

WESTERN RECORDER

August 25, 1998
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Vacation Bible school out of this world

By David Winfrey
News Director

LOUISVILLE—Youth throughout Kentucky were spaced out this summer, but there's no cause for alarm.

Hundreds of Kentucky Baptist churches sponsored vacation Bible schools with a space theme, and a random sampling found several congregations had results that were out of this world.

"It was a blast," said Rita Hertel, vacation Bible school director at Rough River Baptist Church in McDaniels. "We had 86 children in attendance and maybe our church roll is between 110 to 125 people."

Hertel said kids already have an interplanetary interest, and that fueled their attraction to the material by LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention and other publishers that offered outer-space outlines.

"It lent itself to a lot of creativity," she said. "It was easy to take the space idea and God's creation and go from there ... to lead into the study of God."

Floyd Price, pastor of First Baptist Church of Scottsville, agreed. "Teachers and children alike got into the spirit of the theme," he said.

That church's vacation Bible school enrollment of 150 children was the largest in many years, he said. "The number of older children was up significantly," Price added.

Edith Wallace, secretary for West Union Baptist Association in Paducah, said churches large and small benefited from the material. Lone Oak First Baptist Church had an enrollment of 804, she said.

"Actually, some of our small

**STARQUEST** Capt. Keenan, also known as Keenan Sutter of First Baptist Church in Shelbyville, stands beside the model spaceship the church built for vacation Bible school. See other stories about vacation Bible school on page 7.

churches did very well," Wallace said. Bandana Baptist Church enrolled 74 children, more than their average total Sunday school attendance of 55. Likewise for Bethlehem Baptist Church in Ballard County, she added.

Many churches have taken a liking to LifeWay's new format for the past two years, said Wendy Dever, associate in the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday school department.

With the new format, teachers have one lesson they teach and students rotate classes, she said.

Alice Whitetree, who led Bible school at Hellier Baptist Church in Lookout, said the material also is better suited to smaller churches that don't have lots of workers. "I feel like they've come around in the last two years to a small way of thinking."

Several churches in the Bowling Green area also had high or record attendance, said Pat Howard, office manager for Warren Baptist Association.

Adults seemed to have as much fun with the theme as children. Many churches built model spaceships that were used in advertising their schools or during assemblies.

Rough River Baptist Church offered such galactic goodies as moon doggies and meteorite munchies.

First Baptist Church of Shelbyville transformed its fellowship hall into a life-size space shuttle.

Greenwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green turned its hallway into an asteroid tunnel.

Dever said the only complaints she's heard were about the high cost of buying books for all the different teaching assignments.

"I wish that it wasn't so expensive for our smaller churches, but I'm grateful for our convention and our larger churches that will share their materials," she said.

Hertel said her church got a model spaceship from Highview Baptist Church in Louisville after leaders there were done with it. "When we got done, we passed our materials on to Goshen Baptist."

Killer's mom uses tragedy to help others

By Joyce Sweeney Martin
Staff Writer

INEZ—The van stopped and Eileen Mullins watched as her son slowly walked away.

"He's going to come out an old man and gray headed," she remembers thinking.

That day in January 1996, her 32-year-old child began serving a 20-year sentence for killing his wife with a .357 magnum.

The couple had been going through divorce proceedings, but their relationship had remained amicable, she said. In fact, just a week earlier they had attended a family reunion together at Lake Cumberland.

"Richard had never even had a speeding ticket," Mullins said. "He was a family man. He had a \$60,000-a-year job."

On July 19, 1995, a mother's worst nightmare began. In a moment, lives were changed forever.

"As a young mother I had tried to prepare my children for the worst things that could happen," she said. "In all my wildness imaginations, I could not have prepared for this."

Not only were Mullins and her husband, Carl, the parents of a criminal, but they were the victims of a crime, she said.

"We became 'those people,'" she said. But at the same time, she lost a daughter-in-law who was like a daughter, Mullins said. And they grieved for the 7-year-old granddaughter caught in the

□ See Killer's mom ..., page 12



Pastor offers 6 leadership tips for reaching non-Christians

By Chip Alford
SBC Lifeway Christian Resources

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Less than a decade ago, leaders at Flamingo Road Baptist Church in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., discovered 90 percent of their church's recent growth spurt was coming from transfers from other churches.

"We were basically swapping sheep; we weren't reaching or impacting our community for Christ," said Dan Southerland, teaching pastor at Flamingo Road.

Rather than being comfortable with the status quo, Flamingo Road's leadership made some dramatic changes in their approach to ministry, he said.

They switched from being program-driven to purpose-driven and from committee-led to staff-led, Southerland said. The pastoral team stopped trying to do all the work and focused on equipping the laity as a ministry force. They even changed their worship style to a more con-

temporary seeker-oriented format, and encouraged members to intentionally build relationships with people who were not Christians.

The results? The church grew from a membership of 500 in 1990 to more than 2,000 today. But while Southerland is pleased about the growth, he's even more pumped about its source—unchurched people represented 60 percent of the new members.

The changes were far from easy, he admitted. Moving to an intentional focus on reaching the unchurched requires a "cutting-edge" approach to leadership, he said.

Speaking at a leadership conference, Southerland shared six keys for cutting-edge leadership:

■ **Evaluate the current conditions.** Churches have three choices when evaluating a program, event or ministry, Southerland said: reaffirm, revise or replace.

A willingness to consider the latter option is key, he said, adding: "You have to be willing to say Plan

A is dead before you can ask, 'What is Plan B?'"

■ **Prepare people for change.** Vision casting is the required skill for this objective, Southerland said. "You have to be able to paint a picture of what God wants to do in your church, the blueprints for growth. ... Until the people catch the vision or, better yet, until the vision catches them, you are not going to impact your community for Christ."■ **Motivate people to follow.** One test of a leader, Southerland said, is an affirmative answer to the question, "Is anyone following?"

"Anyone can take a trip; a leader gets people to go with him," he said, adding this requires the skill of motivation—the ability to move people.

■ **Cross the barriers to growth.** Cutting-edge leaders "don't get stuck up against the barrier, they push right through it," he said. "If you want to reach people for Christ, you are going to have to take some chances. You can't have a 'play it safe attitude' and reach a lost world for Christ."

BAPTIST BITS

■ **North Carolina pastor**
Tony Cartledge has been chosen as next editor of the Biblical Recorder, news journal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. Cartledge, pastor of Woodhaven Baptist Church in Apex, N.C., will succeed current editor R.G. Puckett, who retires Dec. 31.

■ **Single-day tickets**
for the Sept. 4-5 CrossSeekers celebration at the New Orleans Convention Center are now available. Christian artists and speakers such as Steven Curtis Chapman, Jars of Clay and Anne Graham Lotz will be featured at the event for college students, high school juniors and seniors. It is sponsored by LifeWay Christian Resources and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. For information on last-minute registration, call (888) CROSS98.

■ **Southern Baptist**
Convention President Paige Patterson will convene a three-day conference for pastors, youth ministers and laypeople concerned about evangelizing and discipling youth. Patterson said the event, called "Culture Shock '98," is in response to recent school violence. More youth ministry should be focused on evangelism, edification and encouragement, he said. The conference is scheduled for Sept. 14-16.

Missionaries on alert as tensions grow overseas

By Marty Croll
SBC International Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptist missionaries living in tense areas of Africa and Asia were responding to U.S. State Department warnings Aug. 20 to stay off the streets and out of sight.

The warnings came as anti-American sentiment rose in response to U.S. cruise missile strikes against suspected terrorist operations in Sudan and Afghanistan. Extremist Muslims were warning of retaliatory attacks against Americans.

The International Mission Board, which maintains about 4,400 Southern Baptist personnel in 126 countries, issued a worldwide alert to each of its 14 regional offices Aug. 21.

"This is a very dangerous and crucial time for all of our people around the world," said Sam James, the board's vice president for creative leadership. "What we want is for all our missionaries to know that for the foreseeable future no American anywhere in the world is safe.

"There's no country we can say now is beyond the reach of terrorism. Still, nowhere are we going to say let's shut down the work," he added.

In some areas where the missile strikes had intensified anti-American sentiment, personnel gathered in emergency meetings Aug. 21 to consider future ministry options and discuss temporarily leaving their posts, said Kenn Shirley, the board's Richmond-based associate regional leader for Central and Southern Asia.

"They are evaluating the situation to see where the Lord is leading and to decide what to do as a group, as well as individuals," he said.

IMB officials declined to comment on where specifically these personnel

Missionary looks for hope amid Kenya's rubble

By Heidi Soderstrom
SBC International Mission Board

NAIROBI, Kenya (BP)—White dust so thick it appears to be snow. Stench emanating from places yet uncovered. Fatigued people working like automatons just to finish the gruesome work.

The dust is settling now, but the memories are not soon forgotten by missionary Jon Sapp. But like Pompeii rising from the ashes, so hope is emerging from the rubble that used to be the Ufundi House. The building was leveled Aug. 7 in a terrorist explosion targeting the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi.

"Three people we know of have come to know the Lord as their Savior since then," said Sapp, regional leader for Southern Baptist International Mission Board work in Eastern Africa. "So out of this death experience there is new life here in Nairobi."

The prospect of new spiritual life gives the Wichita, Kan., native much-needed encouragement on the one-week anniversary of the day he worked at the bomb site next to the

embassy. It provides a spark in an otherwise dreary Nairobi, where gray skies cover the land as victims of the blast are laid to rest each day.

Misty rain falls as frequently as tears.

"I'm now to the dream stage," Sapp said, his blue eyes glazed after being unable to fall asleep the night before. "Just a normal part of dealing with post-traumatic stress."

A missionary in Nairobi since 1991, Sapp's positive attitude about stress belies the horrors he encountered the night of Aug. 11. He and missionary colleague Ted Davis joined a Kenyan Red Cross worker and a member of the Kenya army in digging bodies from the rubble. Of 24 bodies found that last night of searching, their team found 16.

"What I saw was people who had died instantly. However, working with the Kenyan Red Cross gave us a chance to use our language (Swahili) and preserve the dignity of the victims. Probably the most important thing we did was work with the Kenyans," Sapp said.

"I never experienced any comments or actions expressing their dis-

trust or disapproval of our presence," Sapp said, taking issue with reports of anti-American sentiment. Other American workers expressed similar feelings of acceptance at the site.

In fact, the Kenyan army invited Sapp and his team to breakfast. "Shoulder to shoulder, it was an excellent experience," Sapp said.

The hardest part of the ordeal for Sapp is knowing that three bodies are unidentified, he said. "We sang a song the next morning, 'He Knows Our Name.' It was very touching for me that there are people that only the Lord knows their name."

Sapp expressed gratitude for prayer and concern for missionaries in Tanzania and Kenya. "Southern Baptists across America did all they could to find out how missionaries were, and we are grateful no one in those missions were hurt," he said.

"Please continue to pray for church members here as we make contact with extended family members or friends of those injured or touched by the tragedy, that we take this opportunity to talk about the hope only Christ can bring in this devastating event."

were located.

The independent agency Crisis Consulting International issued an advisory Aug. 21 warning missionaries of possible "rage- and fervor-inspired retaliatory attacks on local targets of convenience," such as U.S. citizens on streets. But it also cautioned mission agencies to take the embassy bombings as proof of a threat to "soft targets" far away from bases of terrorist activity.

"Further retaliatory acts could oc-

cur literally anywhere in the world," Crisis Consulting stated. "The network of organizations and fanatics most likely to engage in further acts can be found quite literally in almost every part of the world."

In an electronic advisory to regional offices, Bill Cashion, the IMB's consultant for crisis management, asked personnel to take this danger "very seriously."

Cashion encouraged IMB personnel to review crisis-management

plans, which include contingencies related to evacuation, hostage-taking and home security.

Cashion asked Southern Baptists to pray that missionaries would know how to be alert to possible dangerous situations and not put themselves into unnecessary risk. But at the same time he asked for prayer that they would possess a calmness of spirit and boldness to seize ministry opportunities to live and speak a witness for Jesus Christ.

Hitting Home offers family resources on the Internet

ARLINGTON, Texas (ABP)—Rene Prindle-Jones believes in rooting for the home team.

That doesn't just mean cheering for her beloved Texas Rangers. It also means team-building through encouraging families to build Christian homes and equipping churches for family ministry.

A member of University Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Prindle-Jones is director of ministries for Hitting Home Ministries and editor of the non-profit organization's Internet magazine. The goal of the Arlington, Texas, based ministry is to create resources to help churches minister to families.

While all Hitting Home's staff are Southern Baptists, the ministry offers its services free of charge or at cost to any church.

Long-range, the ministry hopes to provide speakers on family-related issues for retreats, revivals or conferences and to become a clearinghouse for the research and development of family ministry leadership resources. The first step toward that goal was the launching in January of "Hitting

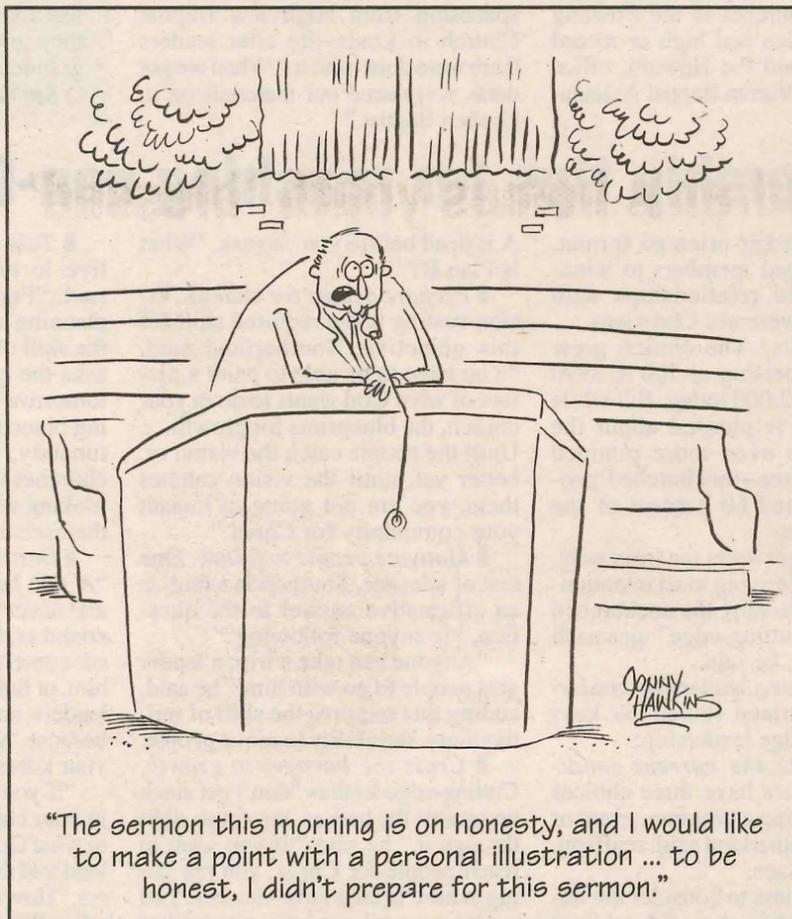
Home" magazine on the Internet at www.hittinghome.org.

Hitting Home, designed around a baseball theme, was the brainchild of John Sisson, the ministry's chief executive officer and former director of family ministry with the Missouri Baptist Convention. He contacted Prindle-Jones, who was Baylor University's outstanding journalism graduate in 1985, to edit the monthly Internet-based magazine.

