withdrawn will be up to the subcommittee, he said, but added, "I don't anticipate a problem."

Caddell was nominated for the SBC post by the committee on nominations, which includes two Kentuckians: Herb Booth of Florence and Don Short of Benton. Booth and Short recommended Caddell to the full committee during a March 21-22 meeting.

Caddell's nomination subsequently was approved and reported in Baptist Press in late April along with the nominations of more than 300 other people to serve on SBC trustee boards and standing committees.

Booth, one of the two Kentuckians on the committee, said he stands behind Caddell's nomination and does not believe it violates any requirement.

The only grounds for withdrawing Caddell's nomination at this point would be for reasons such as death, moving out of state, voluntary with-

drawal or moral failure, Booth said.

Since none of those conditions apply to Caddell, any question about the viability of his nomination is "rhetorical," Booth said.

If Caddell's nomination is successfully challenged, it should cause all Kentucky Baptists to question who will be eligible to serve in SBC posts in the future, Crosby warned.

While Erlanger Baptist Church allows individuals to designate the missions portion of their offerings to the Fellowship, it still gives primarily through the Cooperative Program.

Crosby said the church last year gave \$71,000, or 10 percent of undesignated offerings, to the Cooperative Program. With the addition of special offerings, the church gave \$151,000 to SBC causes last year, he said.

"How much is a church required to give to be considered to be cooperating?" Crosby asked. "Does everybody who serves on a committee or as a trustee, do their churches give \$150,000 a year to the work of the SBC? If it's about support, I think we support."

Further, Crosby described Caddell as a "mainstream Baptist" who has much to offer the SBC in a leadership role. "Look at his track record in Kentucky," he said.

Crosby questioned the committee's criteria for determining a nominee's eligibility. First the issue was what a person believed about the Bible, then it became what a person believes about women in ministry, and now it is something else, Crosby noted. "They're defining what it is to be a Southern Baptist, and it's always changing."

Lottie Moon gains again in '96

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions posted its fourth straight gain in 1996, and for the first time in history surpassed the \$90 million mark.

When the books closed May 31, a record \$93.1 million had been given. That's up about \$4.1 million, or 4.6 percent, over the previous year.

This year, \$91 million of the offering will go into the Foreign Mission Board's overseas operating budget. An additional \$2.1 million will underwrite overseas capital spending needs such as new construction and vehicles.

The offering total amounted to 93 percent of the goal of \$100 million.

FMB displaces six leaders, names new set

RICHMOND, Va.—A sweeping overhaul of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's overseas administrative staff has displaced six of 10 former area directors, while bringing to the forefront a crop of younger administrators in newly defined regions of the world.

In April all 10 area directors, administrators who oversee hundreds of missionaries in specific regions of the world, were asked to vacate their positions in order for a restructuring to take place. Only four of those 10 have been given assignments in the new structure, although three others were offered positions which they declined, according to an FMB statement.

Under the new structure, the FMB has organized its work into 14 regions rather than the previous 10 regions. At the same time, a new position of associate vice president for strategy coordination and mobilization was created.

During a June 3 meeting of FMB trustees, David Garrison was named to the new associate vice president position. Garrison, 40, has been a field associate area director for Cooperative Services International, the FMB's humanitarian arm for work in non-traditional mission settings.

Like Garrison, four of the 14 new regional leaders also come from a background of working with CSI. The current CSI unit is being dismantled

in the restructuring, with its non-traditional methodologies to be integrated "as appropriate" in each region.

FMB President Jerry Rankin said the reorganization is to apply Southern Baptist missions resources more effectively in the 21st century.

The six current area directors who have been displaced in the restructuring will be given new assignments as field missionaries after a one-year furlough. They are Joe Bruce, who has directed work in Middle America and Canada; John Faulkner of Eastern and Southern Africa; Bill Goff of Spanish South America; Faye Pearson of East Asia; Mike Stroope of CSI; and Dale Thorne of the Middle East and North Africa.

Directors of the newly defined regional units are:

■ Bill Fudge, 52, Eastern Asia region, which includes China, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan.

■ Mark Morris, 38, Central and Southern Asia region, which includes Bangladesh, India, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

■ Tom Williams, 46, Western Pacific region, including the Philippines, South Korea and Japan.

■ Clyde Meador, 52, Southeast Asia and Oceania region, which includes Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand.

■ John Floyd, 62, Central and Eastern Europe region, which encompasses

the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

■ Eddie Cox, 45, Western Europe region, including Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom.

■ Larry Cox, 48, Middle East and North Africa region, encompassing many countries that have been unfriendly to traditional mission work.

■ Gordon Fort, 41, Southern Africa region, including Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Reunion, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

■ Bill Phillips, 53, Western Africa region, including Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.

■ Jon Sapp, 43, Eastern Africa region, including Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Congo.

■ Robin Hadaway, 48, Eastern South America region, comprising Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

■ Ronald Wilson, 49, Caribbean Basin region, including Colombia, Belize, French Guiana, Guyana, Venezuela and the Caribbean islands.

Two other regional leaders are yet to be named.

Based on Associated Baptist Press and Baptist Press reports.



Elijah and the prophets of Baal group photo

Russia trip 'life changing' for volunteers

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

PINEVILLE—When a group of Kentucky Baptists offered Russian prison officials free Bibles recently, Jim Castlen said the response reminded him of a "blue light special" at K-Mart.

"They pushed and shoved to get these Bibles" and New Testaments, said Castlen, professor of missions and music at Clear Creek Bible College.

"Most of these people were professionals, not prisoners. It was thrilling for us to see how hungry they were for the Bible."

The reaction followed a gospel presentation to 70 administrators and staff members at a prison in Borisoglybsk, Russia.

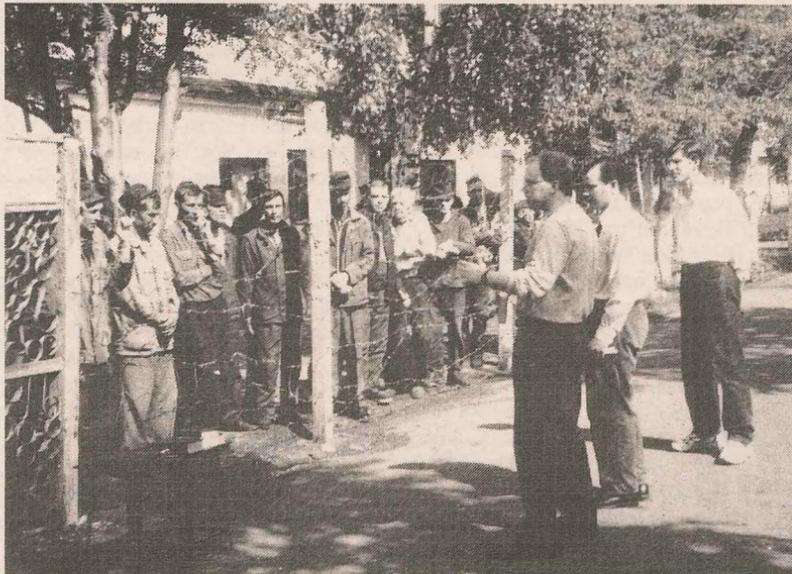
Located in the Voronezh region, the town is a nine-hour bus ride southeast of Moscow. Castlen and five Clear Creek students spent a week last month evangelizing and distributing medication to 1,400 inmates in one of the region's five prisons.

While the missions volunteers were unable to give a public invitation to accept Christ as personal Savior, Castlen said more than 50 people became Christians, including the top two prison officials.

Others are on a spiritual search, including the prison doctor, Castlen said. Although the doctor professed to be an atheist, he told the group before it left, "One day, I hope I can know your God."

Castlen said he felt an overpowering sense of usefulness throughout the mission. "I had a spiritual sensation of being carried along by the Lord as he gave us freedom in preaching and teaching," he said. "We could see God at work, doing powerful things."

Castlen, a former missionary to the Philippines and Australia, accompanied five students to Russia, where Baptists have a partnership with the Kentucky Baptist Conven-



PRISON SERMON James Beam (left), a student at Clear Creek Bible College, preaches to prisoners with tuberculosis in Borisoglybsk, Russia. Beside him are an interpreter and chaplain. (Photo courtesy of Jim Castlen)

tion. It was the school's third consecutive annual trip there.

The students included Phillip Huffman, a May graduate from Huntington, W. Va.; and underclassmen John Jones of Richmond, Ind.; John Little of Indianapolis; James Beam of Atlanta; and Steve Mayle of Barbourville.

As pairs they conducted morning and afternoon preaching sessions. With the help of interpreters, they also taught evening lessons on the Bible and church formation.

A former Army medical assistant in the Persian Gulf and Somalia, Jones spent his days dispensing medicine to prisoners—many suffering from high blood pressure or stomach ailments. His partner, Little, presented the gospel before or after the exams.

The team took into the country two suitcases and a large shoulder bag filled with medicine donated by Kentucky Baptists. They were needed because the prison had outdated and limited supplies, the professor said.

The Holy Spirit's guidance proved invaluable, Castlen said. Larry Lindsey, their KBC contact in Russia, e-mailed them a daily itinerary in advance. But when they arrived the prison chaplain told them their schedule was subject to change at a moment's notice.

While some were concerned about language barriers and cultural differences, Castlen said prayer helped overcome fear and form bonds.

"When we got there it seemed the Holy Spirit turned us loose," he said. "We had a green light from the administration for whatever we wanted to do."

The trip had a major impact on the participants, said Castlen, who added he expects three of the students to enter full-time mission work.

He and his wife, Shelby, plan to resume missionary service after their daughter goes to college. "Once you've been on the field, it's hard to get that out of your blood," he said.

Horse center becomes haven for teenagers at youth ranch

BULLITT COUNTY—For the boys of Baptist Youth Ranch in Elizabethtown, the Barley Creek Christian Riding Center has become a haven.