"The wave of the future is the Internet," said Prindle-Jones, a former missionary and a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. "I love the feel of holding a book or a newspaper, and we'll never replace that. But we wanted to be on the cutting edge."

Publishing on the Internet is cheaper than printing a magazine, and it allows for more timely information and interaction with readers, she noted.

The August issue of the magazine, which examines the subject of addiction, offers sermon outlines, facts and articles with concerns geared to church leaders who work with adults, youth, children and preschoolers.



Conference begins network for Kentucky chaplains

By Joyce Sweeney Martin
Staff Writer

ELIZABETHTOWN—Chaplains may be the church extended, but they need not be the church forgotten, according to chaplains who met across Kentucky in August to begin a support and information network.

About 50 chaplains and Kentucky Baptist Convention representatives met in Elizabethtown, Hazard and Hopkinsville for one-day meetings convened by the KBC missions and evangelism division.

"It was very clear from the discussions that what chaplains want is per-

sonal spiritual support," said Jim Dent, chairman of the KBC chaplains support committee. Dent retired as chaplain at La Grange Reformatory after 23 years.

The very nature of their ministry places chaplains alone in the marketplace, not within the four walls of a church, said Bob Vickers, a retired military chaplain. Vickers, a native Kentuckian, is director of the chaplaincy unit at the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.

And while they minister to hurting people, chaplains often do not see the results of their labor. "We may only have a one-chance shot to plant seeds

of hope and good news," Vickers said. For many chaplains, ministry exacts an emotional toll.

Take Stewart Dawson, full-time chaplain of the Lexington Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services, for example.

Dawson faces life-and-death situations regularly—devastating fires and horrible automobile accidents. In the midst of such trauma, he says he must remember "there is still a human spirit there. They need someone to hold their hand, to tell them to hang on."

And he is called on to help the 460 people in his department deal with the

tragedies they see each day. "I am their pastor," he said.

But where does he turn to replenish his spiritual reserves? he asked the group in Elizabethtown. "I give and give," he said. "I need to receive."

At least 176 Baptist men and women serve as military, institutional and business/industrial, health care, pastoral counseling and recreational chaplains in Kentucky. Some serve part-time; others full-time; others are volunteers; 130 are endorsed by NAMB.

"We want to provide as much support for them as we possibly can," said Larry Martin, director of the KBC missions and evangelism division.

BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ **Pastors, church leaders and family members** are invited to a half-day ministry workshop on ministry and mental illness Sept. 15 at the Clifton Cultural Center in Louisville. For more information, call the Mental Health Association of Kentucky (502) 893-0460.

■ **Spring Meadows** home in Middletown, a ministry of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, will host a Child Care Day Sept. 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., for partner churches and the public to visit the campus, tour the cottages and meet the young people touched by the ministry. Games, entertainment and a complimentary lunch are also part of the event. Spring Meadows is located at 10901 Shelbyville Rd. For details and directions, call (800) 456-1386. In the Louisville area, phone 245-2161.

Ministry bridges culture and Christ to international residents

By Suzanne Darland
State Correspondent

ELIZABETHTOWN—It was a baby shower, all right. There were pink and blue gift wrappings, balloons and softly patterned napkins and cups. But it was no ordinary baby shower.

The low table in the living room covered with a white cloth wasn't meant for gifts, but for kneeling beside and eating. And some of the snacks were crisp fried sweet potato sticks and coffee-flavored gelatin.

The shower was organized by a group of women from Japan who have come with their husbands and children for short-term stints to Japanese-owned production plants in Elizabethtown. They met through Severns Valley Baptist Church's International Fellowship.

The ministry, organized about 15 years ago, reaches out to internationals, mostly women, who come to the area because of work or the military or because they're refugees. "We try to form personal relationships and to be their friends," explained Jerry Johnson, coordinator of the program.

Sometimes that means helping someone find a job. Or teaching someone to drive, as Johnson did recently for a Bosnian woman.

But mostly it means helping inter-

nationals through a maze of confusing customs, community streets and advertisements. Weekly Monday morning meetings might feature descriptions of holiday celebrations or lessons in map reading and in deciphering directions. They might include games using grocery ads or a simple craft like china painting. They always involve a board game heavy on language skills.

The group goes on field trips to local restaurants or area attractions like the Louisville Zoo or Glendale antique shops. "They need acclimating to all of American culture," Johnson explained.

And they have fun.

Cooking demonstrations go both ways, with four or five American women teaching American fare, and the international women displaying artful platters of food. One week the Japanese women showed how to make a traditional Japanese breakfast, with pickled vegetables, miso (fish broth), rice, salmon and omelet rolls.

"But now we eat oatmeal," Shoko Shimada confessed, to giggles from the group.

The group has some important goals; most involve learning English.

"We're serious about teaching English," Johnson said. "We have a good text, and we encourage them to prac-

tice conversational English with each other."

Noriko Fukami said not being conversant in English is one of her biggest frustrations. She's been in the United States for a year and a half and expects to be here about three years.

Shimada, here about a year, said most Japanese children learn English in school, "but we don't use it much in Japan."

Another important focus, Johnson said, is fellowship, because that's what sets this ministry apart from other community programs that might teach English and living skills. "We're less student/teacher than friend/friend," she said.

But the reason the ministry was founded is to help internationals, many of whom never have been exposed to Christianity, "develop a positive attitude toward the Christian faith and Christian people," Johnson said.

She says using the Bible to teach English has given her many opportunities to explain how to become a Christian, what Christians believe and how organizers' faith is the motivation for the ministry's existence.

"There's a lot of curiosity about what Christians believe since they're coming from a country that's not primarily Christian," she said.

Severns Valley member Mae Har-

ris has been a part of the ministry from the beginning. She had taken a few workshops aimed at teaching literacy at the adult education center, but then church staff wife Charlene Ray said, "Let's start something at church," she recalled.

At first, the International Fellowship ministered to a large group of Laotians and Cambodians moving to the area from refugee camps. "They had no concept of what a supermarket was," Johnson remembered. The group had few familiarities with middle class America.

"There was lots of one-on-one," Harris said. Then as they became more acclimated to America, they got jobs and moved on to join relatives in other parts of the country.

Other language groups during the years have been Hispanic and Bosnian. Now the group is primarily Japanese, ranging in size from 12 to 15. The group will begin meeting again in September, running ads in the newspaper and asking the women to bring friends. Babysitting is provided through the church's day care center.

Johnson said she got involved in the ministry 10 years ago because she was struck by the possibilities of reaching out to internationals who might be uncomfortable in the United States.

Second Centrifuge camp for children's homes youth 'blessed'

CAMPBELLSVILLE—Four months after the death of her mother, Christina became a Christian during the recent Centrifuge camp for the youth of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

"The anger is still there," she said. "But it is easier to handle with him (God) than without him."

This year's camp follows the 1997 pilot project between Centrifuge, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children and Campbellsville University—all of whom consider it a success.

Following a dream to make the youth camp accessible to kids in crisis, Centrifuge staff donated their time and energy to the week of Bible study, recreation and worship for approximately 75 young people.

Campbellsville University also donated the use of its facilities to make the camp available to KBHC youth.

"Here I'm not picked out of the crowd because I'm different," Chris-

tina said. "Here, I'm part of the crowd. Some of the kids here have been through similar situations. There's always someone to pray with you."

Amanda McKinney, a native of Greensburg and an office manager in Bowling Green, was part of the all-volunteer Centrifuge staff. "This is my vacation and I'm totally made fun of by people when they hear how I'm using it, but this is when I'm the happiest."

"There is such a need to present Christ to these kids," said McKinney, who also was on the 1997 staff. "There's no other situation I could go to and have this opportunity."

Kevin Slemp, who volunteered to be pastor at the camp, said some of the issues that KBHC kids are dealing with "just breaks your heart."

"They want to know why unfair things have happened to them. The most important thing is that they see us being real, worshipping a real God in real situations," he said.

Mike Dixon, vice president for religious life at KBHC, said the staff taught youth how to worship.

"We had kids make professions of faith, but they also came down front to pray and to pray for others," Dixon said.

"This week is about letting kids do things they've never done before—giving them an opportunity to be a kid," he added. "This camp proves that providing good, solid, positive activities works. It reinforces positive behaviors in our youth, and it gives our staff and other adults a chance to say, 'way to go' to kids who need that encouragement."

Brenda Gray, KBHC vice president for development and communications, said the children's agency has been "blessed" with the partnership.

"We are grateful for their willingness to give so much to our kids. We are also thankful to our supporters from across the state who raised money to cover the costs of the week."



GETTING A CLUE Phillip Gasser of Nashville gives a hint on solving a giant puzzle to a young man attending the Centrifuge camp for youth in the care of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. The camp was held at Campbellsville University.

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

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Calvinist confusion

Now let's get this straight. According to an article in the Western Recorder (Aug. 11, page 2), a speaker at the recent Southern Baptist Calvinist conference said, "Yet if that person ... does not preach expositionally, he will never preach more than he already knows." How does any preacher preach more than he/she already knows, whether declaiming expositionally or standing on one leg?

Such is just one rational question raised by the logic of the five-point Calvinists, who apparently spent four days genuflecting before the altar of predestination, foreordination, the good luck of the elect and the opportunity of non-think. Some may know less than they already preach.

The Western Recorder stated that a seminary president called attention to the dangerous "postmodern outlook which sees the truths of the Bible as hinging upon personal interpretation rather than upon the meaning intended by the biblical authors." He feels, apparently, that Calvin defined that biblical meaning and no one, including himself, should have done any thinking (personal interpretation) since Calvin died in 1564.

The seminary president also said that "reformation in our churches ... is not going to come by the wholesale adoption of any theological system." This means, of course, that he does not consider Calvinism a theological system, since he undoubtedly would urge it on any church; but, since he has adopted it anyhow, it must be something. What? And if it is not a theological system, then obviously it should not be taught at a theological seminary. So, what else is new?

According to the latest statistics, Southern Baptist work is expanding, realizing more financial support and reaching people. This means that the rank-and-file pay no attention to this handful of Calvinist elitists. Attempt-

Calvin bashing

Who ever would have believed that at the end of the 20th century Baptists would be insulting each other with the epithet "Calvinist!" like Senator Joe McCarthy at mid-century hurled the charge of "communist" at everyone he despised? It is enough to make the angels weep.

It is not all that unusual for Baptists to be calling each other ugly names. Sadly, that has been a family trait in most of our turbulent history. It is a practice which repels the very people we would like to reach with the biblical message, and surely it is a practice which most Baptists deplore.

But the real irony is that all Baptists are some kind of "Calvinist." We are certainly not "followers" or "disciples" of John Calvin of Geneva, but his writings influenced early English and European Baptists more than any other theologian. Baptists never really agreed on exactly what Calvin had written, and neither has any other denomination. Like Peter said of Paul, "He has written many things which are hard to understand."

Both wings of the English Baptist movement, the so-called Particular and General Baptists, were deeply in-

ing to evangelize people whose destinies God has been already decided ... well ... why bother?

James L. Clark
Lexington

Six steps behind

When I was a young girl there was a certain man and wife in our small community who walked everywhere they went. As they walked, the wife was always six steps behind her husband. Was she "graciously submitting to the leadership of her husband?"

James 4:7 says, "Submit yourselves to God." Why all the controversy over the question of submission? My husband is leader in our home, and Christ is Lord. God made us one. I am his helpmate. He loves and respects me. He's a godly example to his family, a good provider. He doesn't require me to walk six steps behind. We work together, sharing responsibilities.

I am treated as an equal, not as one under his authority. I am not his possession. I am Christ's.

I support my husband in the work God has gifted him to do. He encourages me to obey God's call on my life. Together, using our God-given abilities and gifts, we serve our Lord in our home, at work, in our community and in his church.

Christians need to understand that Satan, "the great deceiver and father of lies," distorts truth. He is at work causing division in families and in Christ's church, using every device to divert our attention from the perfect will of God. Are we true disciples of Christ, willing "to deny self, take up our cross daily and follow him?"

In society today, there is no respect for human life. No respect for authority—God's. In the beginning, God made rules. Satan deceived Adam and

Eve. They disregarded God's authority in their lives. Read Matthew 22:29.

Dear Christian friends, we have the great privilege of walking with God. Are we missing God's greatest blessings because we choose to walk six steps behind?

Delores Morrison
Olive Hill

Russian thanks

On July 15-28, 1998, I was privileged to be part of a mission team working in Tikhvin, Russia. The first Sunday we were there, part of our team participated in the worship service in the town of Shergoza. After the worship service was over, a lady named Antina came to me. She said, "I want to send greetings from our church to your church and all the churches in Kentucky that participated in the Kentucky/Russia Baptist partnership. I want to send God's blessings to all

the churches that participated. I want to say 'thanks' to all the churches and to anyone else who had anything to do with the Kentucky/Russia Baptist partnership. You see, it was your people's money (Kentucky Baptists) that bought this House of Prayer for us."

I assured her we were glad to do this for the Russian believers and that I would convey her thanks to everyone. She was a very happy and thankful lady. I felt the best way to convey this to everyone would be by way of the Western Recorder. The House of Prayer was a dwelling house converted into a large room for worship services. God's Spirit was great there that day. In the four trips I have made to Russia, I have seen many people who were very thankful for what Kentucky Baptists have done for them.

Rodney Willis
Falls of Rough

We're all sinners

I voted for President Clinton twice and like many of the things he has done for our country as president. I am very disappointed in how he has hurt our country and put his presidency in jeopardy by engaging in immoral sexual behavior with a White House intern.

I voted for him because I believe he genuinely cares about America's well-being and has a special place in his heart for the poor, the threatened, endangered middle class and discriminated-against minorities. With the exception of Jimmy Carter, no president of the past 30 years has had much concern for the least of our brothers and sisters.

Another troubling aspect has been the unabated attempt of the Republican right-wing, from day one of Clinton's presidency, to destroy him. That is no excuse for his sexual sins, but many of his enemies are guilty of much bearing of false witness against the president.

We are all sinners in need of daily redemption.

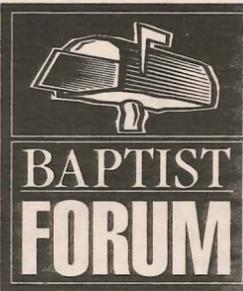
Jesus said, "Anyone who even looks at a woman with lust in his eye has already committed adultery with her in his heart." I believe in forgiveness. We cannot be forgiven of our sins if we are unwilling to forgive others.

The moral crisis in America involves all of us, not just President Clinton. How well are we as individual citizens obeying the Commandments, doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with our God?

I forgive the president for his sexual transgressions.

Like the woman Jesus encountered at the well, Jesus might say to President Clinton and to all of us, "Your sins are forgiven; go and sin no more."

Paul L. Whiteley Sr.
Louisville



Their most cherished belief is the freedom to confess their faith voluntarily and seek fellowship with, and learn from, brothers and sisters who share their convictions. Creeds usually have become instruments of enslavement, and their authors always have subjected the words of Scripture to their own theological statements when it came to the issue of control over the faithful.

More shocking to me than the "Calvin bashing" is the careless way in which so many people called Baptists have forfeited their biblical right and responsibility to "give an account of themselves unto God." How can they be Baptist and pass that sacred responsibility on to their leaders?

When Calvin stood at the stake prepared for the flame, he demanded that Servetus use Calvin's words to define the Holy Trinity: "Una substantia—tres personae" (which in Latin means "one substance in three persons") and "Mia Ousia kata Treis Hupostaseis" (which in Greek means "one essence in three hypostases.")

COMMENTARY



Wayne Ward

influenced by the theology of John Calvin. But Baptists could hardly be loyal followers of Calvin and Luther when they remembered that those two great reformers led in killing tens of thousands of their European Anabaptist cousins—many times more than the Pope ever thought of killing—because they would not accept the creeds or the ecclesiastical authority of Luther, Calvin or Zwingli.

Early English Baptist leaders knew Calvin had recovered and brilliantly articulated the great biblical doctrines of election, sin, grace and redemption, like a kind of Apostle Paul in their own time. However, it was not Calvin, but Scripture, which claimed the hearts and minds of the people called Baptists. They grew more and more suspicious of the great reformers when they realized these leaders were sacrificing the Scriptures in order to impose creeds which would enhance their power and control over their followers.

Until recently, Baptists have been unwilling to impose creeds on anyone.

Neither Calvin nor any other theologian ever has been able to explain exactly what that orthodox formula really means. Servetus insisted upon using the biblical language: Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

For Calvin, as for all other theologians enamored of their own creedal formulae, the language of "Scripture alone" was not good enough. He burned Servetus "to the glory of God." A Bible-loving believer died with the words of Holy Scripture on his lips.

We are outraged that Calvin and his contemporaries could burn Bible-believing followers of Christ for rejecting their creeds. Those were bitter and cruel days. For the most part, the days of burning heretics are only a nightmare from the past.

But when I see dedicated Christians who have spent their lives studying, teaching and living the Holy Scriptures hounded from their calling, their reputations smeared and their careers destroyed, I am forced to consider: Is it better to end their suffering in a few agonizing moments of smoke and flame, or send them limping to their grave with heartbreaking suffering which never ends?

Wayne Ward is a retired professor of Christian theology from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville

HE SAID/SHE SAID

Life would be sweeter without the challenge of cereal boxes



Mark Wingfield

This is a problem only Jerry Seinfeld could truly appreciate: Cereal boxes are making my life difficult.

You'd think if we could put a man on the moon somebody could make cereal box liners that don't rip unevenly when you open them for the first time.

Has this ever happened to you? The seal on the liner of my favorite cereal, Grape Nuts, is glued so strongly that when you pry apart the two wing flaps they usually tear sideways rather than

straight. That means you have an uneven spout from which to pour the cereal—and the problem persists for the life of that whole box of cereal.

So rather than all the cereal going into the bowl, a portion of it falls back into the box, into that never-never land between the box and the liner. By the time you get to the bottom of the box, that stuff is stale and gross.

This drives me crazy. But maybe the threshold for driving a person crazy is lower at breakfast anyway.

I was amused the other day, however, when Alison was having the same problem pouring cereal from the box. Knowing that usually I'm the neat one and she's the neat-challenged one, when she saw me struggling to pour the cereal later, she apologized. She assumed she had messed up the cereal box.

I hesitated a moment before finally admitting that it was I who had ripped the cereal box liner this time, not her.

So there we stood, equal in fumble-fingeredness. The only difference was that I was much more frustrated than her. It's hard for a perfectionist to admit he's been defeated by a little box of cereal.



Alison Wingfield

I might be messy, but Mark is not always Mr. Neat and Tidy either.

We all make cereal mistakes. When Mark's parents visited us recently, his mom accidentally opened a cereal box on the wrong end. His dad taped the box back, but unfortunately the inside wrapper was slightly open on the wrong end also. So everytime I shook or poured the box, some of the cereal ended up outside the wrapper in the box.

Opening cereal boxes is not my main problem, though. Persuading the boys that we don't need every single thing offered on cereal boxes is a much more difficult task.

I felt like we were living out an episode from the comic strip Calvin and Hobbes when the boys began devouring a particular cereal so they could send off for basketballs and jerseys (with quite a bit of extra money in addition to three UPCs each). I never talked them out of sending off for the items (they said they would use their own money when I told them it was too expensive), but luckily they got tired of that cereal before they could eat enough boxes of it. And another cereal offer is always around the corner.

To think I was excited when they started reading.

The other cereal challenge is what kind of cereal we're going to buy out of the hundreds on the store shelf. I'm fairly hard-nosed when it comes to junky cereals. If sugar is the second (or first) ingredient, I generally don't buy it. But they keep trying. I guess they hope I'll break down one of these days and buy Reese's Peanut Butter Cup cereal for them. Luke's latest ploy was to tell me he would eat it for snacks and dessert instead of breakfast.

The way Christian-themed products get marketed today, I'm surprised someone hasn't created a special cereal to sell in Christian stores. If you've got the money to produce it, I've got the name: "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus." Just think of the natural tie-ins for annoying musical gadgets in every box.

When is 'the truth' not the truth?

"The president will tell the truth," one of his advisers announced prior to last week's grand jury testimony. Asked what that meant, the adviser explained, "The truth is the truth."

Several days later, we now know "the truth" isn't always the truth.

The "truth" President Clinton purported to tell the American public several months ago—wagging his finger in the air to emphasize his resolve—is not the same "truth" he was forced to tell the grand jury last week. Nor is it the same "truth" he went on national television to tell the American public later that night.

Is this an impeachable offense? Congress will have to sort that out.

But what should be clear to the average citizen is that we've come to the sad day when the public evaluates issues by what's legal (in the most technical language possible) rather than by what's truthful. Retaining an office, winning an office, keeping power in a certain party—all have become superior to the importance of telling the truth even if it hurts.

There are no "good guys" in the current White House scandal. The whole tawdry mess is filled with self-serving, immoral behavior driven by political ambition.

I have had no use over the past six years for the religious and political zealots who have hounded the private lives of Bill and Hillary Clinton like ticks on a dog. They have been self-serving, power-hungry, unethical buzzards. And up until this point, they have done more to undermine the presidency and democracy than the president.

I have editorialized in the past against those who have shown reckless disrespect for the office of the president. The point I tried to make was right in principle, but the president has proved me wrong in practice.

For the president to have had illicit sexual relations with Monica Lewinsky is wrong. It's also stupid. But that pales in comparison to compounding the sin by refusing to own up to it, blatantly lying about it and then refusing to accept full responsibility for having lied.

By my count, that's two of the Ten Commandments broken, and we're still warming up.

Sure, no one is perfect. And yes, we've all been caught in lies of one sort or another. Someone suggested the other day that if every politician who ever told a lie was run out of office, Washington would be empty.

Yes, and maybe we'd all be better off for it.

And let's admit that lies aren't a problem only in Washington. Church leaders, denominational figures and Christian laypeople in the workplace have brought shame to our faith by lack of honesty at times.

From a Christian perspective, the situation the president finds himself in is similar to that of a minister who commits adultery and lies about it when confronted.

Trust with the congregation is broken, moral authority is lost and a separation must occur for healing to take place.

Granted, the president isn't a pastor, but the same relational issues are involved in these similar positions of trust. And the same moral code applies to pastors, laypeople and presidents alike.

For the president to argue that his current problem is a private matter is deceptive and a further departure from truth. What might have started out as a private matter became a highly public matter when the president went on national TV to declare his innocence while knowing in his heart he was lying.

In reality, truth matters. Not just the made-up, carefully scripted technical "truth" we all want to rely on when caught with our pants down. The defense of truth is a bedrock foundation of our civil society, as well as of our faith. Whether we fail or not, the standard must be upheld.

That's why the president's latest behavior is so profoundly disturbing. And it's why the American public's apathetic desire to just forget about the whole sordid episode is equally disturbing.

Our faith teaches that forgiveness is possible when sin has occurred. But forgiveness requires confession, a contrite heart—and honesty. That is exactly what we have not seen from the president.

The message being sent from the White House to our children—and to adults as well who are struggling to make ethical decisions every day—is that you can lie and get away with it, that there really is no consequence for sin.

Christians—and fellow Southern Baptists especially—should be ready to embrace the president with the forgiving arms of God's love. But that cannot be done until the president fully owns up to his sin and acknowledges that sin has consequences. That is when the truth will set us all free.

— Mark Wingfield

When will these things happen?

By Mark Hopper

"Teacher, they asked, 'when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?'" (Luke 21:7)

A large digital clock has been erected in a prominent place in Dallas. Its purpose: Countdown to the millennium.

As we approach the end of this century, people everywhere already are asking again the ancient question the disciples put to Jesus: "When will the end come and what are the signs of its coming?"

Like the disciples, we too want certainty when it comes to understanding the future. We seek clarity and knowledge that we think will comfort and sustain us as we face the unknown. Indeed, "when will these things be?"

As Jesus answers the disciples' concern about the future and the end of history, he notes that historical events are surrounded by the larger cosmic and eternal purposes of God. Jesus always

sets what is going on in the world (for us, terrorist bombings, an Asian economic crisis, political scandal in high places) within the context of what is really going on in the divine purpose of God.

There will be those who in moments of crisis claim to be special agents of God, even to be the Messiah himself. There will be wars and natural catastrophes. There even will be divine signs in heaven and great suffering that falls upon the people of God.

And in all of this, believers cling to the tenacity of faith and hope amid painful and prolonged suffering. Faith in God's purpose for history and the end of the age finds expression in being faithful witnesses to God and God's coming kingdom. Such obedient faith stands firm against the cynic who mocks the faithful, saying, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things have continued as they were from the beginning of creation" (2 Peter 3:4).

Disciples are not those who become

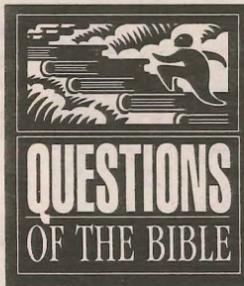
preoccupied with end-time speculations and live fearful, terrified lives. Neither are disciples of Christ to be led astray by those who claim to have searched the divine mysteries and discovered the time and place of the end of the age. The important thing for us is to keep in mind that before the end there is to be a time of witnessing to the world about God's redemptive love.

Calculations of chronological time do not lead us to knowledge of the fulfillment of God's time. Jesus says that faithfulness and endurance under threat, under arrest and under penalty of death are the qualities of disciples during this time of witnessing. After all is said and done, the disciple's life is not one of speculation but one of behavior and relationships and faithful witnessing.

The end is coming. When? Only God knows. But because history will come to a conclusion in God's good time, we resist despair and cynicism and portents of doom. The reality of the end of the age keeps us in spiritual shape leading us to lives of faithful conduct and hope. Let the clocks run, for Jesus is Lord!



Mark Hopper is pastor of First Baptist Church of Bowling Green



RESOURCES

This week's questions:

- How do I teach my 14-year-old son to respect me enough not to "go off" at me?
- What suggestions do you have for working couples who wish to share housekeeping responsibilities?

Q. How do I teach my 14-year-old son to respect me enough not to "go off" at me? He yells and gets red in the face if I forget to do something or if I am late to pick him up from ball practice.

Your son has not learned to express his anger in a positive way. Where did he learn? Perhaps from a friend, the TV or even someone in the family. The first step is to address the situation in the other person. Ask him how it looks when someone else loses their temper. See if he knows that he does the same.

Next, teach him better ways to "be angry, but sin not" (Ephesians 4:26). Begin by acknowledging that you make mistakes and that it is normal for people to get peeved, upset, irritated, disappointed, frustrated or even plain mad. His feelings are typical for someone who gets stood up or is picked up late.

However, it is not ordinary for a person to lose it like he does. He needs to get control of himself and tame down the expressions of his anger. You might suggest that he begin with something like, "I am upset with you because..." Let him speak his mind, so long as he is somewhat in control. Listen and seek to resolve the situations if at all

possible. If he learns that calmly talking out his anger will lead to positive change, then he will likely learn to use that approach. — *Wade Rowatt*

Q. What suggestions do you have for working couples who wish to share housekeeping responsibilities?



Start by making a list of all the responsibilities you will be sharing, including how often each task needs to be repeated and how much time each task requires. This will help you make a fair, workable division of labor. The following are several things you might keep in mind when dividing responsibilities.

■ Each of you will have a stronger liking/disliking for some chores than others. To the extent that you each can be responsible for the tasks that you find least unpleasant, you will probably be happier with your arrangement. Knowing what you like and dislike and talking openly about this is important.

■ Obviously, there may be some chores which neither of you finds agreeable. Those tasks should be divided as evenly as possible and rotated every so often so no one person always has to do the most unpleasant work.

■ Do not feel you must maintain traditional gender roles in terms of who does what. For instance, traditionally women do most of the cooking, yet some women don't enjoy cooking at all. Some husbands, on the other hand, might be quite good in the kitchen and wouldn't mind cooking more if they didn't have to always be the one to mow the grass. Develop roles that work for you rather than blindly accepting roles that may be less functional for your household.

■ Keep in mind the timing of tasks as well. If you are a late-night person, you might want to take responsibility for things that can be done after everyone else is in bed (folding clothes instead of vacuuming the bedrooms).

■ After you work your schedule for a few weeks, discuss how it is going, what works for you and what doesn't so you can make necessary changes. Be willing to work with your schedule to make it work for you. — *Susan Howell*

Family Forum writers are David Garrard, minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville; James Stillwell, minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington; Susan Howell, assistant professor of psychology at Campbellsville University; Wade Rowatt, director of the St. Matthews Pastoral Counseling Center in Louisville; and Al Shackelford, editor of Mature Living magazine. Send questions for Family Forum to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253 or e-mail us at wesrec@ntr.net.

ESTATE

State inheritance tax law has changed

By Laurie Valentine

July 1998 not only brought the hottest weather we've had this summer, but also an important change to the Kentucky inheritance laws and helpful changes to Kentucky

Revenue Cabinet policy.

■ **Kentucky Inheritance Tax Change.** In 1995 the Kentucky General Assembly changed the inheritance tax laws to provide for a 100 percent exemption from Kentucky inheritance taxes for your children (natural, adopted and step), your grandchildren, your parents, your brothers and sisters, and your half-brothers and half-sisters (known collectively as "Class A beneficiaries" under the law).

The increase in the exemption was phased-in, in 25 percent increments, over a four-year period. As of July 1, 1998, the phase-in was complete. Now, 100 percent of what your children, grandchildren, parents, brothers, sisters, half-brothers and half-sisters inherit from you is exempt from Kentucky inheritance taxes, no matter what the value.

A 100 percent exemption has applied to what a qualified charity, such as your church, association or our Kentucky Baptist agencies and institutions, inherits from you since 1954. Spouses have been totally exempt from Kentucky inheritance taxes since 1985.

Amounts inherited by your nephews, nieces, aunts, uncles, in-laws, great-grandchildren, cousins and friends are still subject to Kentucky inheritance taxes.

■ **Safe deposit boxes and assets no longer "frozen" at death.** As a result of the phase-out of inheritance tax on Class A beneficiaries, the Kentucky Revenue Cabinet has changed its policy regarding the "freezing" of safe deposit boxes, bank accounts and other assets at your death.

As of July 1, 1998, the Kentucky Revenue Cabinet no longer requires that your safe deposit box be inventoried in the presence of a Kentucky Revenue Cabinet or PVA representative before assets may be removed after your death. There also is no longer a requirement that written consent be obtained from the Revenue Cabinet before bank accounts and other assets can be transferred at your death. Prior to these changes, not even a surviving spouse who was a joint box holder or account holder could have immediate access.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

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Leader seeks results, not praise

LEXINGTON—People at Trinity Baptist Church can't remember a time when vacation Bible school wasn't big and when Helen Brown wasn't involved in the massive event.

"Although we're far from being the largest church, I believe that we have the largest vacation Bible school in the Elkhorn association," said Edwin Smith, a former interim pastor for the church.