Teens from the facility of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children go on Mondays to the stables to make friends—those with four feet as well as two.

Boys go to the riding center to learn the proper care for and riding of horses from Mike Lanham and his son, Michael.

For Troy, a boy from the youth ranch, the experience has been an education. "I've grown to love them because they're gentle, really sweet animals that anybody can get to know," he said.

The positive yet uncomplicated relationship between human and horse is something Mike Lanham has always known, but he said he never has seen it illustrated so perfectly as with the boys from the ranch.

"I was looking for a way to help youth, and now I'm seeing my dreams fulfilled," he said.

The 16 horses at Barley Creek are experienced and gentle. Many were near natural death or euthanasia when they were rescued. By trade, Mike is an electronics repairman, so his veterinary skills were learned as a crash course.

After instruction on grooming and saddling, youth are allowed to ride with supervision around the facility's arena. As riders progress, they are allowed to gallop the horses and eventually ride through Lanham's 38 acres on a trail ride.

Mike Lanham said he initially boarded horses looking to make extra income. However he said God led him in another direction, to use the facility as a ministry.

Concerts, hay rides, cookouts and riding are now a part of the Lanhams' life outside work hours.

Boys from the youth ranch also have become helpers when large groups come to the riding center, Lanham said. "I use them as my mentors. They know the horses. They lead the kids after I go through my routine."

On bad weather Mondays, Lanham turns his shelter over to the boys to use for playing volleyball or other sports.

"We're really about building relationships, not horses. The horses are the tool that get us there," said Lanham, who attends Bardstown Junction Baptist Church. For more information about the riding center, call (502) 543-2932.



Lanham with Bitsey

West Side's 'Youth Stand' concert attracts 1,700 students

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

BEREA—While its "Youth Stand" concert keeps drawing larger crowds and more community recognition, West Side Baptist Church's youth leader Belinda Riddle is more excited this year about one specific life-changing decision.

A teenager her daughter had talked with at school had bragged about being a Satan worshiper after a recent, highly-publicized murder case involving several Eastern Kentucky teens.

Still, the boy accepted a ticket to the May 10 concert sponsored by the church's youth group. At the end, the boy was one of 95 people who responded to an altar call given by Russ Lee, lead singer of the group Newsong.

"We had been praying for him since this whole thing started," said Riddle, who has served as a volun-

teer leader since the late 1980s. "Afterward, he said, 'I've got to go home; I've got some Marilyn Manson CDs to destroy.' It was worth the whole thing to see that."

In addition to 29 youth who accepted Christ as their personal Savior, 64 others rededicated their lives to Christ, Riddle said. Two people made commitments to full-time Christian service.

The concert at Berea College attracted 1,700, the largest crowd to date and more than double the turnout for the 1995 inaugural show.

It was the third straight year "Newsong" has performed. The group recently hit the contemporary Christian music scene's top 10 songs with "Rhythm of the World." Contemporary Christian singers Peter Penrose and Erin O'Donnell also performed.

Berea native Gavin Duerson, now the University of Kentucky's Wildcat mascot, opened the evening

with his testimony, Riddle said.

"He talked about going to the Final Four, Utah, Florida and California," she said. "But he said he was more excited about (the concert) than any of the trips with the basketball team because of its potential."

The event cost approximately \$8,000. That required an ambitious fund-raising project for a church with an average Sunday attendance of about 80 people, including 25 youth.

The youth began in November by working for Associated Press during the election, polling voters at precincts. Youth also washed cars, waited tables and sold candy, Tupperware and other products.

Church members donated money, and the youth expect a grant from the Madison County Drug Coalition because of the concert's anti-drug nature, Riddle said.

Riddle credits Kevin Shrum,

former pastor of Bedford Baptist Church, with inspiring the event.

Now pastor at a church in Nashville, Shrum was emcee several years for the Kentucky Baptist Convention's "YouthFest." After preaching at a West Side revival, Shrum suggested they consider organizing a similar event in Berea.

He called later to provide names and price tags for some contemporary Christian groups that would be available, Riddle said.

Challenged, West Side went forward. In addition to presenting a Christian witness to the audience, members wanted to gain exposure for contemporary Christian music because no such radio station can be heard clearly in Berea, she said.

"(Shrum) got us past bowling and skating parties to doing something," Riddle said. "We thought, 'Hey, we can do more than entertain ourselves.' We weren't doing enough for others."

"We thought, 'Hey, we can do more than entertain ourselves.' We weren't doing enough for others."

Belinda Riddle, youth leader for West Side Baptist Church in Berea

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

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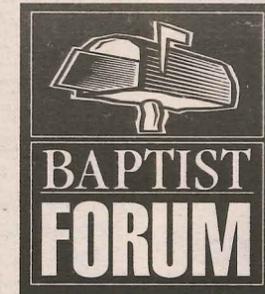
High salaries

While reading the story in the May 27 issue (page 2) I became distraught when I read the range of salaries that will be paid by the North American Mission Board. The information in the article will be shared in our church, and it will likewise be upsetting. It will be discussed in our budgeting process and could affect our budget plans.

Strange, isn't it? We never have enough money to do the mission work, but we have money to pay such high salaries. The members in our church are tired of hearing pleas for more money, making sacrifices so we can send more to missions and then see things like this happen.

Pastors and churches all across the convention have made and continue to make sacrifices so our missions program could be funded. Churches never intended their money to be used in building a hierarchy of high-paid personnel built on the corporate model of business. We have expected our leaders to be good stewards of the funds entrusted to them.

Question: Would Jesus accept that kind of salary for himself when he sees a sin-sick, hurting and hungry world? I think not.



*Donald Cole
Brandenburg*

Day of great joy

May 17 was a day of great joy as the Moscow Theological Seminary held its first graduation ceremony. A dream of Russian Baptists had become a reality as 16 young men, ages 20-30, received their master of theology degrees.

In spite of the fact that their country is in a crisis due to so many changes, in spite of the fact many of these young men had to live in Moscow away from their wives and children, in spite of the fact that the seminary does not have its own facilities, in spite of the fact there was a shortage of full-time professors, in spite of the fact of financial problems, the faculty and students prayed, persevered and through God's amazing grace prevailed.

The graduation ceremony was held at Moscow Central Baptist Church. I. Chapman, president of Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Chicago, gave the commencement address. He spoke on "Moving into God's Future," using Joshua 1:1-9 as his text. As the young men heard the words "be strong and courageous" repeated many times and later heard these words sung, they will indeed need to be strong and courageous as they face the uncertainty of their future.

*Nancy Walden
Moscow*

Not negative

Where in the world did you get the "fact" that fundamentalists are negative (May 27, page 5)? In our fundamentalist church, prayers are answered in the affirmative (not so in most churches), people are healed, forgiveness and apologies are common and the preaching is positive. We pray for the other churches in the county (64) and sometimes swap services with some.

What is so negative about the above? Only your opinion.

I left the Baptist church three years ago because you liberals were too negative.

*Joseph Armstrong
Bardstown*

Summer ideas for smaller churches

Editor's note: Glenn Durham is volunteer music director at First Baptist Church of Loyall in Southeastern Kentucky. The church averages about 100 in Sunday school attendance. Durham also has worked extensively in other churches through revival and special events. Here, he shares a collection of ideas for smaller churches gleaned from his years of experience.

By Glenn Durham

■ Summer choir. Most churches discontinue choir practice for children and youth in the summer. Last year, our pastor wanted to continue, and we experimented.

With the first rehearsal we discussed what we would do during the summer. The children (first through sixth grade) chose to write their own musical drama.

They cast their own parts and made parts for all. We did a program on Fanny Crosby. They did research, worked up their own costumes, practiced hymns written by Fanny Crosby and used their imagination for the script. After a few weeks of rehearsal, we put on a program during the evening service.

There is no need to discontinue choir practice during the summer months. The attendance may not be as good as we wish, but the children will learn a lot and have fun.

■ Old-fashioned sing. Some years ago we were debating about having evening services on Independence Day. When the Fourth of July hits near Sunday, our attendance drops drastically (around 20).

After discussion and prayer, we

decided to have a patriotic service. The first year we had about 150 in attendance, and we've had a real good attendance ever since.

We called the service "An Old-fashioned Sing-out" and sang hymns with a lot of repetition and popular hymns such as "Old Time Religion," "Standing in the Need of Prayer," "Down By the Riverside" and "Amazing Grace."

We started the service at 8 p.m. so other churches could come and so people who had been out of town could return. We had Scouts in uniform to park cars and usher and the local American Legion post to present colors. We recognized the veterans and had a devotion.

One year we had the children dress up as patriotic characters. The children got their costumes ready early, and I went to the local newspaper and offered them a good photo for the front page of their July Fourth issue. They took a picture of a boy dressed as Uncle Sam and his sister dressed as Betsy Ross. They used it on the front page, covering about three-fourths of the page.

■ Nursing home lesson. The choir took a program to the nursing home, and the program required a lot of congregational participation. The residents were cooperative and did a good job singing.

I overheard one of them say, "We need more programs like this." It was then I realized they had been entertained and preached to but they had not had much participation.

With this program and God's leading, I am now making monthly visits

to the nursing home. It is best to use no instruments and sing hymns and songs that they have sung in years past. When singing a hymn with a chorus, I start with the chorus, the stanza, then the chorus again.

There are many rewards. On one occasion while we were singing, an older lady was gently touching a young person who was paralyzed. They both were smiling. I told the nurse, "Seeing this is worth the trip here."

The nurse replied, "You don't know the half of it. That older lady is a grouch most of the time."

■ Photographs. Once I spent a year taking photographs on and off of different occasions of children. We did a musical titled "God's Kids." During the program, we showed the slides. God blessed the efforts with a good attendance and a good service. It is best to show the slides to the children before the program so they will watch you and the congregation instead of the screen.

■ Testimonies. Every church has people who will teach or give a testimony at certain times. When teaching high school boys, I would use different people in the church to teach at times. The boys really enjoyed this and would learn more than they did from me.

We had the county coroner one Sunday, and he told them of car wrecks and sad stories and gave a fine testimony. A State Police detective was the teacher once. We had a deacon who survived an armed robbery that the boys remembered very well.

Several others could be mentioned, but this shows that young people like variety and will listen.

CHILDREN

Kindergarten graduation—why?

By Jewell Nelson

Last year a newspaper photo indicated good reasons not to have kindergarten graduations. The photo showed a teacher with less than a happy face, definitely pointing in a direction she wished the even lesser than happy faced child to go. The kindergarten class was in a "practice time" learning how to act like

grown ups.

"It's so cute." "Parents and grandparents love it!" But, what about the child? Wet pants and upchucks are not uncommon when children are put under pressure to perform.

Who promotes preschool graduation? Not educators of early childhood development, but companies selling caps and gowns.

Natural cuteness and entertaining family with less pressure and more fun is possible. The wasted time of "practicing" can be used in a more valuable, age appropriate way.

One example: preschoolers learn as they enjoy planning and helping in an event like open house.

■ Each child keeps an up-to-date folder or container of his or her creations (paintings, sculptures, dictated stories and poems, etc.) to display.

■ Children learn cooperation as they help arrange shared group work for visitors to see.

■ Science is taught as children learn to use a simplistic camera and take photos of daily kindergarten activities. With guidance they can learn basics in displaying the photos for open house.

■ Teachers teach math by guiding children in measuring ingredients for cookie baking, and for lemonade. Math continues by counting the number of cups, napkins and cookies needed.

■ Invitations to open house can stimulate children's creativity and cooperation.

■ Children learn how to prepare for guests as they get the room neat and orderly. They must, also, recall manners needed when company visits.

■ Guests can observe natural "performing" in a typical unrehearsed group time.

An age-appropriate last day of kindergarten can be a learning experience, and a happy faced one, at that.

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



OPINION

HE SAID/SHE SAID

If raising good kids depends on a clean house, we're in trouble

HESAIID



Mark Wingfield

Just in time for Father's Day, new research has been announced that indicates how successful your children will become as adults may depend upon how clean dad and mom keep the house.

Yes, it sounds absurd, but I'm just the reporter here. The wire service story said: "Fathers who want their children to get a good education and make a good living should keep a clean house, carry car and health

insurance, attend PTA meetings and generally lead a cautious, responsible life."

Would meeting two of the five requirements at least keep my kids out of jail?

Car and health insurance I can do, but I can't keep the well-insured car clean, much less the house. PTA meetings maybe. And this business of leading a cautious, responsible life seems genetically impossible.

Truly cautious men wouldn't be fathers in the first place, if you know what I mean. So it seems this study is flawed from the start.

The most telling statement in the whole report is that previous studies mainly concentrated on mothers' influence and ignored fathers. Every father who's tried to be responsible and cautious knows that society caters to women as parents much more than men.

For example, in my unscientific survey of the world at large, I've observed that public restrooms for women are about 20 times more likely to include diaper-changing stations than are public restrooms for men. Ever tried changing a kid's diaper in a toilet stall?

And another example: Have you ever been invited to a baby shower for a dad? (If such a thing existed, the games would be different, I assure you.)

So as we head for yet another Father's Day, if you're still looking for the perfect gift, take the advice of this new survey, but make it realistic: Make sure your dad (or husband or son) knows he's an important part of the parenting equation.

It takes two to tango, but it also takes two to keep a really clean house.

SHESAID



Alison Wingfield

I'd say it takes maid service to keep a really clean house.

What is really telling in the article Mark mentioned is how "success" is defined. Yes, we would all like our children to be well-educated. And yes, if we were honest, we might even like it if they made a lot of money (so they can take care of us).

But my hopes for my children are more intangible: that they know Christ, find careers they can enjoy and have good relationships with each other and their parents.

I have to agree with Mark (for once) on the view society has of fathers. Although things are improving as far as the diaper-changing stations, men are still not looked upon as primary caregivers for the very young.

But Mark also used that "no diaper-changing station in the men's bathroom" routine to get out of changing a diaper or two.

Despite all the deadbeat dads you hear about in the news, I think our generation of fathers is doing an outstanding job. I have observed male friends and family members who are wonderful with their children. Although there are certain things only a mom can do, the dads are a strong influence and help—from changing diapers to bathtimes to fixing meals (well, let's not stretch it too far).

Kudos to all you dads who are trying.

Adultery: Repentance allows forgiveness

Adultery is in the news. For at least a month it has seemed every newspaper or news broadcast has featured some public figure facing charges of infidelity.

The problem especially has plagued our nation's military, where high-ranking officers have been felled not only by extra-marital encounters but also by lurid accounts of sexual assault.

And now a question has arisen about whether the military would be living under a double standard if a confessed adulterer were named chairman of the joint chiefs of staff just weeks after an Air Force pilot was discharged over charges involving adultery.

Of course, the irony is even greater when you consider the charges of sexual promiscuity that have dogged several modern American presidents. Should we apply the same moral standard to the commander in chief of the armed forces as we do to other officers who aren't elected by popular vote?

And Congress has been put in an awkward position when asked to pass judgment on this, because its members as a whole don't have a better track record than the military. The situation brings new meaning to Jesus' assertion to "let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

One of the underlying questions in this debate is whether some adultery is worse than others. For example, is adultery a lesser sin if it happens during a period of separation from a spouse? Or is adultery a lesser sin if the guilty party confesses sometime after the fact? Or is adultery a greater sin if the guilty party lies about it when confronted?

Before answering these questions, we should be reminded of several pertinent truths that nearly have dropped off the radar screen of our permissive culture.

First, moral and cultural sanctions against adultery go way back. This was not just a creation of the Ozzie and Harriett days in American culture. In fact, the warning against adultery is so important that it be-

came one of God's Ten Commandments to children of Israel.

Second, the only difference between extra-marital sexual relations involving married individuals versus unmarried individuals is what we call it. Adultery and fornication both are forbidden in the Bible, and both lead to disastrous consequences.

Third, even though only two people may be in the room when adultery occurs, adultery always affects more than those two. The lives of spouses, family, friends and co-workers get torn up in the act.

Fourth, it is hard to make a case that lying about one's adultery introduces a new sin on top of another. Adultery, at its root, is lying. It is a denial of the marriage vows, and it is an act of deceit.

Perhaps the most telling episode in America's current angst over adultery is the response of the French. A recent news report explained that many people in France wonder what all the fuss is about. If a married man or woman sleeps with someone besides his or her spouse, so what? How does that affect a person's leadership ability?

Thankfully, Americans still seem to have enough of a remnant of discernment between right and wrong to be troubled by our current condition. That's encouraging.

But, sadly, we are far enough into the cultural mud-pit that we have trouble finding leaders with the moral authority to remind us of what's right.

That's why it is essential for the church to keep its own house clean and to hold high the moral standard of sexual purity.

The church also has a vital message of forgiveness and restoration. Adultery is not the unpardonable sin. Jesus offers forgiveness, with the admonition to "go and sin no more."

But forgiveness only comes after confession. And confession requires acknowledgment that God's standard has been broken.

— Mark Wingfield

EDITORIAL

In Christ

By Carey Newman

By the way my friend was rubbing his brow, I knew a thoughtful question was on the way. I was not disappointed.

"There are times when I experience what I guess the Bible calls the 'filling' of the Spirit. This is such a good thing when it happens. It's as if God is inside me. I feel a peace and wholeness I know at no other time. What is really odd is that I also sense God when I disobey. It's as if he has gripped me and won't let me go. I feel like God is all around me at the very moment I feel separated from him. Am I wrong to feel this way? What is it about my relationship with God that causes these experiences?"

The Bible is rich in metaphors to describe the relationship between God and his people. We need look no fur-

ther than Jeremiah's use of the pot and potter to find an image that captures part of the relationship's complexity. In the New Testament we find the bride and bridegroom imagery doing similar work. One of the most expressive, even if cryptic, ways to describe the relationship is through Paul's little phrase "in Christ."

The phrase indicates that Christ surrounds the believer's life with his presence. By hearing and believing the gospel, we are enveloped by the

Spirit. Being in Christ also means our lives are inseparably joined to that of the risen Christ. We are in Christ and nothing—not difficulty, sickness or even death—can ever separate or annul this bond.

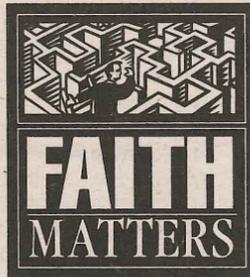
The phrase also indicates how God causes us to grow. We mature spiritually when we allow our lives to be carried along by his. Finally, the

phrase points to the exclusive character of our relationship to God. We are "in Christ" and thus no other. We are Christ's and Christ's alone.

Having our lives inseparably and exclusively joined to the risen Jesus explains why we sense God's presence when we obey. Like floating downstream on a powerful river, we discover we are carried along by something larger than ourselves. We enjoy the fullness of God's presence because, through obedience, we join the direction in which his will flows.

Being in Christ also explains why we sense God's presence when we disobey. Like trying to swim upstream, we feel the strong current of his will seeking to take us in a different direction.

I told my friend to sleep well but live soberly, because the very presence which allows us to obey is the same presence which we sense when we don't. *Being "in Christ" means that God has surrounded us with his presence and is seeking to bring the direction of our lives into conformity with his will.*



Baptists minister in wake of Texas' killer tornadoes

Baptists were among the ministers who were present when family members were finally told of their loss, and who accompanied the families to the swept-bare site at the subdivision where their loved ones had died.

By Dan Martin
Baptist General Convention of Texas

JARRELL, Texas (BP)—Texas Baptists responded quickly to put their arms around victims of killer storms which obliterated a subdivision near Jarrell, killing at least 27 people.