"She is the prime mover behind all of this and has the ability to engage others in her vision and we all get excited about vacation Bible school," he continued.

This year, the church sponsored Bible school at five sites. Brown estimated that she recruited a staff of 125 teachers and leaders, but she's not looking for praise.

Rather Brown, the widow of former pastor Bob Brown, is looking to keep attendance up in a time when she says churches are having a harder time getting people interested in church activities.

"I just think it takes a lot of hard work to do anything related to the church," she said. "My goal is to build my church in whatever way it takes to do the best we can spreading God's love."

About 10 years ago, the church began taking vacation Bible school to nursing homes and a center for handicapped adults, she said.

This year, they added a session at First Baptist Church of Lexington,



BUSY TIME Trinity Baptist Church used 125 people to staff its five vacation Bible schools this summer.

ton, a struggling inner-city congregation.

The five sessions had a total enrollment of 415 people. But Brown estimated that's down about 200 people from 10 years ago.

Brown said she's neither an optimist nor a pessimist about the future of such work. "I just want to build my church to be the best that it can do the Lord's work," she said.

Trinity has done away with a Sunday night commencement service and instead offers a carnival with the theme of that year's Bible school. "This is probably the biggest gathering of our church family for the year," she said.

Brown said the church response to working at vacation Bible school is "wonderful."

"The biggest thing they say to me is 'We'll look forward to next year.' And that's saying a whole lot," she said.

Year-round school affects Bible school attendance

By Suzanne Darland
State Correspondent

ELIZABETHTOWN—For Kentucky Baptist churches, it was a full summer: mission trips, Bible school, day camps and special activities. And for a number of churches, it also was short.

Almost 25 school systems around the state have gone to a year-round format, with many others going to some kind of modified calendar. The result: many students got out in mid-June and went back to school early in August.

And while most churches around the state reported good attendance for summer programs like vacation Bible school, others wondered whether the short summer could have caused their drop in numbers.

With only six weeks or so for summer vacation, churches may have lost out as families packed a trip, camp and other activities into that short time.

Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown was down about 200 from their usual 1,000 enrollment, and Immanuel Baptist was down as well. Rose Hill and First Baptist, both in Ashland, reported attendance figures down "20 or 30" from usual enrollments of 300 to 400, as did First Baptist

Church in Albany. All are in counties whose school systems have gone to a year-round format.

One solution might be to offer Bible school at times other than summer breaks, suggests Wendy Dever, the preschool associate for the Sunday School division of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

"You could have Bible school quarterly," she said. "During every break parents are looking for activities for their children."

Donna Wilson, secretary at Elkhorn Baptist Church in Campbellsville, said her church talked about having vacation Bible school during the schools' two-week fall break this October. A Christian church in their area already plans to do that.

Dever said churches could offer Bible school in the mornings and have youth or college helpers assist with afternoon activities like visiting a nursing home or going mini-golfing.

"What a great ministry to parents to have something for the children all day when they're out of school" during fall, winter and spring breaks, she said.

Dever said children's curriculum like "Anytime, Anywhere" and "Adventure Zone" could be adapted for such non-traditional Bible schools.

With only six weeks or so for summer vacation, churches may have lost out as families packed a trip, camp and other activities into that short time.



SPACESHIP MIRTH
Vacation Bible school leaders at First Baptist Church of Scottsdale stand beside a model spaceship built for the occasion. From left: Ken Goforth, Reba Price and Pastor Floyd Price.

Organizer proves reaching kids leads to parents

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

WHITESBURG—There's an eternal reason Ann Baker is such an avid supporter of vacation Bible school.

Her daughter, Mossie, attended a summer session, and that was the original link for her baptism at First Baptist Church of Whitesburg.

The day Mossie was baptized, Baker also accepted Jesus as her personal Savior.

"When you reach children, you're going to reach the parents," said Baker, a veteran teacher who became director two years ago. "That's why it's so important."

Pastor Tony Brown called Baker an "enthusiastic organizer."

"She's sold on VBS making a difference in people's lives because she's a product of it," he said. "She goes after people and gets the community involved. She will spend hours here putting things together."

That time went into preparing not one, but six Bible schools this summer—after she led a training workshop for Three Forks Baptist Association in May.

The week of First Baptist's evening classes, she led a daytime event for the church's day care students. And she organized three others at missions supported by First Baptist.

In addition, she directed a mission youth group that conducted a vacation Bible school in southern Indiana.

Brown lauds Baker for lining up

five dozen teachers by early spring, but Baker shrugs off any personal acclaim. She sees her position as a call from God after the church didn't replace its minister of education two years ago.

There's no secret to her effectiveness, she said, other than prayer. Ask God for guidance, acknowledge his control and believe he will give you the strength, she added.

"I don't believe you should wait until May to start planning," said Baker. "You should be praying for Bible school year-round. I should be praying now for people who will be teaching, children who will attend and their parents."

She carries out this preparation in other ways. After learning this year's theme was "Star Quest: A Galactic Good News Adventure," she began scouting for materials.

When her husband, Charlie (who taught third graders), saw an inflatable space shuttle model hanging in a gasoline station, he convinced personnel to give it to him. Painting over the logo with "John 3:16," he used it as a classroom decoration.

"You have to get excited about it and tell your friends," she said. "They tell their friends and pretty soon everybody is excited."

This early start helps energize the staff, said Kathleen Waddles, who serves on the vacation Bible school committee and teaches fourth graders.

"She believes in Bible school and I think that comes across," said Wad-

dles, who also teaches elementary school. "She doesn't bug you. She acts like it will be exciting to do and you can do your part, whether it's on the bus route, on recreation or in the kitchen."

Community outreach is an important part of First Baptist's vacation Bible schools, since this eastern Kentucky area is a stronghold for Old Regular Baptists.

The denomination teaches only adults can be saved, so few children are permitted to get baptized, said Baker, whose parents were Old Regular Baptist.

By early August, of 50 decisions registered for Christ at VBS, only two had followed through with baptism.

"I think we are reaching a lot of children who never would have come into the church otherwise," said Brown.

Because both their sets of parents were Old Regular Baptists, the Bakers struggled with the conflict between their background and Southern Baptist teachings.

But when their daughter decided to join First Baptist, it marked a significant day for the family. Within 18 months of Mossie's decision, the Bakers and their two adopted children all were baptized.

Mossie died in April 1989 while driving home from Southeastern Community College in Cumberland. Baker says that without vacation Bible school, she would have no hope for a reunion one day in heaven.



Religious leaders mixed in reaction to Clinton scandal



"We've cried a lot, prayed and prayed for him and Hillary."
Wayne Ward

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Religious leaders were divided in early reactions to President Bill Clinton's admission to an inappropriate relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

Generally, leaders of the Religious Right, who in the past have differed with Clinton's policies, called on the president to resign in the wake of the scandal. Many Clinton supporters in the religious community, meanwhile, called for understanding and support.

But among those saying the president should resign is Louisville's Wayne Ward, a longtime Clinton friend and interim pastor at Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock, Ark., while Clinton was governor.

"I feel like it would be good to remove his family and himself from the eye of the storm," Ward told the Louisville Courier-Journal. "I just know with the turmoil he's been through, it would be good."

Ward, 77, a retired professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, said he stood by Clinton during the scandal, hoping it would prove to be just a vicious rumor. "We kept hoping maybe that it wasn't true," Ward said. "We've cried a lot, prayed and prayed for him and Hillary."

In January, when rumors of the affair broke, Ward said he faxed Clinton, saying, "Bill, if it's true, then say it to God, Hillary and the American people and let them handle it."

"And I said, 'If you're not guilty, then please fight it with all you've got, and we'll stand by you,'" Ward recalled.

In a televised speech Aug. 17, Clinton confessed to an inappropriate relationship with Lewinsky, and to misleading the public and his family about it.

But the president insisted he did not break the law when he earlier denied under oath that he had a sexual relationship with the former White House intern. He also called for an end to a 4-year-old independent counsel investigation which Clinton said has pried into his private life.

While opinion polls immediately after the speech indicated most Americans were satisfied with Clinton's remarks and believed he should continue as president, his criticism of the Starr investigation did not sit well in conservative political circles or with some clergy.

Rob Schenk, general secretary of the National Clergy Council, accused Clinton of "blame shifting" by drawing focus to the Starr investigation. "When one makes a confession of this nature, there is room for only one in the confession," he said. "To bring anyone else in the conversation at that point is to engage in blame shifting."

The clergy group sponsored a press conference and roundtable discussion Aug. 18.

Another panel participant, Richard Land, executive director of the Southern Baptist Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, described Clinton's address as "more combative than contrite, more angry than apologetic and more concession than confession."

"The president missed an enormous opportunity in his address to the nation," Land said. "Instead of drawing us together, President Clinton polarized the nation anew with his short and insufficient address."

Patrick Mahoney, director of the Christian Defense Coalition, an anti-abortion group based in Washington, agreed, pointing out that Clinton said "it was wrong" rather than "I was

wrong."

"I did not hear Christian words such as forgiveness, apology or sorrow," said Mahoney.

But Barry Lynn, a United Church of Christ minister and executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, disagreed.

"I think he did, in fact, apologize to the American people," said Lynn. "I think he made it clear that the healing process with his family is continuing and I think it is time for us to move on to the national healing."

Southern Baptist Convention President Paige Patterson said the president's statement reflected the "obvious materialism and moral decadence of America."

"To the president, I urge, look to Jesus for forgiveness, and you have our prayers," said Patterson, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. "To Americans who say that the economy is all that matters, I simply remind you that God judges nations when they abandon his moral principles."

Other clergy, however, offered support for Clinton. Joan Brown Campbell, general secretary of the National Council of Churches, issued a "pastoral response" indicating "sadness" about "human frailty" and belief in a God who "judges with unclouded vision and responds with understanding love—a model for our human lives."

"Our long experience in pastoral care has taught us the wisdom of protecting personal life from public display," Campbell said. "I hope that, as a nation, we are now learning that truth."

Welton Gaddy, executive director of the Interfaith Alliance, urged reli-

gious leaders "not to play politics with personal or public tragedy and to refrain from arrogant and self-righteous judgment."

"Our scriptural prophets and messengers remind us that every occasion of sin is an opportunity for an experience of mercy," said Gaddy, an ordained Baptist minister.

Robert Parham, executive director of the Baptist Center for Ethics, took a middle position. He chastised Clinton, saying the president "has cast away his moral authority" with "reckless personal behavior and abuse of power."

Instead of simply throwing stones, however, Parham said Christians should set an example for the nation by praying for the Clintons and others hurt in the process.

Parham said "difficult questions" must now be faced about Clinton's future ability to lead. He challenged Christian leaders to exercise "moral discernment" by evaluating in non-partisan and realistic ways whether Clinton "can recover the moral authority of the presidency."

Rex Horne, Immanuel's current pastor, was unavailable for comment immediately following Clinton's speech, according to a spokesperson.

In a television interview before Clinton's speech, Philip Wogaman, senior minister of Foundry United Methodist Church in Washington, where the Clintons regularly worship, said Clinton had not done anything nearly as bad as when King David arranged the death of his lover Bathsheba's husband. "And King David, if I read my Bible correctly, was not impeached," Wogaman said.

With additional reporting by Baptist Press and Religion News Service.

Survey finds most people talk about their faith while at work

MINNEAPOLIS (RNS)—Most people engage in discussions about their faith while at work, according to a survey for Lutheran Brotherhood, the Minneapolis-based insurance company that serves Lutherans.

According to the survey, conducted by Yankelovich Partners, 70 percent of those surveyed said they talked about faith in the workplace. Half said such discussions take place at least once a month and 19 percent said they talk about religion with their coworkers at least once a year.

"Religion and work are important aspects of many people's lives," said David Rustad, Lutheran Brotherhood spokesman. "Since Americans spend so many hours at work, it's not surprising that conversations about religion crop up among co-workers."

The survey also found that women are twice as likely as men to discuss religion in the workplace more than once a month—29 percent to 15 percent.

And Americans in rural areas also are more likely to talk about religion at work than are those in the suburbs—28 percent to 17 percent.

People also often pray for career guidance, according to the survey.

It found that 55 percent have prayed for such guidance, with women again more likely than men to have prayed for help with job and career directions—64 percent to 47 percent.

Seventh-day Adventists respond to newspaper investigation

LOS ANGELES (RNS)—The Seventh-day Adventist Church, one of the fastest-growing religious movements in the world, is embroiled in controversy regarding its spending practices, control over local clergy and oversight of its global aid agency, the Los Angeles Times reported.

In a two-part series, the newspaper chronicled its findings concerning the 10-million-member church, whose world headquarters are in Silver Spring, Md.

The first part of the series reported the church is facing challenges as it grows while trying to maintain evangelical traditions.

"Where there once was strict obedience to the hierarchy of the multi-billion-dollar church, there is now sometimes grass-roots rebellion prompting firings of pastors who have challenged the status quo," the paper reported.

It cited several instances of pastors refusing to turn over a required 10 percent tithe to the larger church structure, leading to firings and the formation of independent churches. The report also said the church has drawn criticism for a 1996 document, "Total Commitment to God," requiring annual reports and outside

evaluations of church institutions to assess their adherence to spirituality standards.

The church placed a response to the first part of the series on its web site and on its fax service, stating that the article reflects the tensions of a growing church.

"Ongoing debates on a variety of topics illustrate the open attitude of the church's administration," the statement reads. "While there will always be some differences of opinion, the church strives to maintain fair and just procedures as would be expected from a Christian organization."

The statement said the church responded to requests for information from Times reporters for a 16-month period. It adds that much of the content of the article is "old news."

The second part of the series focused on the Adventist Development and Relief Agency and raised questions about the federally-funded efforts of the relief organization. It cited U.S. government audits that found documentation for millions of U.S. dollars was "inadequate or nonexistent."

The Times also quoted former church officials who acknowledged

the difficulty of separating its humanitarian aid from its missionary efforts abroad.

But church officials were quoted in the second day's article defending their overseas work overall.

Church President Robert Folkenberg called the relief agency "99.44 percent clean, like Ivory soap."

And Mario Ochoa, the agency's executive vice president, said, "An agency that is operating in a developing country is faced with all kinds of challenges to conduct its (fiscal and management) operations." Overall, he said, "we are doing ... an excellent job everywhere."

After the second article was printed, agency officials issued a statement rebutting the newspaper report.

"ADRA rejects the article by the LA Times as neither a factual account nor a legitimate criticism of its operation," the organization announced in a statement. "The LA Times reporters chose to present information in a way that misleads and encourages damaging conclusions."

The statement cited the most recent review of the relief agency's audit reports by the U.S. Agency for International Development, which found ADRA's programs met financial requirements.



Open My Eyes...

to Missions in Kentucky..

1998
Eliza Broadus
State Missions
Week of Prayer
September 13-20

YOU AND KENTUCKY MISSIONS

*Open our eyes, Lord,
 we want to see Jesus.
 we want to see through his
 eyes.*

*Open our eyes, Lord,
 to see the need and hurt
 around us.
 to see the homeless.
 to see the mentally ill.
 to see the poor.*

*Open our eyes, Lord
 to see the boy who cannot read
 or do math.
 to see the teen in trouble with
 the law.
 to see the man with an alcohol
 or drug habit.
 to see the child who needs day
 care.
 to see the new mother who
 feels inadequate.*

*Open our eyes, Lord,
 to see what is in our hands.
 to see what you want us to do.*

In the late 1940's, Freeda Harris saw with open eyes the needs around her in Eastern Kentucky. She began to meet those needs, one person or one group at a time.