The most destructive of the May 28 tornadoes cut a path about three-quarters of a mile wide and five miles long, wiping out Double Creek Estates near Jarrell, 40 miles north of Austin.

Max Johnson, bivocational pastor of First Baptist Church of Jarrell, said 10 church members were among the 27 known dead, including the church's minister of music, Larry Igo, and his wife and three children.

The storms caused an estimated \$20 million worth of damage, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross.

Texas Baptists moved immediately to Jarrell where a headquarters was

established at First Baptist to provide food and counseling for victims, families, townspeople and relief workers.

Baptists were among the ministers who were present when family members were finally told of their loss, and who accompanied the families to the swept-bare site at the subdivision where their loved ones had died.

The Baptist ministers also took a "walking tour" of the site while the search and recovery operation was taking place, to attempt to minister to the rescue workers, often a forgotten group, but one which bears the brunt of much tragedy.

Ministers walked among the relief workers and visited one-on-one with about 130 of them, said Milfred Minatrea, director of church services for the Texas Baptist convention.

"We told them they were doing a tremendous job and asked them to tell us if there was a mental image which sticks in their mind. It was a can-opener question which opened up a lot of

emotion," Minatrea said, recalling one worker who was overwhelmed because he had found body parts of one of the victims.

"Our purpose was to get them talking and to follow up with spiritual enrichment and prayer to help these people who were out there in a very difficult situation. I was overwhelmed by the large number of them who said they wanted us to pray with them. They were very open and appreciative of prayer."

Southern Baptist disaster relief workers were just winding down their initial response to flooding in the Upper Midwest as others responded to the Texas tornadoes.

In North Dakota and Minnesota, the disaster ministry began shifting from meeting immediate needs to long-term recovery. All feeding and child-care units had closed by May 29, but volunteers are still needed as the "mud-out, clean-up" phase continues.

"We expect the mud-out will con-

tinue until about June 21, and we will still need volunteers until then," said Mickey Caison, national disaster relief coordinator at the Brotherhood Commission.

Caison said he is working to develop plans for reconstruction assistance when the cleanup phase is complete and asked for prayer that "these efforts will go forward and result in more opportunities to minister and share the gospel."

In 39 days of operation, feeding units from Ohio, Oklahoma and Texas had provided more than 565,000 meals in North Dakota and Minnesota.

The Brotherhood Commission coordinates multi-state disaster response on behalf of all Southern Baptists. Disaster relief is projected to become a ministry of the new North American Mission Board in June.

With additional reporting by Steve Barber of the SBC Brotherhood Commission

Group lists guidelines for gender-related Bible translation

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—A dozen evangelical leaders recently backed a list of 12 Bible translation guidelines for gender-related language.

The meeting, which was called by Christian broadcaster James Dobson, follows a recent decision by the International Bible Society to cease plans for an updated "gender-accurate" edition of the New International Version of the Bible.

Some conservative evangelicals said the society was pandering to feminists in the new edition.

The guidelines include suggestions that the word "man" should ordinarily be used to designate the human race or human beings and that God be referred to in masculine terms.

"Specifically, we agree that it is inappropriate to use gender-neutral

language when it diminishes accuracy in the translation of the Bible," the group said in a statement.

The group included no Southern Baptists but did feature many people close to the controversy over the new NIV edition:

■ Joel Belz, publisher of *World*, an evangelical magazine which highlighted the NIV revision in a series of stories.

■ Bruce Ryskamp, president and CEO of Zondervan Publishing House, the NIV's U.S. publisher.

■ Lars Dunberg, president of the International Bible Society, the NIV's copyright holder.

■ Ken Baker, secretary of the Committee on Bible Translation, a 15-member group of scholars with authority over the NIV translation.

In a related story, *Focus* on the

Family has pulled its "Adventures in Odyssey Bible" from distribution after discovering it included "gender-inclusive" language.

The "Odyssey Bible" uses the International Children's Bible translation and is published by Word Publishing in association with *Focus on the Family*.

Meanwhile, Zondervan and the International Bible Society have filed a complaint with the ethics committee of the Evangelical Press Association alleging *World* magazine violated the association's code of ethics.

"World has caused confusion and distrust among readers of the NIV Bible," claims Zondervan's complaint. "Pastors have pulled the NIV from their pews and have recommended people no longer read it."

A key complaint by Zondervan

claims *World's* reporting "erroneously attempts to convey a conspiracy of evangelical Bible translation with radical social feminism. It disjointedly begins by focusing on the NIV translation process, then makes a leap to somehow connect that with the role of women in church ministry."

Belz responded: "We have never claimed or implied that the NIV's sponsors identify with a radical feminist agenda. What we do assert is that all of us have been profoundly seduced by cultural feminism. The question is, the extent to which we recognize that seduction and build defenses against it. We believe the NIV's sponsors were neither adequately sensitive to that seduction nor prepared to build defenses against it."

Compiled from *Baptist Press* and *Religion News Service* reports

TV rating system could change

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Key players in the struggle to create a TV rating system acceptable to a variety of interests and concerns inched toward a possible compromise last week during a meeting between lawmakers and industry officials.

Under intense pressure from Congress and parental advocacy groups to improve the 5-month-old rating system, industry officials, while split on precise details, agreed in principle to improve the current system.

The TV industry is facing a critical two-week period. The Senate is considering two bills involving the rating system, and the Federal Communications Commission has scheduled a June 20 hearing on the issue.

"I think we made progress; we are headed in the right direction," said Senate Commerce Committee Chairman John McCain, R-Ariz., who called for the meeting. Participants included top lobbyists for ABC, NBC, CBS and Fox.

Critics say the existing six-tier, age-based rating system does not provide parents with enough information on the content of programs to protect children from excessive violence, sex and harsh language.

Fox, ABC and cable TV representatives said at the June 4 meeting they would consider adding "V" (violence), "S" (sex) and "L" (language) to the existing system. NBC has been opposed to the content-based ratings, and CBS has been uncommitted.

NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Baptists on jobs committee.** Three Baptist groups are among a coalition of religious and community organizations appointed by Vice President Al Gore to help welfare recipients keep the jobs they find and make the transition from welfare to work. The Baptist Joint Committee, the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission and the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union are part of the Welfare-to-Work Coalition to Sustain Success.

■ **Vouchers proposed for D.C.** Legislation has been introduced that would provide low-income parents in the District of Columbia with taxpayer-financed "scholarships," or vouchers, enabling them to send their children to religious and private schools. The plan would set aside \$7 million to provide up to \$3,200 in tuition aid to families of 2,000 students.

■ **Hasidic district struck down.** A school district set up to accommodate disabled children in an Or-

ange County, N.Y., Hasidic Jewish community was ruled unconstitutional last month. The school district was ruled unconstitutional by the New York state Court of Appeals on the grounds it violates the establishment clause of both the state and national constitutions. The establishment clause of the First Amendment prohibits government endorsement of any one religious faith.

■ **Airline policies protested.** Southern Baptist ethics agency head Richard Land and five other conservative Christian leaders have appealed to American Airlines in a full-page advertisement in the Washington Times and Dallas-Fort Worth area newspapers to abandon policies that "promote homosexual behavior." Among their examples: serving as the official carrier of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network.

■ **\$1 million for burned churches.** Leona Helmsley, a prominent—

and sometimes controversial—New York real estate tycoon and philanthropist, has given \$1 million to the National Council of Churches'-initiated Burned Churches Fund.

■ **Presbyterians to defy rule.** The Milwaukee Presbytery has become the first such jurisdiction in the Presbyterian Church (USA) to vote not to abide by a new church rule critics say is designed to keep homosexuals from holding ordained positions in the church.

■ **Anti-Semitism cited.** A recent survey found an overwhelming majority of American Jewish respondents see anti-Semitism as a continuing problem. The survey also found that American Jews believe the Religious Right and Muslims are the most anti-Semitic groups in the nation. Forty percent of those surveyed said they think anti-Semitism is a "very serious problem," and 55 percent said it was "somewhat of a problem."

Muslims could catch Church of England by 2002

LONDON (RNS)—England, birthplace of the Anglican Communion, may soon have more adult Muslims who actively practice their faith than Anglicans who typically attend Sunday church services.

Peter Brierley, executive director of London's Christian Research Association, said surveys show England's practicing Muslim adult population is growing by 30,000 individuals annually. At the same time, Sunday attendance for the Church of England is dropping by 14,000 each year.

If those trends continue, Brierley told Ecumenical News International, a Geneva-based religious news service, there will be 760,000 practicing Muslim adults in England in 2002, compared to 756,000 Sunday church-going Anglicans.

The total number of adult members listed by the Church of England is 1.47 million.

Evangelicals' conference celebrates faith worldwide

By Kim Lawton
Religion News Service

ABBOTSFORD, British Columbia—In a meeting touted as a "celebration of the globalization of Christianity," nearly 700 delegates from 93 nations gathered recently for the 10th General Assembly of the World Evangelical Fellowship.

The meeting highlights the rapid growth of evangelical Christianity around the world, particularly in developing nations.

According to veteran church researcher David Barrett, as late as 1960 the majority of evangelicals lived in Western Europe and North America. Today, 70 percent of the world's estimated 400 million evangelicals live in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

"WEF national fellowships reflect the excitement of this new globalizing church," said Agustin Vencer Jr., World Evangelical Fellowship's international director and a Filipino lawyer and pastor. "We have indeed become a church without borders."

WEF is a Singapore-based umbrella organization representing 150 mil-

lion evangelicals in national and regional alliances in more than 100 countries. One such alliance is the National Association of Evangelicals in the United States. The fellowship's international general assembly is held once every five years.

One of the most dramatic moments of the meeting—and one underscoring the growing globalization of the evangelical movement—came with the appearance of Vietnamese Christian Kim Phuc.

At the age of nine, Phuc was the focal point of a Pulitzer Prize-winning photo of a Vietnamese family fleeing the napalm bombing of their village during the Vietnam War. The photo shows Phuc running naked with a look of pain and horror on her face.

Phuc, who now lives in Canada, described how the Vietnamese communist government tried to make her into a media star when she was 19.

"At first, I was pleased by the attention," she said, adding, however, she quickly became "tired and burdened." She said she began searching for peace, and eventually made her way to a church where she decided to become a Christian. "My life changed wonderfully," she said.

WORLD VIEW

■ **Nicaragua's churches in textbook controversy.** A campaign to teach Nicaraguan public school students using Roman Catholic textbooks has angered Protestant leaders, who claim the books violate freedom of religion and promote anti-Protestant sentiments. The textbooks, produced by the Catholic archdiocese of Managua, blame racial tension on Protestants and warn Protestants not to criticize Catholic devotion to the Virgin Mary.

■ **Protests scuttle Moscow showing of "Temptation."** A scheduled Moscow television showing of "The Last Temptation of Christ" was canceled following Russian Orthodox Church complaints that the 1988 film is blasphemous and protests that had anti-Semitic overtones. The showing of the film—based on the novel by Nikos Kazantzakis—was canceled one day before its scheduled broadcast May 31 on station NTV, which is owned by media magnate Vladimir Goussinsky, who is Jewish.

■ **Scientist loses legal battle with creationist.** An Australian scientist has lost his legal battle to silence a creationist over claims about Noah's Ark. A federal court judge dismissed geologist Ian Plimer's suit that creationist Allen Roberts had breached fair trade laws by making false claims about the resting place of Noah's Ark during a 1992 lecture tour. Despite ruling in Roberts' favor, however, the judge did find that the creationist made false representations in describing his explorations of what some believe is the resting place of Noah's Ark at a site near Mt. Ararat in Turkey.

■ **Pope calls on Poland to outlaw abortion.** Pope John Paul II, no stranger to entanglement in Polish politics, told his countrymen June 4 they should outlaw abortion not just on moral grounds but as a matter of human rights. "A nation which kills its own children is a nation without a future," John Paul told a crowd of 150,000 in Kalisz, Poland.

■ **Aid worker, four refugees killed in Congo attack.** A worker for Save the Children and four refugees, including a child being carried by the worker, were killed by armed men in the eastern Congo, according to a spokeswoman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The U.N. spokeswoman said reports indicated the attackers were members of the Congolese military, the group led by Laurent Kabila that seized power in the former Zaire, now known as the Congo.

■ **Kuwait bill to restrict concerts, fashion shows fails.** Kuwait's parliament has rejected a bill that would have banned concerts and fashion shows that do not conform strictly with Islamic teachings. Kuwait already bars public dancing and alcohol. Conservative Muslim legislators said they proposed the failed bill because they are concerned about women singing before men, or vice versa, and women dressing attractively around men who are not close relatives, Reuters reported.

■ **\$25 million mansion cramping guru's style.** The Maharishi Foundation—named after the Hindu guru who taught Transcendental Meditation to the Beatles in the 1960s—is selling its 50-bedroom, British country estate because it needs more room. The foundation, created by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, who now lives in Amsterdam, hopes to sell the estate for as much as \$25 million. Foundation officials said the property had become too small for the organization. "The success we are experiencing with our new activities means we are looking for a new home," foundation chairman Geoffrey Clements told Reuters.

■ **Hindu temple raises \$1.82 million from hair sales.** A Hindu temple in India has a hair-raising way to raise money: selling the hair of pilgrims who shaved their heads to show their commitment to the faith. The Venkateswara temple in the south Indian town of Tirupati raised \$1.82 million last year by selling the hair of 6.5 million Hindus. Some 600 temple barbers participated in the effort, Associated Press reported. Much of the hair is exported to Europe and North America, where it is used to make wigs. The Venkateswara temple is considered one of the wealthiest Hindu temples in India.

CLASSIFIED ADS

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music. Send resumé: Personnel Committee, Gethsemane Baptist Church, 10400 Blue Lick Road, Louisville, KY 40229.

SEEKING: Gracey West Union Baptist Church is presently searching for a part-time minister of youth and music. If interested, please send resumé to: Youth and Music Search Committee, GWUBC, P.O. Box 143, Gracey, KY 42232-0143.

AVAILABLE: Outgoing, energetic ordained minister seeks church to pastor. Call (502) 789-3412.

TOUR: 11 days Israel and Egypt from your area only \$2,089. Nov. 1-11, including air, 1st class hotels, meals and all the sites plus experience you can trust. Call Judy Studie (502) 247-8331 for a color brochure.

SEEKING: Meta Baptist Church is presently in the process of searching for a full-time minister of youth and music. Send resumé to: Search Committee, Meta Baptist Church, 8807 Meta Highway, Pikeville, KY 41501.

FOR RENT: Sanibel Island, Florida: 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo available for vacation rental. Large pool, tennis courts, bikes, canoe, kayak, screened porch, lovely secluded beach. Weekly rates May through mid-December: \$595. Call Pat Owen, (502) 895-8752 (home) or (502) 897-5079 (office).

SEEKING: Preschool teachers. Fern Creek Baptist Child Development Center is currently looking for preschool and parents day out teachers for the 1997-98 school year. Hours are MWF, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for preschool and TT, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. for parents day out. We offer competitive wages, a friendly environment and other benefits. Please contact Debbie Gorbandt or Linda Barnes at (502) 239-0316.

SEEKING: Calhoun Baptist Church in western Kentucky is accepting resumé for pastor until July 1, 1997. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, Calhoun Baptist Church, P.O. Box 283, Calhoun, KY 42327.

SEEKING: High Point Baptist Church in Mayfield, Ky., is seeking a full-time associate pastor with primary responsibilities in youth and children's ministry. Send resumé to: Search Committee, High Point Baptist Church, 220 Farthing St., Mayfield, KY 42066.

WANTED: Two church pews in good condition—9 feet maximum length. Call Buena Vista Baptist Church, (502) 683-6234.



DIRECTOR Cornerstone Counseling

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, Inc. seeks a Director for the Cornerstone Counseling Program, a Christian counseling service located in 17 communities throughout Kentucky. Requirements include a Master degree in Human Service or Counseling and a minimum of five years experience. Must be credentialed to supervise AAMFT, LCSW, or Pastoral Care candidates.

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MISSIONS

In the valley of AK-47s, this missionary fears no evil

"This place is unreached and unevangelized. They don't really know who Jesus is ... The devil has ruled Karamoja for a long time."
Bruce Schmidt, Southern Baptist foreign missionary to Uganda

By Alberta Lindsey
 Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch

KAABONG, Uganda (BP)—"We are here to thank God for this water," said Bruce Schmidt. "No man can give you water. I cannot make you water. The Karamojong do not make water. It's only God who gives you water."

Schmidt, a Southern Baptist missionary, was talking to about 50 people who had gathered to pump water for their families.

It was Schmidt's first time to talk with the people at this communal water pump, one of three hand pumps Baptists installed to bring clean water to this area of Karamoja in Uganda's northeast corner.

The people who live in this area are called Karamojong. Their living conditions are primitive. They are cattle herders who drink cow's blood mixed with milk and prefer wearing no clothes. Villagers live in huts made of dried grass plastered with a mud-and-manure mixture.

The area is remote. Few missionaries have lived and worked here.

Most nights, Schmidt goes to sleep to the sound of AK-47s.

He said he fears no evil.

"I am at total peace about God's protection. I have absolute confidence

in God. If harm is going to come to us, it's going to go through God."

Often there are clashes between the Karamojong and neighboring tribes. In February, a clash between the Karamojong and the Turkana tribe left three men dead about 300 feet from Schmidt's house. Weeks later, another clash between the same two tribes left about 30 dead on each side.

"The only hope in a world full of hatred is the gospel—the gospel of peace," said Schmidt, 42. "This place is unreached and unevangelized. They don't really know who Jesus is ... The devil has ruled Karamoja for a long time."

Schmidt, his wife Martha, and the couple's two younger children—Stephanie, 12, and Michael, 7—are living in Mbale, about six hours away by car, while Schmidt builds a house in Kaabong.

The house Schmidt is building with the help of hired Ugandan workers is made of homemade bricks and gravel. The walls are a foot thick, with the windows higher than those in most houses in America. "If there's a raid and shooting," Schmidt said, "we can just drop down below the windows."

Schmidt said he first felt the call of God when he was 14 and a missionary visited his school. Turning 40 two years ago brought questions.

Life as a missionary




QUIET TIME Simon Okeng, a member of Nakawa Baptist Church in Kampala, Uganda, takes a moment for prayer. (Richmond Times-Dispatch photo by Kevin Morley)

"I really struggled. Here I am ... and don't have anything. A lot of people my age have some significant accomplishments. Martha and I don't own anything and have no significant accomplishments in terms of the world's standards. But I feel privileged to have God's call. That's better than all the other stuff."

Some days Schmidt gets up before dawn to walk to a remote cattle camp. From the main dirt road, the camp is a two-and-a-half-hour walk into the bush. Since camp leaders head out with the cattle at 7 a.m., Schmidt has to start walking about 4 a.m. to be at the camp by 6:30 a.m. when the men get up. After only 30 minutes with

them, he makes the long walk back. On one visit, about 70 men said they wanted to serve Jesus Christ, Schmidt said. "One of the older men got up and said, 'We have been in darkness for years, but this is the way of light.' Another one asked if I could come every day."

Schmidt said he not only wants to build a chapel near the village, but also hopes to improve living conditions.

"I want to see a primary school for the children here and literacy programs for adults," he said. "I want to bring in a doctor. We want to minister to the whole person."

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Meet the author

By James Taylor

Since the first Tuesday in September 1996, Cumberland College has provided a column in the Western Recorder to help you know more about our students and our mission. I hope this information has given you a deeper understanding of the need for and benefits of Christian higher education. God continues to accomplish great things on our campus and on the campuses of our other Kentucky Baptist higher education institutions. Thank you for your prayers and support for all of us.