Today Greg and Alice White-tree direct the ministry she started, the Freeda Harris Baptist Center in Lookout.

In 1914, some with open eyes saw a need in Louisville and enlisted others to begin the Baptist Fellowship Center. The aim of the center is to minister to the whole person physically, spiritually, emotionally, socially, and educationally. Today Dr. Johnnie Clark is the center's director.

In 1963, some with open eyes saw needs in Louisville and started the Jefferson Street Baptist Center. The center has changed aspects of its services through the years, but remains devoted to ministry to the homeless of downtown Louisville. Dr. Randall Harvey Jr. directs the work.

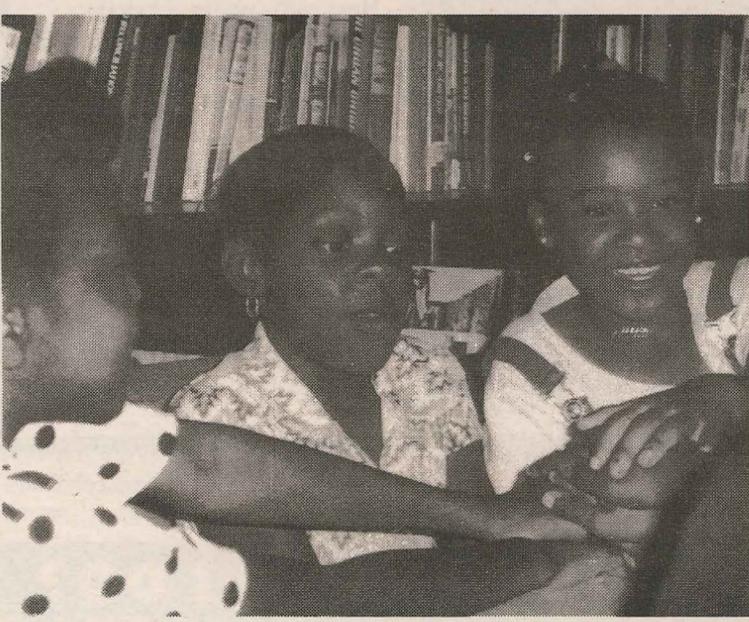
Open your eyes and look at these three centers. Let God open your heart as you see them as He sees them.

In Your Community

You may not be near any of these three mission centers. However these same needs exist in your own community. With a friend or two, take a prayerwalk or a prayerdrive through your town or community. What needs

did God show you? What has he put in your hands to meet those needs? Could some of the activities of these mission centers be duplicated in your area? Pray that God will open your eyes to the needs around you and enable you to share his love.

All the centers can use personal care items and they also may be needed by a facility in your community. Cleanliness may not be next to godliness, but a clean body and clean, combed hair do wonders for a person's self image. When personal care items are listed as a need, don't think of that as an easy way to fulfill you ministry obligations. Think of the crisp freshness after you brush your teeth. Think of a baby with a clean diaper. Think of a woman whose monthly need for intimate hygiene products is answered. Think of a man with a clean shaven face.



Looking Ahead: Dreams and Goals

- Freeda Harris Baptist Center:**
- To develop an expectant mothers' group.
 - To extend the clown ministry to nursing homes, hospitals, etc.
 - To provide more health screenings.
 - To have enough money to pay the increased utility bills.
 - To provide more help for men.
- Jefferson Street Baptist Center:**
- To expand meal service for the homeless.
 - To increase ministry to substance abusers.
 - To offer an Alcoholics for

- Christ program in addition to the existing Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous programs.
- To double to 28 the number of beds for the homeless.
- Baptist Fellowship Center:**
- To have operating computer labs.
 - To begin a gang and violence ministry.
 - To begin a substance abuse ministry.
 - To begin a health clinic.
 - To begin an AIDS ministry.

Eliza Broadus Offering Goal: \$750,000

Pat Bellinger, retired missionary to Ethiopia, prepared this state missions information.

This year the state missions materials profile three community centers in Kentucky and the ministries they offer. The Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions helps share the good news of Jesus with many

people across our commonwealth.

In addition to this information piece, your church has received a packet of material to help youth, children and preschoolers learn about missions in Kentucky. The packet includes a complete list of the allocations for the 1998 Eliza Broadus Offering for State Mis-

sions. You also may call the office of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union toll-free at (888) 254-5726 to receive the packet. The offering should be mailed to: Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433.



JUST CLOWNING AROUND

I opened my eyes and I saw ... a bright red, bulbous nose with a wide-painted grin just below it ... a wee sprig of a flower topping a cupcake of a hat perched on a mop of pink hair. Ah, a clown.

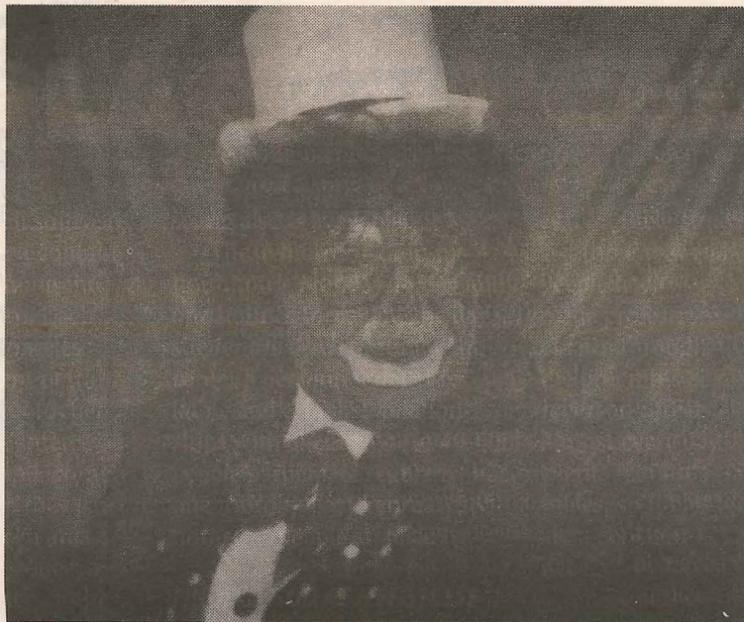
Children crowded around as the clown made balloon animals and did tricks.

What does a clown have to do with missions?

The Freeda Harris Baptist Center has a Clown Alley with a boss clown, Greg Whitetree, and seven "First of May" novices—Acteens who are learning to be clowns. The girls have been

learning to put on clown make-up and develop an individual clown wardrobe. In their first year they have performed in nearby churches — usually in vacation Bible schools, using clowning, music interpretation, puppets and ventriloquism. Now they want to extend their clown ministry to hospitals, nursing homes, schools and parades.

An interesting note is that none of the seven Acteens is a member of a Southern Baptist church. However, all of them have achieved the level of queen or higher in Studi-Act.



When he was a young boy, he was active in Big A Club, in backyard Bible club, in summer camps at the Freeda Harris Baptist Center in Look-out. But somewhere along the way, he began to hang out with a different group of boys and girls.

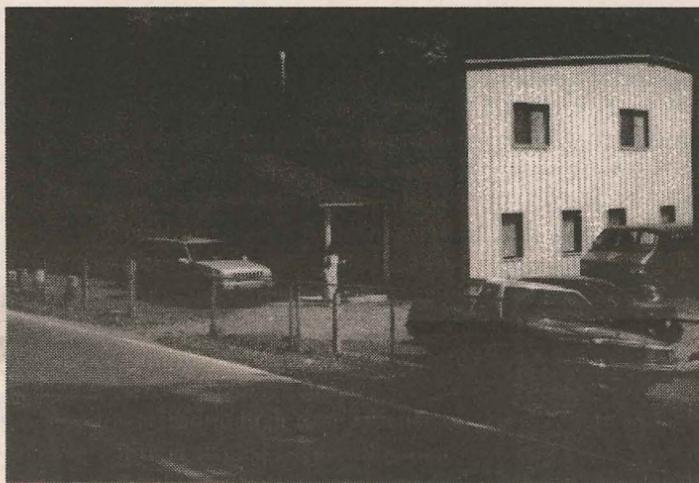
The result? This year he was sentenced to serve more than 100 years in prison for his role as one of five teens who killed members of a family in Tennessee.

The murders occurred just a few months before the center's gym opened. What if the gym had been open months earlier?

What if the boy had continued coming to the center like his cousin did? The cousin became a Christian and now helps with children's nights and Big A Clubs. What if basketball and Bible study had not been there for him?

Three nights a week men and boys 15 years of age and older come to the center to play

WHAT IF?



Freeda Harris Baptist Center gymnasium

basketball. The only other public gym is in the county seat town and costs \$5 per person to participate.

Now, at the center men and boys who previously whiled

away their time at activities that often led to alcohol and drug abuse play basketball. Friday and Saturday evenings are "no strings attached."

However, those who partici-

pate must attend a short Bible study in order to qualify to play later. When the gym first opened, many walked out; but now most stay. And lives have been changed.

Take Hoss, for example. He had been in and out of jail several times, was into drugs and alcohol—often getting "falling-down drunk," and was an unpleasant person to be around. He would leave the games when it was Bible study time, but began to stay in order to continue playing basketball.

During one Bible study, Hoss came under conviction. Later, at home he asked Christ into his life. He joined a church and now attends every revival.

"Anytime I don't have something to do, I read my Bible. I just love to read the Bible," he says.

His young niece says Hoss has become friendly and helpful, far different from the man he used to be.

THE FREEDA HARRIS CENTER: WHAT CAN I DO?

Pray for:

- Career missionaries Greg and Alice Whitetree.
- US-2 missionaries Martin and Rebecca Hogg.
- Volunteers from the community and from other areas.
- Children, youth and adults involved in activities and worship.

Give:

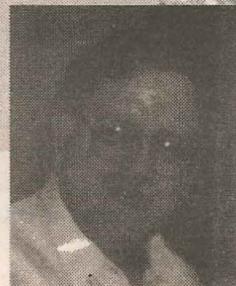
- Toys.
- Art materials such as crayons, paper and glue; ceramic supplies.
- Clothing.
- Sports equipment.

Do:

- Volunteer. Check with Directors Greg or Alice Whitetree to plug into volunteering with vacation Bible school, camps, music, drama, etc.



Alice Whitetree



Greg Whitetree

A PLACE TO CALL HOME

Sports bags, small suitcases and other labeled containers fill the shelves lining the walls of a small room. Each item belongs to a homeless person who is a client of the day shelter program of Jefferson Street Baptist Center.

Homeless men and women who sleep anywhere they can around the downtown area drop in for a cup of coffee, a shower and to change clothes. Some have jobs, but no place to live. The center provides a place to get ready for work and do laundry, receive mail and store possessions. Crisis coun-

seling also is available.

These morning drop-ins (four hours Monday-Friday and one hour Saturday) at the day shelter are great times for the center's personnel to get to know and establish relationships with clients. About 40-60 people participate regularly, but one morning last February, 85 homeless people stopped by.

FINDING GOD AT JEFF STREET

Each Sunday morning a Nigerian seminary student leads a worship service. Each Thursday evening, clients gath-

er for a Bible study. Over the last three years, about 30-50 people have made professions of faith through the programs at Jefferson Street. Almost every day clients request Bibles, so Bibles are a constant need.

Many of the professions of faith occurred when clients asked center staff members about their faith and how to know God.

Director Dr. Randall Harvey tells about stopping to talk to a



Dr. Randall Harvey

woman who seemed forlorn. She told him her frustrations and then said, "It seems I have been looking in the wrong places." When he asked what she meant by that, she replied that she felt she needed to know about God.

With that opening, Harvey presented the gospel to her and she received Christ.

OFFERING A FRESH START

Fresh Start is a live-in program for men who are homeless and mentally ill. The men in the program are referred by Seven Counties Services, and they continue their prescribed treatment and counseling with Seven Counties while living at the center.

During their time at Jefferson Street Baptist Center, the men are treated with respect and dignity as they learn daily living skills. After a period of time, some move into supported housing programs while others are able to move into their own apartments.

One former resident was diagnosed with schizophrenia as a teen and was thrown out of the house by his parents, who thought his illness was the result of sin. When the center and Seven Counties Services began working with him, his condition

improved. He decided he wanted to get a job, but he was limited in the jobs he could handle.



The center helped him pursue his interest in drawing and find a job with an art gallery. As a result of his employment, his talent was

finally recognized and nurtured, and he became a successful artist. Not only is he able to work, but he has earned enough money to afford his own apartment. Most importantly he made the

decision to become a Christian. "John," a 51-year old man, had been a paint salesman, had a wife and children, refereed high

school football and led a normal, busy life. At some point, things began to fall apart and he could no longer hold a job. He and his wife divorced and he was hospitalized with a nervous breakdown. He lost everything.

Seven Counties referred John to Jefferson Street where he found a stable place to live and help with his problems. He emphasizes that he has been treated with respect at the center. If it had not been for Jeff Street, John says he would be on the street or dead by now.

One of John's talents is cooking and the men at the center really like for him to cook. Regular meals are served to residents and staff. Saturday brunches, Sunday breakfasts and special holiday meals are served to additional clients by volunteers from area churches. In 1997, 160 people ate Thanksgiving dinner and 260 clients had Christmas dinner at the center. A long term goal is to offer daily meals for the homeless.

JEFFERSON STREET BAPTIST CENTER: WHAT CAN I DO?

Pray for:

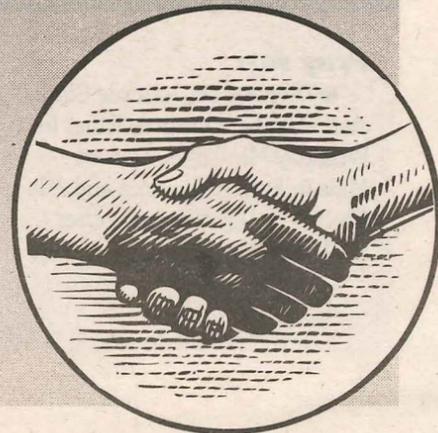
- Director Dr. Randall Harvey Jr., the staff, the men who reside at the center and day shelter clients.
- The staff to stay focused on their ultimate mission of spreading God's word.
- The staff to balance compassion and discernment.
- Volunteers to help staff avoid burn-out.

Give:

- Trial-size personal items, new men's underwear and socks.
 - Laundry detergent, coffee, creamer, sugar and towels.
- Women do not live at the center, but are served as drop-in clients, so items for women and children are needed as well as for men.

Do:

- Volunteer to work three hours one day a week alongside a staff member in the day shelter program.
- Work with your church group to provide breakfast on Saturday or Sunday or to provide holiday meals.





MEETING PROBLEMS HEAD ON

Newspaper headlines scream of violence, drugs, low test scores, teen pregnancy, crime, child neglect. Do we hide behind locked doors and ignore problems that do not affect us directly? Do we act like ostriches with our heads in the sand?

In Louisville's Parkland community, Baptist Fellowship Center has been working for 84 years to make a difference and to lead individuals to Christ. Dr. Johnnie Clark is the director.

Baptist Fellowship Center is owned and administered by two local associations: Central District Association and Long Run Baptist Association. In addition, the center receives funding from

churches of the State Mission Board of General Association of Baptists in Kentucky, the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board. Louisville's Baptist Hospital East and Baptist Healthcare Foundation also give support.

Doreen Mills directs the center's Family Services Department and is assisted by volunteers who are seminary students. The center's programs are varied.