This week I wanted to provide some information concerning Robert Dunston, who prepares our column each week. "Dr. Bob," as the students call him, joined the Cumberland College family in June 1983 as assistant professor of religion. When Willard Reeves retired as chairman of the department of religion and philosophy in the fall of 1989, Bob became the new chairman.

Bob's specific responsibilities are teaching courses in Old Testament and Hebrew, but he also teaches New Testament survey and church history. In recent years, he has helped establish two religion

honor societies on campus. In April 1993 Cumberland's Alpha Beta Zeta chapter of the national religion honor society, Theta Alpha Kappa, received its charter. Then in November 1994 Cumberland College formed the nation's 15th chapter of Eta Beta Rho, the national Hebrew honor society. Since Cumberland offers two years of Hebrew as well as two years of Greek, we offer enough courses to qualify to have a chapter of this honor society.

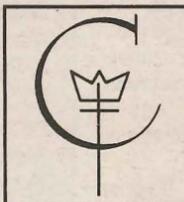
Bob is a committed teacher, which is evident by the awards he has received. Twice Cumberland students have elected him the Honored Professor at homecoming. In 1989 he received the Award for Excellence in

Teaching, and in 1996 he was one of three Cumberland professors to receive the Fuqua Excellence in Teaching Award. In recent weeks the national board of Theta Alpha Kappa named him recipient of the Kathleen Connolly-Weinert Leader-of-the-Year Award.

Cumberland College thanks Bob and the many others on our faculty and staff for their excellent work and dedication to Christian higher education.

James Taylor is president of Cumberland College, 7000 College Station Dr., Williamsburg, Ky. 40769

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



Doing it right

If you saw the recent column about my dog house-building days, you might think my vision of child care is as simple as a blueprint, boards and nails.

The lesson I learned is easily stated: Whatever we do, we should do it well for Jesus' sake. But applying that lesson to the difficult task of reaching out to hurting children is much harder.

Doing child care well is something Kentucky Baptists have been doing since 1869. The task has never been easy, but today it is even more difficult and expensive.

There always have been children in need of the services we provide, but today there are more of them, with fewer functional family infrastructures, and deeper, more complex problems.

We are beyond the days when we can simply put kids in "cottages," feed, clothe, educate them and send them to church.

Just as doctors send people who need intense care to the ICU rather than to the outpatient clinic, Kentucky Baptists today also provide intensive kinds of child care for children and young people who have developed many difficult problems due to abuse

and neglect. We offer specific treatment in the name of and through the grace of a loving, forgiving God.

My reading of the New Testament doesn't conjure up images of Jesus doing large evangelistic crusades, even though he did speak to large crowds. The Gospels share more of his one-on-one encounters with specific people with specific needs.

From Zaccheus to Mary Magdalene, from Lazarus to the woman at the well, Jesus met their individual needs regardless of who they were, what they had done and without thought of the cost.

Such is my vision for KBHC—to do what we do in the name of Jesus and Kentucky Baptists, and to do it well. I want this agency to remain aware of the fact that we ultimately work for him and through him.

Grace knows no limits, counts no cost, asks no questions, and always, always does it right.

Bill Smithwick president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, 10801 Shelbyville Rd., Middletown, Ky. 40243. Call (800) 456-1386. KBHC's Internet address is: <http://www.iglou.com/kbhc/>

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Bill Smithwick

MISSIONS

Candles, carjackings come with the job

By Alberta Lindsey
Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch

KAMPALA, Uganda (BP)—Linda Rice laughs when she hears someone in the States complain about being without electricity.

Her electrical power is off so often she no longer pays attention to the outages.

She and her family are used to cold muffins for breakfast or waiting days to wash clothes. When the room goes dark during dinner, someone automatically lights candles.

Rice and her husband, Jim, left their Richmond, Va., home in 1974 to become missionaries. The next year they moved to Uganda.

They've had to adjust to the occasional sound of nearby mortar exchanges and to having their vehicles hijacked and their home broken into.

"It has given me coping ability," said Rice, 49. "A lot of things that frustrate people are insignificant. I don't think I would know that unless I lived in a Third World country." Although she loves life here, she misses the conveniences taken for granted in the States.

"General housekeeping takes longer here because you have to have water and electricity at the same time. When you go two weeks and don't, it gets frustrating," she said.

"Cooking takes a lot longer because there is nothing already prepared. You make your mayonnaise. Often I make my own jam and squeeze lemons for juice. I buy all my vegetables fresh, so I have to clean them well and soak them in disinfectant. Meats are mostly tough, which means you crock pot them," if the power stays on long enough, she said.

They catch rain water in a tank and

filter it for drinking and cooking.

"The concept of time here can drive you crazy, but it also can release you from being a slave to the clock. If someone says 4 o'clock, it could mean anywhere from 4 to 6," she said.

"The way people visit is neat. A friend doesn't announce he's coming. If he did, you would have to have something for him to eat and drink. A real friend just drops in. I like that kind of relaxed visiting. But I have to put it in check in the U.S."

Southern Baptist missionaries generally serve four-year terms overseas, then return to the States for a one-year furlough. The Rices shop for clothes every fifth year when they are in the States.

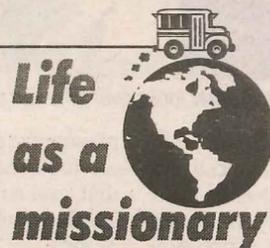
"There are clothes here (in Uganda), but they are expensive. Trying to anticipate what your growing daughter will look like in four years isn't easy," she said.

The Rices and their 13-year-old daughter, Kristen, live in a three-acre Baptist mission compound in Kampala, the capital city. Their neighbors are another missionary family—Mark and Elaine Pierce and their three children.

The Rices live in a three-bedroom, two-bathroom house with a large living room, dining area and a patio with a pond. There is an eight-foot fence around the compound. When the Rices or Pierces drive up, they toot the car horn and the guard opens the gate. The windows and doors are barred. Nevertheless, there have been several break-ins, so the two families share an armed guard.

On Sunday evenings, the Rices entertain four church leaders and their wives.

"We do it to give them a good meal and a little R and R, but it bounces back as a good thing for us," Rice said.



"It's fun. Kristen joins in. It would be easy for an MK (missionary kid) to grow up resenting some aspects of our work, but she doesn't."

When it comes to recreation, the family has to be creative. While on furlough in the States, they record Disney programs to be parceled out to other mission families back in Kampala. They have a trampoline and they play basketball, badminton and volleyball at the mission compound. Kristen is an avid reader.

The Rices will travel to Virginia this summer for their next furlough.

"I'm really looking forward to this furlough," she said. "I didn't think my dad would be living (because of health problems). But God has given us a great gift. We will get to see him."

The Rices have had two cars hijacked.

"I was driving home in a small car and got to a big pothole and was easing into it," she recalled. "A car whipped around and pulled in front of me. Four men with machine guns pointed at my windshield got out. It doesn't take much time for you to decide what to do."

"I had a big crowd of people walk me home. People said, 'Hope this isn't going to make you go back home.' We were very few at that time. People were glad to see us around. It meant they hadn't been forgotten. We felt most appreciated."

Despite the inconveniences, Rice said being in Uganda has taught her a lot.

"If I hadn't been out here, I might not see how God uses things. I see some of the poorest people out here with AIDS. They have just nothing. Yet you see God using them to do things in families. My understanding of who God is and how he loves is certainly expanded from what it would be in the States."

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MISSIONARY KID Kristen Rice describes her life as neat.

MK's snack time simply 'buggy'

KAMPALA, Uganda (BP)—Thirteen-year-old Kristen Rice doesn't stop off at McDonald's on her way home from school. But she might raid a termite hill and take a few insects home to fry for a crunchy snack.

There are no American fast-food restaurants in this East African country where Kristen lives with her Southern Baptist missionary parents. In her circle of friends and family, she is known as an MK, a missionary kid.

Few teenagers in the United States would think of popping a termite or grasshopper into their mouths, but Kristen said they are quite tasty. "You catch the termites, pull off the wings, put them in a frying pan, stir them around and eat them," she said matter-of-factly.

Kristen is a seventh-grader at Heritage International School, a private school in Kampala. She describes her life as neat. She was born and has spent most of her growing-up years in Uganda. Her first visit to the United States came when she was 3. She attended third grade in the United States and will do eighth grade there.

"I will do ninth, 10th, 11th and 12th grades at boarding school in Kenya," she said. "I'm looking forward to it except for the homesickness part."

She will return to the United States for college. She wants to become a missionary veterinarian.

Kristen also sings in the church choir and swims.

After school, she and 13-year-old Michelle Pierce—a classmate, neighbor and fellow MK—go to aerobics with two teachers at Heritage. "We are the only white people there," Kristen said.

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Missionaries perform multiple jobs while helpless on others

Continued from page 1

but also to help start new churches and assist ministry to those in prison.

She also works with AIDS patients through Kampala Baptist Church's AIDS ministry and oversees a Baptist student ministry.

The missionary's role, Rice said, is to be a resource.

"One of the biggest needs here is leadership training," he said. "We don't want people to think a missionary has to be the pastor or the leader. They can do these things themselves."

In the AIDS ministry, Mrs. Rice started out doing everything.

"Now I sit down and help them with their plans and ideas," she said. "My white face can be useful in cutting through red tape sometimes."

Among the AIDS victims Mrs. Rice visits in their homes are William and Margaret Maseruka, who live near Kampala with their six children. Often she takes food from Kampala Baptist Church.

Maseruka, who lost his job as an auto mechanic because of health

problems, is convinced God has given him extra time to live to start a church, Mrs. Rice said. "People with AIDS who become Christians really know how to redeem their time."

The Rices arrived in Uganda in 1975, four years after military leader Idi Amin began his eight-year reign of terror, in which thousands of Ugandans were murdered.