Caring for the kids

A young girl looked around and slipped a tube of lipstick into the pocket of her jeans while she put the second tube back in the

rack. She walked down the aisle repeating the action with bottles of nail polish. But someone had seen her actions and soon she was in the custody of the Jefferson County Juvenile Court. She had picked up several items around the store, totaling about \$200. What would happen? It was her first offense. She might be referred to Baptist Fellowship Center as a possible candidate for its Teen CARE program.

Under the CARE program, teens are offered educational counseling, meeting at least seven times with a counselor. Each teen in the program has homework along with counseling sessions and is required to perform directed community service.

Interest and challenge are created in different ways. Posters encourage participants with the slogan "I Wanna Be A STAR," reminding them to stop, think, act and reflect. Participants sometimes are given pictures of real life heroes, including Martin Luther King Jr., and urged to ask, "What would he think?" when confronted with decisions or problems.

Parents and guardians may be involved in the counseling in order to encourage them to help the teens or because they need

help themselves.

All teens successfully completing the seven sessions of CARE have their court records wiped clean.

Instead of Teen CARE, a first-time offending teen might choose Teen Court. The teen is tried in a court of peers under the supervision of a Juvenile District Court Judge. The prosecuting attorney, defense attorney, bailiff, court clerk and jury are all teens who have been trained for those roles by volunteers from Baptist Fellowship Center. Teens on trial in Teen Court soon learn they have not chosen an easy way out because the trained teens take their responsibility seriously. They are firm with their peers and may be more harsh than

adults. Their decisions are legally binding. Participants' records can be wiped clean.

YES—Youth Embracing School—is a pilot program in its first year that encourages mid-

dle school students to stay in school. Five or six at-risk students are confronted with the possible or probable consequences beyond middle school of truancy. Rewards are given to those who complete the program.



Dr. Johnnie Clark

Weekday Ministries at Baptist Fellowship Center include a wide variety of programs. Head2Head is an after-school tutoring program targeted at students from kindergarten through 8th grade. This program addresses learning skills, cultural awareness and faith development needs.

Other weekday ministries programs are food and clothing distribution; financial assistance with utilities, rent and some pharmacy bills. Summer

WEEKDAY MINISTRIES

day camps are great times of fun and growth. The Kids Fair sponsored by Baptist Hospital East and Baptist Healthcare Foundation is a popular one-day community event.

A new school building is being completed across the street from the center. Pray for ways the center can impact the lives of the boys and girls who

will see the center each day from their school.

Other activities include a child care division with seven staff members and 60 children from eight weeks to 12 years of age. About 60 percent of the children are in preschool; the other children are in before-school and after-school programs.



BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP CENTER: WHAT CAN I DO?

Pray for:

- Director Dr. Johnnie Clark; staff members Jammie Effler in Weekday Ministries, Doreen Mills in Family Services and Ada Blevins in Daycare; and other staff members.

Give:

- Clothes, toys, art materials for VBS, day care or children's groups.
- Recreation equipment and board games.
- Educational workbooks, diapers, school supplies and school uniforms.

- A van and office equipment.

- Household items.
- Items for rewards and recognitions.

Do:

- Volunteer. The center needs a receptionist, tutors, sto-

rytellers, help with newsletter, photographer/video technician, driver to pick up Dare to Care food, groups to renovate a residence for housing to be used for summer missionaries and other volunteer groups.

State plan can exclude religious schools

MINOT, Maine(RNS)—A U.S. District Court judge has ruled that a Maine policy regarding tuition payments is constitutional.

The American Center for Law and Justice had sued the state last November on behalf of three families who sent their children to a Catholic high school because there is no public secondary school in the town of Minot.

State law requires that tuition be paid for high-school-age residents in such towns so they can attend other public high schools or private schools, but sectarian schools are excluded from the policy.

"The plaintiffs certainly are free to send their children to a sectarian school. That is a right protected by the Constitution" wrote U.S. Chief District Judge. Brock Hornby in his ruling.

"The law is clear, however that they do not have the right to require taxpayers to subsidize that choice,"

he continued.

"That is true in a district that builds and operates its own high school...; it is also true in a district that has no public high school," he wrote.

Vincent McCarthy, Northeast regional counsel for the American Center for Law and Justice in New Milford, Conn., said he plans to appeal on behalf of the plaintiffs.

"We believe the decision is wrong," said McCarthy, whose public-interest law firm was founded by religious broadcaster Pat Robertson. "It upholds the discrimination of funding of private schools by Maine," McCarthy said.

"Under the present system, Maine pays money for parents to send their children to private non-sectarian schools but not to private sectarian schools," he said.

Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, was pleased with the ruling.

"This decision sends a strong message that taxpayers should never be forced to support private religious education," said Lynn, whose Washington-based religious liberty watchdog group provided legal help to the state of Maine.

Court strikes down equipment loans for church-run schools

NEW ORLEANS (RNS)—A U.S. appeals court in New Orleans has struck down a 32-year-old federal law permitting public school systems to lend computers and other equipment to church-run private schools.

In the same ruling, however, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said taxes can be used to pay special education teachers who work at church-run schools and also to pay drivers who carry students to those schools.

The suit was filed 13 years ago by two parents in the New Orleans suburb of Jefferson Parish.

The 70-page decision declared as unconstitutional a federal education law known as Chapter Two and a similar state law.

The federal law, rewritten in 1994 as the "Innovative Education Program Strategies" section, sets up block grants to help buy instructional and educational materials for public and private schools. The materials—computers, movie projectors, library books and televisions—are administered by a public agency or contractor and lent to both public and private schools. The appeals court found that part of the law unconstitutional.

Another part of the Chapter Two law paid for teachers of special education students in both religious and public schools. The court found that practice constitutional, basing its ruling on a 1997 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that said the program is constitutional because it has a secular purpose—educating all special needs students—and does not advance religion.

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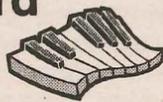
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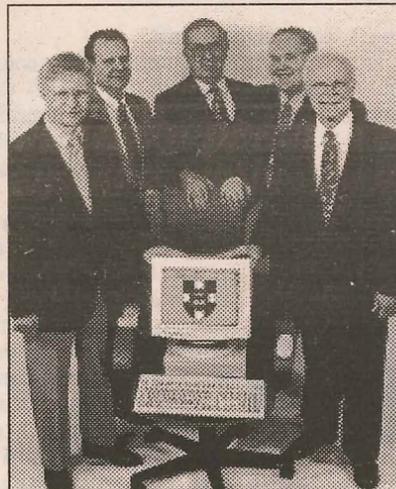
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Warren Benson, Brian Richardson,
Jack Cunningham, Mark Simpson
and Dennis Williams.

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NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Group might buy Heritage USA site.** Gaylord Entertainment Co. is considering the purchase of the 2,000-acre site near Charlotte, N.C., that used to house former televangelist Jim Bakker's Heritage USA complex. Gaylord owns the Grand Ole Opry and the Opryland Hotel. It also owns Z Music Television, which focuses on contemporary Christian music. Adding the former Heritage site in Fort Mill, S.C., to Gaylord's properties is contingent on its board's approval. The facility includes a 500-room hotel that is currently not in operation, a studio, residential housing, an 18-hole golf course and an outdoor performance amphitheater.

■ **Speaking of which, Bakker to remarry.** Former televangelist Jim Bakker is hearing wedding bells again. Bakker, who was convicted in 1989 of bilking supporters of his Praise the Lord ministry out of \$158 million, is engaged to a youth counselor he met in July. Bakker and Lori Beth Graham met while she was addressing a Los Angeles women's group, Associated Press reported. "I fell in love with her heart, the way she cares for people. Then I fell madly in love with her," Bakker said last week. He served five years in prison and now is a missionary at the 1,000-member Los Angeles International Church, where he works with drug addicts and the homeless.

■ **Eight dead after Oregon suicide law.** The Oregon Health Division said Aug. 18

that eight people have taken their lives under provisions of the state's first-in-the-nation assisted-suicide law permitting patients to ask doctors for lethal prescriptions. Since the law took effect in October, 10 patients have asked for the prescriptions. According to the report, the average age of the patients was 71, and nine of the 10 suffered from cancer. One suffered from heart disease. The two people who requested lethal prescriptions but did not use them died within days of the request, the report said. The average time of death was 40 minutes after taking the drug, with no reported complications.

■ **Group to fight global warming.** The National Council of Churches has unveiled an interfaith initiative urging the United States to adopt a controversial treaty designed to reduce the greenhouse gas emission levels of developed nations. The council's strategy includes a letter to President Clinton urging him to submit to the Senate the Kyoto Protocol, a hotly debated treaty calling on the world's developed nations to reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases, which many in the scientific community believe cause global warming. Under the proposal, the United States would be required to cut its emissions to 7 percent below 1990 levels.

■ **Gay elder may serve—for now.** The highest court in the Presbyterian Church

(USA) has decided that a gay elder may retain his position—for now. The denomination's Permanent Judicial Commission ruled that while the ordination of Ray Whetstone as an elder at Second Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., was "irregular," the court lacked the authority to remove him. The court ruled Whetstone could keep his position until December, when his term expires. It also warned Second Presbyterian not to ordain any more gays.

■ **Music publisher Fred Bock dies.** Fred Bock, a nationally known choral music publisher and composer, died July 31. He was 59. Bock worked for Word Inc. publishers in the 1960s and later founded his own companies. The company that bears Bock's name publishes church music for choir, piano, organ and other instruments. Bock published "Hymns for the Family of God." More than 3 million copies of that volume have been sold. Bock also served as a church music director and had been in that capacity at First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood, Calif., for the past 15 years.

■ **Clinic arsonist gets 15 years.** An anti-abortion activist has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for setting fires on the roof of a building housing a health clinic and doctor's office in Bozeman, Mont. U.S. District Judge Donald Molloy dismissed John Yankowski's comparison of his

tactics to those used by Martin Luther King Jr. during the civil rights movement. Instead, Molloy called Yankowski a terrorist. The building housed a clinic and the offices of Dr. Susan Wicklund, the only doctor in Bozeman who performs abortions. No abortions were performed at the clinic, but Yankowski had objected to information available at workshops taught by clinic workers, Associated Press reported.

■ **Assemblies of God museum planned.** The heritage of the Assemblies of God and the larger realm of Pentecostalism will be the focus of a museum and center scheduled to open in January at the denomination's headquarters in Springfield, Mo. The Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center will feature a 3,000-square-foot museum and an archive area for historical researchers. Named for the family of Roswell Flower, an early leader in the Assemblies of God, the center will include displays, touch-screen presentations, artifacts and multi-media sites.

■ **Northwest to vote on marijuana.** Legalization of marijuana will be ballot issues in the Pacific Northwest this November. Oregon and Washington voters will decide if they want to legalize marijuana for medical use. In Oregon, voters also will consider whether possession of less than one ounce of marijuana should be a Class C misdemeanor, the lowest infraction in the law.

Wanted: Trailblazers at Cedarmore

As we move into the fall we continue to "blaze new trails" at Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek.

It has been an outstanding first year since we formed Kentucky Baptist Assemblies Inc., and we are looking forward to a fabulous fall.

Both Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek are spectacular in the fall as the leaves begin to turn. We invite you to plan your fall retreat or conference at either place and come enjoy the beauty.

Speaking of blazing trails, we need your help at Cedarmore. With more than 1,500 acres, we are in the process of setting up a trail system that will be about eight miles in length. These trails and nature walks

will allow our guests to experience God in a wonderful way.

Would you bring a work group this fall (or winter) to help us blaze these trails? We'll house and feed your group and they will enjoy the experience of working outdoors on such an exciting project.

We would like to have the trail system completed by next spring, so come on out and help us. Without volunteer help there is no way that we can get the job done with

our existing staff.

Both adult and youth groups can work on the trails. Can you think of a better way to spend a Saturday this fall—out in the woods with friends, working hard but enjoying the outdoors?

Hiking and backpacking have become very popular with all kinds of groups. Overnight camping in a "back country" setting is a wonderful opportunity for teaching and fellowship building.

While we are not really "back country," our campsites are primitive and give you a sense that you are miles from anywhere yet close to God.

At Cedarmore, we now can provide your small group with tents and sleeping bags for your overnight outing. We have the equipment for up to 16 people, so call and reserve your weekend now.

Come work. Come play! This is a beautiful season and opportunity to serve Christ and experience him at Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek.

KENTUCKY BAPTIST ASSEMBLIES



Rusty Ellison

Rusty Ellison is president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies, Box 37, Bagdad, Ky. 40003. Call (502) 747-8911.

Aren't You Forgetting Something?

We're waiting for our invitation!



It's time to schedule your Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children speaker for the 1998 Thanksgiving Offering emphasis.

KBHC's Speakers Bureau is:

- available at **no cost** to you or your church
- equipped to handle large or small venues
- equipped to speak on a variety of topics
- available in all areas of the state

Call 1-800-456-1386 to schedule your speaker today.

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children

<http://www.iglou.com/kbhc>
Paid Column



Uzbekistan's new religion law draws protest from European Baptist group

HAMBURG, Germany (BP)—A letter protesting Uzbekistan's new religion law has been sent to the nation's government from the European Baptist Federation's general secretary, Karl Heinz Walter, and president, David Coffey, asking the religious freedom of Uzbek citizens be upheld.

Baptists in the former Soviet republic would have trouble meeting the new requirements for registering or re-registering, according to an Aug. 7 report by European Baptist Press Service.

The requirements, which Walter and Coffey said could lead to discriminatory treatment of some religious groups, include reporting a church membership of no less than 100 Uzbeks and paying a fee equivalent to \$350.

The letter by Walter, of Germany, and Coffey, of Great Britain, was sent to the Uzbekistan Ministry of Justice.

The law, passed in May, went into effect before groups such as the Baptists had seen it, according to Pavel Peychev, president of the Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists of Middle Asia.

Many evangelical groups are smaller in size than 100 members, the European Baptist leaders noted.

By comparison, the former Soviet law allowed registration of churches with 20 or more members,

Walter and Coffey added.

European Baptist Federation leaders called on the Uzbek government to make the legal changes needed to ensure religious freedom for all religious groups in Uzbekistan.

Concerning the registration fee, smaller groups with members who have low-paying jobs or on pensions would have a hard time collecting such an amount, the report noted. Historically, evangelicals have been barred from higher education and higher-paying jobs, the press service added. At the moment, pensioners receive the equivalent of \$25 a month.

Local churches cannot import Christian literature or other materials, or establish schools for Christian education, under the provisions of the new law, the press service reported. Only religious centers such as unions will be allowed these functions. But the unions also must register or re-register. And to do so, the Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in Middle Asia, for example, must report no fewer than eight congregations in eight different parts of Uzbekistan.

Because of the small sizes of the churches and their financial inability to pay registration fees, finding eight churches in eight different areas could be difficult, the press service reported.

Christian relief agencies continue work worldwide

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Long before U.S. missiles refocused American's attention away from scandal and onto world events, many relief agencies already were there.

While humanitarian agencies often are working on more than one disaster at a time, recent weeks have brought an unusually large number of immediate problems around the globe.

Among disasters and responses:

■ International Aid, the Spring Lake, Mich.,-based Christian aid agency, announced the first of many shipments of emergency relief supplies to South Korea. Torrential rains there have flooded streams and triggered landslides, washing away roads, downing telephone poles and cutting off small villages.

The shipment by International Aid includes 16 pallets of first-aid and hygiene kits, medical supplies, over-the-counter and prescription medications worth about \$60,000.

■ Church World Service, the humanitarian aid arm of the National Council of Churches, is implementing a comprehensive \$2.5 million food-for-work program in Indonesia.

The work is being funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development in response to a crisis created by drought and forest fires as well as the economic and political turmoil engulfing the country.

Under the program, Church World Service, in cooperation with the Com-

munion of Churches of Indonesia-Sulsera, will provide rice to 27,330 people—7,500 families—for a year, supplying 45 percent of their caloric needs and freeing up resources so people can purchase other food items such as eggs and milk. In exchange, recipients will repair terraces, roads and bridges and build water conservation systems.

■ The United Methodist Committee on Relief has given an initial \$10,000 grant to the United Methodist bishop of Central and Southern Europe to organize assistance for refugees in Kosovo, a province of the republic of Serbia where rebels have been battling Yugoslav government troops for independence.

The fighting has displaced more than 10 percent of the population of Kosovo from their homes.

■ World Vision and Save the Children, both active in fighting the famine in Sudan, say more and more people are donating to such efforts through the Internet—giving more than \$500,000 in the last month for relief efforts in Sudan.

"The myth that Americans don't care about what happens abroad is just that—a myth," said Charles MacCormack, president of Save the Children. "What's new is that a growing number of donors are using the Internet, through links from news organizations' Web sites, to pledge financial support."

Pakistan returns schools to Presbyterians

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan(RNS)—The government of Pakistan announced it will return to the Presbyterian Church (USA) the management of 10 schools taken from the denomination in 1972 when Muslim-dominated Pakistan nationalized education.

Church officials in the United States said Aug. 14 the Presbyterian Church of Pakistan is celebrating the coming return of the schools but that it is a celebration tempered by the reality that both the buildings and quality of education have deteriorated because of 26 years of underfunding and neglect.

Pakistani church leaders and American missionaries have tried for many years to regain possession of the schools but the movement gained real momentum in 1987, when the Supreme Court of Pakistan ruled that the land and buildings belonged to the church, though the government was allowed to continue to manage the schools, reported Presbyterian News Service.

Dave Stoner, who negotiated the return, said the negotiations involved more than property rights.

"The issue was also one of justice for the Pakistan Christian community, which feels that its very identity is related to the history and witness of these institutions which, for a quarter century, had been taken over by the Islamic government," Stoner said.

Preliminary estimates indicated it will cost \$2 million to restore the schools and to hire the necessary Christian teachers.

A summer of building

By Robert Dunston

Three families have new homes now thanks to the work of the students, staff and volunteers of Cumberland College's Mountain Outreach. Mountain Outreach has built 85 homes since 1982.

This summer seven of our students served as summer missionaries, helping the program's director coordinate volunteers and supervise construction.

They were Ernie Freeman, a religion major who is the son of Ernie and Marlene Freeman of Williamsburg; Nina Hall, an education major who is the daughter of Emellee Hall of Cynthia; Tabitha Jones, an education major who is the daughter of David and Betty Jones of Cawood; Jessica Kitzmiller, a music education major and the daughter of Robert Kitzmiller and Lois Calain of Buckhannon, W.Va.; Brad Parham, a general studies major and the son of Douglas and Janet Parham of Batavia, Ohio; Michelle Thomas, an education major and the daughter of Richard and Ronna Jean Thomas of Tallapoosa, Ga.; and April Vermillion, a psychology and religion major who is the daughter of Christopher and

Joann Kay Vermillion of Greensburg, Ind.

Volunteers from 11 churches in six states journeyed to Cumberland College to construct the three homes. Kentucky was represented by First Baptist Church of Paducah, Highland Hills Baptist Church in Ft. Thomas, Rosemont Baptist Church in Lexington, Versailles Baptist Church in Versailles and Walnut Hill Baptist Church in Louisville.

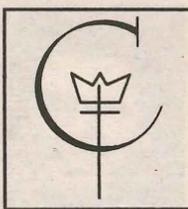
Churches from other states included Cleary Baptist Church in Florence, Miss.; College Park Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C.; Deermeadows Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla.; South Calhoun Baptist Church in Resaca, Ga.; South Fork Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C.; and Weatherly Heights Baptist Church in Huntsville, Ala.

Each home has a living room, kitchen, bathroom, three bedrooms, porch; is fully wired and plumbed; and has passed inspection.

If you would like to work with Mountain Outreach next summer, contact Cumberland College, (606) 539-4346.

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

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



Stepping out

I have to admit that I know nothing about many things. After 11 years of "higher learnin'," there are still experiential and intellectual places I haven't been. Many because I just have not taken the time, but most because I have not had a need that requires a knowledge of them. This isn't because these other "places" aren't important. They might even be matters of life and death for others.

For instance, I know there is an entire medical and scientific discipline focused on cancer research and treatment. Still, I doubt I will get too involved with oncology until I am forced to. Even though I have second-hand knowledge as I have walked with parishioners through the frightening paths of cancer and its treatment, that is nothing like walking there yourself or with a loved-one.

What on earth does this have to do with Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children? When people find out what we do for families and kids they often say, "I had no idea you were doing all that." Even with newsletters, web sites, brochures and speaking engagements, our agency's mission

sometimes is not heard because human nature prevents it from seeming relevant. Why? Until we need it, or have someone close to us who does, we just don't get involved.

Dealing with cancer, abused children or other crises is not living on the sunnier side of life. It causes us to face pain, injustice and those parts of life we would rather just remain somewhere else.

Kids in general and Kentucky's specifically are in pain. You name the pain and they know it. Hunger, loneliness, physical, sexual or emotional abuse. We have children who need treatment, foster homes, adoptive homes or just a place to stabilize.

The next time you see or hear about Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children take a chance, step over where maybe you have no particular needs and walk among those who do. More than likely this is where you will find Jesus walking, just like he did on earth 2,000 years ago.

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

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Bill Smithwick

The next time you see or hear about Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children take a chance, step over where maybe you have no particular needs and walk among those who do. More than likely this is where you will find Jesus walking, just like he did on earth 2,000 years ago.

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Killer's mom used tragedy to minister to other families

"As soon as I say, 'My son is in prison; he killed his wife,' prisoners don't want to talk to anyone else."

Eileen Mullins

Continued from page 1
middle of it all.

Today, three years later, Mullins has worked through much of her pain. She speaks frankly of the aftermath of that fateful day in an effort to help others facing similar pain. And she is working to begin a ministry to families of prisoners.

"At first, I was in shock," she said. "I was totally devastated." For the first few days, she said she constantly prayed, "God, how can I get through this?" Later, she would learn to pray, "God, how can I live through this?" she said.

For the first few days, she said she wandered about in a daze.

"The grief of losing my daughter-in-law was almost greater than my son being in prison. I still had him; I didn't have her," she said. "When we buried her, it was like burying my own daughter."

"I couldn't read my Bible," she said. "The devil kept whispering, 'Now do you believe Romans 8:28? Can you really stand on 'All things work together for good?'"

But little things like just touching or sleeping with her Bible brought strength. Scripture verses Mullins had committed to memory returned to her consciousness and brought comfort. Unsolicited money from family and friends freed the Mullinses from the added financial burden and let her know people cared.

After a few days she was able to pray again. "I begged God to take this tragedy and glorify his name in any

way he can," she said. "I told him, 'If someone puts a gun to my head, I will stand on Romans 8:28 even if costs me my life.'"

For Mullins that was the turning point.

"As I prayed, faith came," she said. She returned to her middle school teaching position that fall. Richard was released on a \$100,000 bond, provided by a member of a church of which Carl Mullins previously had been pastor.

She bravely faced the questions and advice of family, friends and colleagues. Two things she learned: "Don't ever say you know how someone feels if you haven't been there and don't tell someone to just turn it over to God."

Then came January 1996, when Richard began serving his sentence for second degree manslaughter at Big Sandy Detention Center in Paintsville.

As Mullins watched him enter the jail, "it was like going to a closed casket funeral," she said. "You just go through the motions. You are totally unprepared."

The Mullinses' first visit to the jail was just as bad as they tried to talk with their son through holes in a Plexiglas wall. "I couldn't hug him or touch him. It was a terrible ordeal," she said.

But the experience opened her heart to the needs of prisoners and their families.

"Before, I didn't have any real empathy or compassion for them," she said. Now, when she saw inmates in orange suits and shackles, she saw

humans with hurting families.

Even after Richard was transferred in April to Kentucky State Reformatory at La Grange to await processing and incarceration at Northpoint Training Center in Danville, Mullins continued visiting inmates.

"I had a great need to help others," she said. "I drew great comfort from helping others."

Her experience became her ticket in. "As soon as I say, 'My son is in prison; he killed his wife,' prisoners don't want to talk to anyone else," she said.

Then May came with Mother's Day and her daughter-in-law's birthday and reality hit with a bang.

"I came unglued," she said. "I thought I had been in recovery from the time it happened, but I had not even begun to grieve." Instead, she said she had been in shock, which she now calls "God's cushion for survival."

That May, she began a climb, "like out of a hole." She had to grapple with the aftermath of the tragedy.

The needs of the granddaughter had to be addressed. Custody was awarded to the maternal grandmother without the necessity of going to court and the relationship remains warm and cordial, Mullins said. "We have never had a harsh word. She wants us to be a part of our granddaughter's life," Mullins said.

And her son was locked up for the next 20 years.

That May, she said the healing process began. Today, three years later, she says she and her husband still have

"a mother's and father's sad hearts," but they can move forward.

She still visits at the Big Sandy Detention Center as often as she can. Recently she spent more than an hour and a half with 12 juveniles in the jail for everything from school truancy to robbery, drug possession, driving under the influence of alcohol and being a runaway. She found them eager to listen to her.

They wanted to talk with her about their bad experiences in life and how they felt people they trusted had let them down. They wanted to hear about her son. Some even wanted to talk about theological issues such as baptism. But the biggest issue on their minds, she said, was the people who attend church whom they consider to be hypocrites.

And for the past two years she has sensed God wanted her to tackle a bigger ministry, she said. When she saw a newspaper headline indicating a new federal prison will be built in Martin County, she felt she had her answer.

Now, she is working to begin Haven of Rest Ministries to provide housing and support for families who will travel from out of state for the three-day visits with inmates federal law allows. With blueprints and \$2,000 seed money already in hand, she expects a plot of land to be donated soon.

"I'm already looking past the building to what God is going to do there," she said. "I'm looking to the people who will be helped and the ministry that will be done."

What an exciting day it was!

Months of preparation have been invested in getting ready for the new school year. Most of the things we wanted to get completed before our students returned have been done. However, there are two or three projects still not quite finished. For example, our new computers are in the computer lab and the final wiring is being installed.

One of the new opportunities for our students this year is horseback riding. For years we have wanted to add horseback riding to our program. Two new teachers from Elkton have returned to Oneida and brought with them several horses. Our students not only will be able to ride them, but also will have the opportunity to care for them through our work program, 4-H and our new FFA program. Our farm manager has worked very hard to bring FFA to our campus. Oneida is one of only a handful of private schools with an FFA program.

We have been interviewing students all summer in preparation for the first day of school. We never know for sure how many students we will have, but our goal is to enroll about 100 new students the first day of school. I am happy to say that we nearly reached our goal. We had 90 new boarding and day students who enrolled Sunday. If you read this column very often, you might remember I have written about homesickness. We know that normally our greatest challenge during the first month will be homesickness. One of our new students from Oklahoma spent most of her first day crying. It would help a lot if a pill could be developed to cure homesickness. Until that happens, the best we can do is encourage, be patient and give a hug to those who are convinced they never will get over it. One of the happiest

boys on our campus spent the first three weeks of school last year on my doorstep crying. I must confess I was about to throw in the towel about the time he finally got better. I am amazed every time I see him laughing and playing with the other boys. I frequently remind him of those first three weeks.

While our doors are always open for students who are not professing Christians, we are always grateful for Christian boys and girls who come to Oneida. We desperately need this solid base of spiritually grounded students to help us with those who are not Christians. Those of us who work in the admissions process noticed a much larger than usual number of students who said they had chosen to come to Oneida because they wanted to grow as Christians. It will be exciting to see how these students are able to impact our total student body.

The first day of school is always a very busy and stressful day for everyone. Normally the first question I ask each student I interview is, "Are you a little nervous?" Most will say "Yes," but a few claim to not be anxious at all. I always feel better when they are a little nervous, because I think it is a normal feeling. The last question I usually ask is, "What is the most important thing you want to accomplish while you are at Oneida?" About 90 percent to 95 percent of the students respond by saying, "I want a better education." We know that most of our students come to us with low grades. We look forward to working with them to help them reach this worthy goal.

W.F. Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, P.O. Box 67, Oneida, Ky. 40972. www.oneidaschool.org

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Outstanding alumni recognized

The faculty selected two alumni for membership in the Delta Epsilon Chi Honor Society of the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges.

The award goes to alumni graduated at least 10 years with distinguished Christian service. The honorees for 1998 are Archie Oliver, a 1951 graduate, and Joe Mobley, a 1974 graduate.

Archie Oliver has been a consistent representative of our commitments—faithfulness to the word of God, cooperation, mission involvement and pastoral love that builds churches. The Lord called him to preach from a farm near Nebo. "I knew the call included the need to prepare," he said. "A copy of Clear Creek's Mountain Voice paper was left at our house. We moved to the campus in 1947."

Next month the Olivers celebrate 50 years since his ordination. He is a Clear Creek trustee and an area representative for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. In 1991, former churches and his many friends joined efforts to fund the Archie Oliver Scholarship. Interest from the \$20,000 endowment assists students who come from areas where Oliver has been pastor.

Joe Mobley vividly remembers the first exam he took in Robert Fitts' Old Testament class. "I answered very few questions correctly. Dr. Fitts talked with me and discovered I couldn't read. He rolled up the test and swatted me on the shoulder and said, 'Why didn't you tell us? We can take care of that.' With the help of tutors and Miss Starkey I learned to read."

After serving one church as pastor, the Lord called Mobley into full-time evangelism. He conducts 40-45 revivals a year, with red socks to remind everyone of the sacrifice of Jesus. His Crusades for Christ team, based in London, leads preachers and lay people to Haiti and Russia. On the afternoon following his recognition at our annual alumni reunion, Mobley called me with the names of two prospective students.

"Clear Creek has changed to meet the new demands of our day, but it hasn't changed doctrinal convictions," he said. "I want these God-called young men to have what I received."

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

There's a reason the word 'children' comes before 'choir'

Choirs for preschoolers and children often might involve more ministry than music, a children's choir coordinator said. "It is our privilege as Christians to be ministers," said Karen Sorrells, children's choir coordinator at First Baptist Church of Asheville, N.C.

Providing true examples for conference participants, she asked them to consider how they could provide ministry support.

For example, Ann, age 7, loves to sing in church, but she is rarely in tune with the music. She has Down's syndrome, and her father is the pastor.

Suggestions from the class included learning more about Down's syndrome and finding out from the family how she learns, her current achievement level and what she is capable of learning.

One participant who has a Down's syndrome child told the others, "There isn't a parent in the world who doesn't love to be told what a joy their child is, whether he walks funny or talks funny or whatever the problem may be."

Is 'service' missing from your 'worship service?'

Church musicians can easily get caught up in the logistics of Sunday worship and fail to give equal time to the outgrowth of worship that is service, a national music consultant said.

Lee Hinson, a music ministries consultant with LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, said outreach is a part of that service.

While youth choirs and some adult choirs participate in mission tours to reach unchurched people, Hinson said there is a variety of other ways to engage in outreach through music.