"In late 1972, Amin made it very hard on missionaries. He accused them of being CIA and made a lot of threats. We had five or six (Baptist missionary) families in Uganda then. One went on furlough for a year. Some left. When Linda and I came, there were only two families," Rice said.

In 1973, Amin banned 14 religious bodies but Baptists were not included. In 1977, he expanded his ban and included Southern Baptists.

"We were told we could do social services things but could not hold church," Rice said.

"We were all ready to start the Bible Way Correspondence School. They said we could use our books if

we took out the two pages about Baptists. We did that and we distributed Bibles," he recalled.

"I never had any trouble bringing in Bibles during Amin's time. We were giving them away or selling them, depending on the circumstances. People had a lot of cash and little to do with it then. I used the money to buy more Bibles."

Rice, as treasurer of the mission at the time, made frequent trips to Kenya where he purchased Bibles, aspirin and medicine for worms and malaria. During food shortages, he also bought food.

"I spent about a third of my time driving back and forth to Kenya. It was the only way we could continue to live here," he said.

"I started bringing back Christian books, other than Bibles, which is how I got my start with the bookstore," he added.

But for all the Rices can accomplish, sometimes missionaries are faced with situations over which they have little control. Recently Rice experienced such a moment.

He stopped to help a young woman walking along a dirt road in the country. The woman, blood running down her face, had a deep gash below her eye. She said her husband hit her with an ax, and she was trying to get to a medical clinic in Semuto, a town about 12 miles away.

Rice helped her into his truck. As they bounced along the pothole-filled dirt road, the woman described what had happened.

Before the couple married, the woman had a child who wasn't her husband's. Her husband had said he would accept the baby. But when she returned to their house with the youngster, her husband was drunk. He tried to put out her eye with the ax. She fled, leaving the child.

A very somber Rice said, "I'm concerned about the child." But he didn't turn the truck back toward the woman's village. He was certain the child was dead.

All he could do was help the mother.

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The Rices also serve as mentors to local church leaders and generally offer examples of Christians living out their faith, sometimes under difficult conditions.

PRAYER PARTNERS

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

- A Kentucky construction team in Vyborg, Russia, June 11-24 and team leader Ken Murphy.

- Kentuckians needed for four mission projects in Russia. The projects will be canceled if Kentuckians don't volunteer soon. For more information, call (502) 245-4101, Ext. 236.

- Ina York, children's camp director for the Baptist Convention of New England, as she prepares for this summer's camping season.

- The 28 student summer missionaries from across the United States who will arrive in New England June 10 to serve 10 weeks.

60 years later, a ring is bestowed with class and care

By Bob Hill
Louisville Courier-Journal

OLDHAM COUNTY—Bright sunshine spilled across the green grass of Harmony Landing Country Club in Oldham County as Bill and Lois Cromer walked, arm in arm, into 60 years of memories.

Lois, 77, knew nothing of what awaited her; two laughing grandchildren running into her arms gave her a clue it was something special, but her family had kept the secret well. Bill, 73, had almost given it away several times. Now, standing before a smiling group of family and friends, his secret was finally set free.

"Honey," he said, "these people are all here to help you celebrate the 60th anniversary of your high school graduation."

It was more than just that—much more. It was a husband honoring his wife, three sons honoring their mother, friends honoring friendship. It was sweet, warm, nostalgic, funny and caring.

It began in 1937 when Lois graduated from Lake Worth High School in Lake Worth, Fla. She had attended

Ann Tatum, author of the Mountains to the Mississippi column, was on vacation last week. Our weekly listing of news and changes at Kentucky Baptist churches will return next week.

commencement ceremonies with her class, but her parents, hurt by the Depression, could not afford to buy her a graduation dress or a class ring.

Bill had never really understood how much a ring meant to Lois until he pulled out his own high school ring last fall to wear to his class reunion in Miami.

"I never considered I would not go to college," Lois would say. "All I wanted was an education. ... I studied college catalogs to make sure I was taking the right courses in high school. But there was no money. I never got over wanting a graduation ring."

They married in 1945, having first dated as members of the West Little River Baptist Church in Miami. She played the piano and organ; he sang in the choir. It was a pattern of devotion they have repeated over 52 years of marriage: Lois as a pianist and organist at a series of Baptist churches, including three in Louisville; Bill as music director at the same churches and as a professor of Christian education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Bill began his quest for his wife's graduation ring after returning from his reunion. The Balfour Co. said a 1937 duplicate could be made. He contacted Lake Worth High School and was sent a photograph, a lapel pin and a 1977 yearbook. He wrote to First Baptist Church in Lake Worth, where Lois was baptized; the minister sent a nice letter and some historical documents.



GIFTS AND GRANDKIDS Lois Cromer looks over gifts and cards with two grandchildren.

"I did all this for two reasons," Bill said. "I wanted to have some occasion for presenting this ring to her, and I thought it would be very nice and pleasing if she had some expression of the sweetness of some of the things she remembered from that graduation."

Sweetness is the only word for the graduation luncheon honoring Lois Spencer Cromer at Harmony Landing Country Club at 1 p.m. on May 17, 1997. She was ushered into the luncheon area to the taped strains of Mendelssohn's "War March of the Priests"—the processional of her 1937 class. The program listed the favorite movies and songs from 1937: "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," "That Old Feeling," "Thanks for the Memory." Old photographs, certificates and letters were given her in an album.

Bill Cromer knew how often his wife had worked in the background,

playing the piano and organ while others took the stage. He loved her for that, and so he played a tape of Bette Midler singing "Wind Beneath My Wings"—"Thank you, thank you, thank God for you; the wind beneath my wings."

Then, 60 years after she should have received one, he placed a high school graduation ring on his wife's hand.

"In 1945 I put a ring on your finger," Bill told her, "and I'll put another on your finger now."

One of their sons reminded his parents they had kissed on that occasion in 1945, and they should kiss again. On a perfect afternoon in May, with family and friends moved to tears, Bill and Lois Cromer kissed one another and left the room to the trumpet of "Pomp and Circumstance."

(Used with permission from the Louisville Courier-Journal.)

1997 Barkley Moore Father's Day Offering

For the past several weeks I have pondered over this week's article. There is so much to be said about Barkley Moore and his dedication to this school and its ministry. There have been only a very few weeks during the past three years when I have not received a letter or phone call from someone whose life was touched by Moore.

The letter may be from Iran, as one was just a few weeks ago. The author was a former student of Moore's when he was in the Peace Corps in Iran. During those six and one-half years in Iran, a host of Iranians were touched by the kind, fast-talking, swift-walking and hard working American.

Sadly, the letter writer did not know Moore had passed away. In his letter, he thanked Moore for the kindness he had shown. He also wanted Moore to know the letter writer had two sons of his own, and enclosed a picture of them.

During the mid and late '70s, many Iranian students came to America through Moore's efforts. After the fall of the Shah of Iran when the new government was established, it was nearly impossible to get students out of the country in order to come to America.

I may also receive a phone call from a former student who came to Oneida while Moore was president. The student may share that he has no idea where he would be if it had not been for Moore and Oneida. When no one believed this young person could amount to anything, Moore encouraged him to come to Oneida. Now a changed person, successful in life and remembering Moore's kindness, he pauses to express his gratitude.

A host of former and current faculty and staff, including this writer, can attest to the love and

compassion this wonderful man of God had for young people. Scores of young people sat in his office and heard the words of Moore: "You can be anything you want to be, you can do anything you want to do, you can overcome any obstacle, if you will allow God to be a part of your life and take advantage of the opportunity God is giving you." Moore was a tremendous inspiration to all of us. We all knew our longest day was shorter than his. Our heaviest burden was lighter than his.

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Our greatest problem was smaller than his. Moore never had any trouble falling asleep at the end of his day. In fact, on more than a few occasions, he literally fell asleep while talking to me in his office. You simply could not be angry at him because we all knew he worked 18 to 20 hours every day. When he fell asleep sitting in his office chair, one simply would pause and allow this giant of a man a few moments of much needed rest. He would awaken shortly and resume the conversation.

I remember one evening several years ago when a new student came to my office in the dorm. About midnight I asked him why he was still in the office and not in bed. Since he was a new student I thought he was a little homesick. Finally, he said Moore had come to his room and had fallen asleep on his bed.

I could go on and on with similar stories. This Father's Day has been set aside to remember this dedicated man of God. If you can find it in your heart to remember his efforts by supporting the Barkley Moore Father's Day Offering, we will do all in our power to continue the unfinished task of ministering to special boys and girls.

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

An alumnus says 'thanks'

The alumni pledge of our Beyond 2001 campaign recently began under the leadership of 1972 alumnus and Georgia Pastor M.D. Cabe. Campaign leaders already have committed almost one-third of the \$100,000 goal.

Chair of the 1982-96 division is U.S. Air Force Chaplain Joel Lytle. Now stationed in Texas, Joel and his wife, Chris, depart for Germany in July. The following testimony accompanied his campaign pledge.

"It was early 1978 when my pastor, Wayman Swopes, advised me to get a solid Bible-based education; he recommended Clear Creek Baptist Bible College.

"Chris and I prayed and felt led to the school, so we applied.

"About one month later, we were informed we weren't eligible to attend at that time. The school required applicants to be a Christian for more than one year, and I had committed my life to the Lord three months prior to application.

"Instead of sulking, we prayed and four and one-half years later graduated in the first year of Clear Creek's accredited degree program with a bachelor of theology. What one said to be a mistake was our

miracle.

"It was during those four years I realized more miracles from God. Everyday there would be a new and rich experience of God's glorious grace demonstrated through the staff, professors and classmates. The molding process began, and a Bible-based foundation was established.

"I often reflect back with absolute love and deep appreciation to Clear Creek. The memories are unnumbered, but one sticks out in my mind to demonstrate the school's difference.

"Claude Fox came to me just before Christmas break. He knew our family was struggling and offered to help to ensure we could make it home for the holidays.

"Even now, when I think of that special moment, I get choked up. I love Clear Creek and will ever be indebted to a great and awesome God who burdened (founder L.C.) Kelly and all who followed him in that dream.

"Thank you, Clear Creek family, for the opportunity to give back some of what you have shared with us."

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Cowboy's testimony lasts longer than just '8 Seconds'

By Dana Williamson
Oklahoma Baptist Messenger

LANE, Okla. (BP)—Eight seconds—the magic time for a bull rider.

It can seem like an eternity, both to the cowboy and the bucking animal, each intent on conquering the other.

And sometimes it is enough time to propel a person into eternity. In about that amount of time, world champion bull rider Lane Frost, 25, was speared by a bull he had just ridden and died on the rodeo arena floor.

His life was the subject of the film, "8 Seconds," but his family and friends want people to know Frost's Christian testimony extends beyond the rodeo ring.

"I believe if Lane had lived a full life and died at an old age," said his mother, Elsie Frost, "his life would never have had the impact that it has had."

That impact includes eight people who became Christians at Frost's funeral and many others who have come to his mother to tell her they accepted Christ as their personal Savior as a result of Frost's death.

Frost's legacy also extends to thousands who have received a copy of a cowboy Bible, with an artist's drawing of him on the front, which is distributed through the home church of Frost's parents.

Because his father, Clyde, had done some rodeoing, Frost became interested in bull riding when he was very young, his mother recounted.

"When other little boys were playing with trucks, Lane was playing rodeo," Mrs. Frost said, starting with riding calves and graduating to steers, then bulls.

Frost was the high school bull-riding champion his junior year. He won the Oklahoma Junior Rodeo As-

sociation three years, the American Junior Rodeo Association and National Finals Youth Rodeo.

After graduating from high school in 1982, Frost joined the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, and in 1984 qualified for his first National Finals Rodeo, which meant he was among the top 15 money winners in bull riding.

In 1986, he won the average at the NFR and in 1987 became the world champion bull rider—a goal atop his personal list.

A year after his death, he was voted into the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame.

"As Lane was growing up, he never talked about 'if' he became a world champion; it was 'when,'" his mother said.

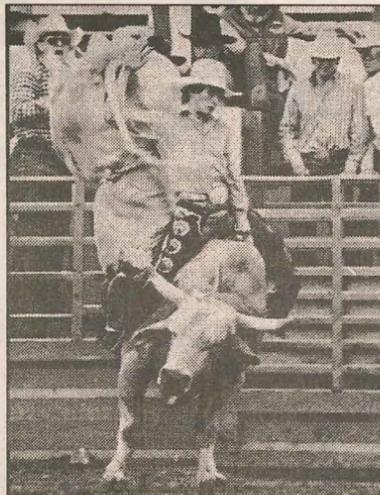
During what should have been the happiest time of his life, Frost and his wife, Kellie, a barrel racer he married in 1985, were having marital problems.

When things got especially bad between the two and Frost thought the marriage might be over, he went to his parents' house where he and his mother talked late into the night. "Lane sat in the chair crying his eyes out," his mother recalled. "He had finally run into something he didn't know how to handle."

Mrs. Frost said she knelt beside her son and told him, "I'm not going to tell you this will put your marriage back together, but you need to give your life to Jesus. God has done a lot for you over the years, but you've never made that commitment to him you know you should make."

There in the living room of their home, Mrs. Frost led her son in prayer to accept Jesus as his personal Savior.

"That was the first part of the year, and he and Kellie got back together that summer," Mrs. Frost said. "That last year was probably the happiest time of their marriage."



COWBOY Lane Frost

Frost was killed "doing what he loved to do" July 30, 1989, at age 25. "If Lane had died two years earlier, he would have spent an eternity in hell," his mother said.

When a movie company asked to make a movie about Frost's life, the family prayed and agonized over the decision, she said.

"We decided to let them do a movie, hoping it would bring glory to God," she said.

But she was disappointed when the director of "8 Seconds" would not even consider including Frost's conversion to Christianity in the movie.

Although the movie company didn't include Frost's conversion, "8 seconds" had a greater impact than the family realized, Mrs. Frost said.

"After the movie, '8 Seconds,' came out, we were bombarded with phone calls and letters, and all were from people who wanted to tell us how the movie had made an impact on their lives."

During each phone call, she said, the main thing she wanted to tell people was that her son was a Christian.

"To some, I had to explain how that happens, because you could tell they didn't know," she said.

Some friends of the Frosts brought some cowboy Bibles to the movie set in San Antonio, which were imprinted "given in memory of our brother, Lane Frost, 1987 world champion."

Friends who brought the Bibles encouraged the Frosts to have more printed, but Mrs. Frost said too many complications in her life prevented the project. But on Valentine's Day in 1995, a friend came by and gave Mrs. Frost a card. "Inside the card was the exact amount of money I needed to order the Bibles," she said.

The Frosts contacted an artist to do a sketch of their son for the front of the Bibles and put a personal message about Frost inside the front cover, along with the plan of salvation.

"As of now, we have given out about 7,000 Bibles, which have gone as far as Australia, Brazil and the Panama Canal," Mrs. Frost said. "Although we accept donations, we give the Bibles free."

She said she doesn't think it matters what is on the front of the Bible, "just as long as it makes people want it."

"If they want it because Lane's picture is on it, that's fine," she said. "I know that once it is in people's hands, God will do the rest."

"As proud as we are of Lane's accomplishments, we know the most important thing he ever did was the decision he made in 1988," she added. "Because of that, we know that he is in heaven and that we will be together again someday. We feel that God gave Lane that special personality that drew people to him, and his death made a great impact on the rodeo world in particular. There have been a number of people saved because of Lane's death, so we can hardly ask why."

"God gave Lane that special personality that drew people to him, and his death made a great impact on the rodeo world in particular. There have been a number of people saved because of Lane's death, so we can hardly ask why."

Elsie Frost

Students spending summers as missionaries

By Julie McGowan
SBC Foreign Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Ben Dewberry has packed his bags for Malawi. The 20-year-old college student believed God would one day send him to Africa. This summer he will make that trip as a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board summer missionary.

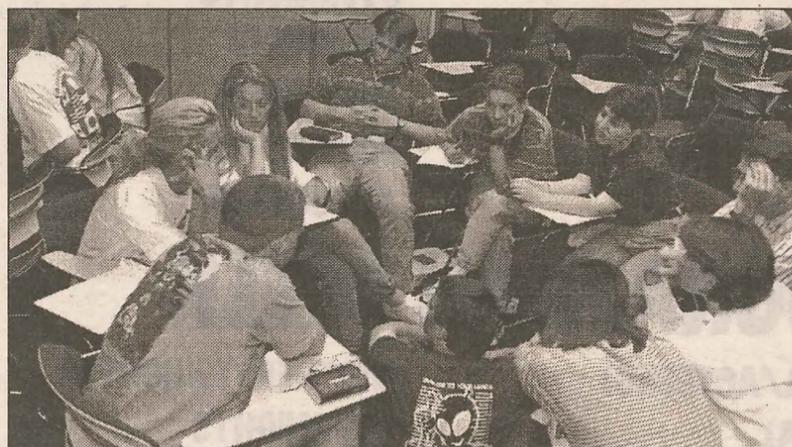
"God was faithful to his calling," said Dewberry, a student at Samford University in Birmingham.

Dewberry was one of more than 200 students in summer missions orientation recently at the board's Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Va.

The summer of 1997 marks the 50th anniversary of Foreign Mission Board student ministries.

Nearly 3,000 students have served annually abroad through the FMB and in the United States through the Home Mission Board, said Quintin Ratliff, the foreign board's student ministries coordinator.

Students attending orientation learned about cross-cultural ministry, engaging in an interactive lesson to



ORIENTATION College students gather in small groups at the Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Va., to discuss their overseas assignments as Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board summer missionaries. (BP photo by Daniel Edwards.)

experience what it is like to be in a community visited by outsiders.

"I don't want to come in as an American—I want to come in as a teacher who loves the Lord," said Shelly Forrest, 20, of Moore, Okla., who was assigned to teach English as a second language in East Asia.

"I want to come in as a learner. I know that just because I've grown up

in an area where Christianity is an option doesn't make me any more deserving of Christ," she added.

Summer missionaries will be future missions leaders and promoters in churches, Ratliff said. "For the first time, they will have a global vision to understand how God can use their gifts and skills for fulfilling his kingdom around the world."

Violence fails to scare church from involvement in missions

WACO, Texas (BP)—A run-in with urban violence didn't scare members of Seventh & James Baptist Church away from doing missions.

On a Chicago street one evening last summer, gun-toting teens injured two members of the Waco, Texas, congregation and trapped their mission team in crossfire.

The Texans had traveled to Chicago to do mission work. They completed orientation and were returning to their hotel when two teens ran among them, shooting at each other.

Although they weren't injured seriously, the incident brought the visitors' mission trip to a quick halt, and the group returned to Texas.

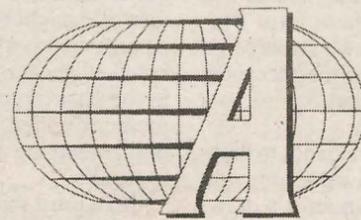
But the bullets didn't kill their desire to share Christ's love and message of salvation, church members said.

This summer, the church is sponsoring two mission trips. The youth will go to Lubbock, Texas, following a pattern of alternating in-state and out-of-state mission sites. Another group will work on a hunger project in Ciudad Acuna, Mexico.

Rather than frighten them into staying home, the inner-city Chicago experience reinforced the church's resolve to share the gospel, said Youth Minister Susie Shearer.

"Among our youth, there's just a greater awareness of the need for missions and carrying the peace and hope of Christ to some dark areas and to bear witness to that hope," she said. "They've been given a unique perspective on violence."

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JULY 25-26

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