Along with musical qualifications, evangelism can become an important part of a music leader's ministry profile, he said.

"You can involve people who play instruments and who may not be involved in church in any other way," he said.

Children's choirs offer an opportunity to involve children whose families are unchurched, he added.

Speakers: Christian homes should be a high priority

Christians should treat their family relationships second only to their relationship with God, several speakers told a recent family conference.

"Aside from your relationship with God through Jesus Christ his Son, there's only one thing that matters, and that's intimacy with your family," said Howard Batson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Amarillo, Texas.

The family will stand or fall on the basis of its members' ability to communicate with each other, said Ellis Orozco, pastor of Corpus Christi Baptist Church, Texas.

Communication in the family requires commitment, courage and compassion, Orozco said. "Communication with your family is the most important thing you will

ever do."

It takes work to create a spiritual atmosphere in the home, according to William Pinson Jr., executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

"Happy homes don't just happen," Pinson said. "They have to be developed."

A Christian home should be like a healthy church, characterized by worship, evangelism, discipleship, ministry and missions, he said.

When technology hits home, family accountability is vital

No filter installed by parents can keep high-tech smut out of their homes better than a sense of family accountability instilled in their children, said two Texas teachers.

Broadcast television, cable and satellite TV, video tapes, video games and the Internet all present challenges to parents, said Nancy Crossley, a high school English teacher, and her husband, Lyle, a parochial school physics teacher.

The couple recommended that parents view TV shows with their children. That allows them to monitor and discuss content, as well as regulate the amount of time spent watching television.

reporting back the biblical descriptors that profile worthy women:

- Strong and honorable character.
- Good planner, implementor and manager.
- Possessing endurance.
- Compassionate and merciful.
- Always prepared.
- Wise in words and actions.

Miniard challenged the women periodically to grade themselves against the description in Proverbs to see where they need to improve and how they are progressing toward the biblical model.

"Look at who you are and what you do," she urged participants. "Find some way to give yourself a perk once in a while."

Use fewer words to communicate with youth, leader advises

Like salt, words should be used sparingly when communicating with youth, a minister of music said.

"Don't use the whole box of Morton's at once," said Randy Edwards, minister of music at First Baptist Church of Shreveport, La.

He said four forms of communication exist for youth choir settings.



The best from Glorieta and Ridgecrest Conference Centers

"Sometimes it's just a broccoli situation," she said, noting not every parental decision will be popular. "Sometimes you just have to be the adult."

The computer, particularly if it has Internet access, is another medium that is difficult for parents to regulate and monitor. The Internet is a tremendously helpful tool for research and communication, but it also "brings the big, bad world right into your house," Nancy Crossley said.

Parents should consider where VCRs are located in their homes, they added. A video player in the living room is easier for parents to monitor than those in children's bedrooms.

Women examine qualities for ministry leadership

Women in church ministry leadership positions need not struggle with the desire to be all things to all people at all times, said Linda Miniard.

"You cannot be a full-time minister at the church, a full-time mother, a full-time housekeeper and a full-time fitness guru," said Miniard, a consultant in LeaderCare with LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

To help women in ministry leadership positions sort through the important qualities for their lives, she pointed them to a biblical model in Proverbs 31.

Participants in the Glorieta sessions searched the passage in small groups,

"Spoken communication is overused," he said. "Aural sameness sets in. They hear the voice and the message until they don't hear it anymore."

In fact, he recommends using written communication first.

"We do not use written communication with teenagers based on a faulty assumption that they will not read," he said. "They have to be taught to read, just as they must be taught to read music."

The most under-used form of communication, he said, is non-verbal. Body language, as well as directing music, are both forms of sign language.

And a byproduct form of communicating, he said, is musical communication.

"You can teach this, and it has a lot to do with things that are not even musical," Edwards said. "The way they line up and come in to face the congregation has everything to do with the way they are heard. The first sound the congregation hears is non-verbal."

Pastor calls cities' growth part of God's evangelism plan

God has a reason for the growing cities of the world, said the pastor of one of Southern Baptists' largest urban churches.

"Radical urbanization is a movement of God," said Erwin McManus, pastor of Mosaic, formerly The Church on Brady, in Los Angeles. "It is God bringing millions upon millions of people together so we can

get the gospel to them more quickly and more powerfully."

McManus outlined a number of ways he said God has used the concentration of the world's population to the cities not only to make global evangelization easier, but also to force the issue for Christians to step forward and fulfill their mandate of bearing the gospel.

He also said that today's culture has produced people with "a fragmented spirit" more than ever before.

At one time, he said, even non-Christians were considered "God-fearers." Many people are without hope, having already rejected Christianity because of a previous experience that failed to provide the answers they seek.

The mainstream church somewhere along the way, he said, stopped worshipping God and began "playing church."

"And when somebody got really broken we'd send them to a psychiatrist," he said. "We'd give Jesus the easy stuff and Freud the hard stuff. ... And it's because the church has lost the power to heal."

He said the Christian gospel will spread by people who not only know the message but are transformed by it, "who walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, who have an undeniable presence of Jesus Christ, and who cause unbelievers to fall on their face and worship God."

Campus minister: 'prayer walking' gives insights through intercession

Shelia Gustafson wants Christian college students to put their feet into their prayer lives.

That might sound a little strange at first mention, but what the campus minister at Indiana University, Southeast, in New Albany, Ind., is talking about is "prayer walking," claiming a specific area for Christ by literally walking around it and praying.

"Prayer walking focuses intercessory prayer on the neighborhoods, homes, situations and people encountered while walking," Gustafson explained.

It works just as well on a college campus as it does any other community. She described it as "fellowship with God and another person. It gives you insight while on-site."

Gustafson recommends spending time getting close to God before beginning a prayer walk. When planning a prayer walk, she suggests going in pairs.

During the actual prayer walk, she said, prayer teams should:

- Open their eyes and ask God to allow them to see what he wants them to see.
- Open their mouths and pray together in agreement.
- Pray Scripture that relates to the things they see or sense.
- Pray with relevance.

"Pray with sensitivity to the people and places you are actually encountering," she said. "Ask yourself, 'What does God desire for them?'"

After the prayer walk, Gustafson said teams should regroup for debriefing.

"Talk about what God revealed to you and discuss any possibilities for ministry. Record important matters for continued prayer and future praise."

PEOPLE

PRAYER PARTNERS

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

■ A Russian language teacher for Earl and Shannon Midkiff, missionaries in Khabarovsk, Russia.

■ A new church that has started in Paviosk, Russia. A Russian pastor is needed.

■ Follow-up to the ministry of 78 Kentucky Baptist volunteers who worked in Russia during July.

■ The local cable television ministry of Cambodian Baptist Mission of Lowell, Mass. The church airs three one-hour programs three times a week. Samoeun Hor is pastor.

■ Lana Sanford, a Mission Service Corps volunteer working with children in New London, Ct.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **AUSTIN, Texas**—Church of the Savior called **Mary Barnes Zimmer** as pastor. Zimmer previously was instructor in Christian education at Southern Seminary and past president of Baptist Women in Ministry.

■ **CARROLLTON**—Cove Hill Church will celebrate its 125th anniversary Oct. 3-4. Call (502) 459-7977 for more information. **Larry Smith** is pastor.

■ **COLD SPRING**—First Church called **Elliott Holbrook** as minister to youth. He previously was pastor at Mentor Church. He began his new ministry Aug. 1. Also, retired Pastor **Charles Mitchell** was called as min-

ister of pastoral care. He began his new ministry Aug. 1.

■ **CORBIN**—Central Church recently called **Greg Morris** as minister of music. Also, **Robert White** was called as assistant pastor.

■ **HENDERSON**—Zion Church will host Dove and Grammy award Christian singers and song writers **Dick and Mel Tunney** in concert Aug. 30 at 6:30 p.m.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Audubon Church recently ordained **Drew Smith** to the gospel ministry. **Kevin Head** is pastor.

Shively Heights Church called **Jason Aeron** as minister of education.

Aeron began his new ministry Aug. 16. **Chris Butler** is pastor.

Eric Walton resigned as minister of music at Valley Station Church, effective Aug. 30. He is returning to Birmingham, Ala., to enter the extension program of New Orleans Seminary.

Buechel Park Church will host **Tim Harper**, vocalist, pianist and composer in concert Aug. 30 at 6 p.m. For more information, call (502) 452-9541. **Bruce Hardy** is pastor.

■ **LOYALL**—First Church will celebrate its 75th anniversary Sept. 6. Speakers will include **Mack Pressley**, former pastor and direction of missions of Boones Creek Association, and **Bill Whittaker**, president of Clear Creek Bible College. For more information, call (606) 573-2710. **Jack Helton** is pastor.

■ **MANCHESTER**—Manchester Church will celebrate its 120th anniversary Sept. 20. Former Pastor **Roger Williams** will speak. For more information, call the church at (606) 598-5285 or Nadine Smith at (606) 598-2495. **Kenneth Bolin** is pastor.

■ **OWENSBORO**—Southeast Church recently moved into its newly renovated facilities. Since June, there have been four additions by letter and nine baptisms; 13 wait to be baptized. There were 172 enrolled in vacation Bible school, with 21 professions of faith. **Randall Stallings** is pastor.

■ **RICHMOND**—Red House Church called **Gary Maynard** as associate pastor of music and education. He previously was associate pastor and minister of music and youth at Pleasant Hill Church in Somerset. He will begin his new ministry Sept. 8.

Georgetown College adding 14 full-time professors for fall semester

GEORGETOWN—Georgetown College has added 14 full-time faculty members for the fall semester.

In the art department, **Ted Barnes**, a former professor at Louisiana College, has been named professor and chair. **Jean Ippolito**, a former professor of computer art and art history, has been named assistant professor.

James Klotter, who has spent 25 years with the Kentucky Historical Society—the last eight as executive director and state historian—has been named professor of history.

Susan Hart Bell, former director of the Ohio Early Childhood Intervention Project at the University of Cincinnati, has been named assistant professor of psychology. Also named

to that position is **Robert Gallen**, who previously was a psychology fellow at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

Paul Duda, a former teacher at Valparaiso University, Northern Illinois University and Governors State University, has been named associate professor of business administration and economics.

Regina Francies was named assistant professor of communication arts. She taught at Georgetown from 1990 to 1995 and spent the last three years as a teaching assistant at the University of Kentucky while working on a doctorate in health communication.

Manuel Probst has been named assistant professor of kinesiology

and health studies. He had been an instructor in fitness and the physiology of exercise at the University of Kentucky. **Hal Strough** also was named to that position. He previously served as an athletic trainer at Central Michigan University, Eastern Kentucky University and Purdue University while studying at those schools.

John Verburg has been named assistant professor of sociology. He has taught at several institutions, including Georgetown, and has held pastorates at churches in Kentucky, Alabama and West Virginia.

Four new faculty members received one-year appointments as sabbatical replacements.

T.C. Christopher is assistant pro-

fessor of mathematics. He is a former instructor at the University of Kentucky and Kentucky Wesleyan College and an engineer with the East Kentucky Power Cooperative.

Carla Damaino was named assistant professor of German. Most recently she had a fellowship with the Oregon State System of Higher Education International Trade and Development.

Eric Nelson is an instructor of Chemistry. He has been working on a doctoral degree at Purdue while conducting graduate research.

Lori Taylor, a former Georgetown College instructor, returns as assistant professor of Spanish. She also has taught at the University of Kentucky and Lexington Community College.

CLASSIFIED ADS

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Moberly is searching for a full-time minister of music with other ministry responsibilities. Requests for information about the church and this position should be sent to: Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 514 West Rollins, Moberly, MO 65270.

FREE: The Kentucky Baptist Convention has used 3/4-inch-format videotape available for distribution to churches, institutions or other ministry groups with video production capability. Call **Larry Brannin** at (502) 247-4731 or toll-free (888) 254-5713 for more information.

FOR SALE: Solid oak church pews. Good condition, 16 pews 10 feet long, and 6 pews 6 feet long. Asking \$2,900. Call **David** at (812) 265-3857.

SEEKING: Office assistant for a Christian social service agency, part-time Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Skills needed: typing, data entry, some knowledge of Windows 95, Microsoft Office, and have a real heart for ministry. Interested? Call **Infant Resource Project** at (502) 584-0774 and ask for **Cathy Neel**.

NEEDED: Tunnel Hill Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, Ky., is in need of a pianist for Sunday morning and evening services. Respond to: **THBC**, 734 Tunnel Hill Church Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701, Attn: Pianist Search Committee.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister. Send resumé to: Valley View Baptist Church, 501 Balley View Dr., Vine Grove, KY 40175, Attn: Youth Committee.

FOR SALE: Pulpit; communion table; two flower stands; 20 pews 13'8", 11 pews various lengths—fully padded, first-class condition. Call: (502) 886-4046.

WANTED: Handbells. Call: (502) 886-8970.

SEEKING: Fee Fee Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., prayerfully seeks your referral for a minister of music. Located in north suburban St. Louis County, we average in excess of 700 in two morning services, over 500 in Sunday school. Fee Fee is well known for strong graded choir program and major seasonal productions. Please forward your referral to: Minister of Music Search Committee, Fee Fee Baptist Church, 11330 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO 63044.

SEEKING: Full-time minister music/education for church in Huntington, W.Va. Send resumé to: Search Committee, P.O. Box 7875, Huntington, WV 25778-7875.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for small Eastern Kentucky church. Parsonage provided. Please submit resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 587, Jenkins, KY 41537.

WANTED: Full-time minister of music (worship). Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 8645 Kenwood Road, Cincinnati, OH 45242. Phone: (513) 791-7323. Fax: (513) 791-7326.

SEEKING: Ivy Memorial Baptist Church, Hampton, Va., is seeking to fill full-time ministerial staff positions with seminary graduates in education, music and youth/singles areas. IMBC is an established church with a resident membership of 1,100, annual budget of \$600,000, located in the central commercial and residential area of coastal Hampton, Va. Vacancies are because of prior staff pursuing advanced degrees and entering international missions service. Our pastor is **Rev. J. Michael Poole**. Please send resumé to: Ivy Memorial Baptist Church, 2200 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA 23666, Attn: Personnel Committee. Or fax to (757) 838-5447.

SEEKING: Associate pastor for worship and ministries. Primary responsibilities include leadership in music and worship, education and coordinating a volunteer ministry. Send resumé with references to: Personnel Committee, McCarthy Baptist Church, 2710 South Belt Hwy., St. Joseph, MO 64503.

SERVICE: Kitchen cabinets and furniture stripping and refinished. Quality work, low prices, free estimates, professional results. (502) 964-4975.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music for local Louisville-area church. Contemporary-blended worship services. Keyboard, computer skills needed. Send resumé to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 133, Sellersburg, IN 47172.

FOR SALE: 50 biblically based sermon outlines with scriptural cross-references. Be ready for Sunday morning. Your choice of text or on computer disk: \$9.95 plus \$1.50 S&H. Pastor **Helps**, P.O. Box 1003 Manchester, KY 40962.

NEEDED: Pews in good condition. Oneida Baptist Church—ministering to the students and staff of Oneida Baptist Institute. Contact: **Steve Crumpler**, (606) 847-4718.

SEEKING: Mentor Baptist Church in northern Kentucky is seeking a pastor. Send resumé to: Route 1, Box 393, California, KY 41007.

SEEKING: Bivocational minister of music and youth. Please send resumé to: Search Committee, Auburn Baptist Church, 500 Ensley Ave., Auburn, IN 46706.

FOR RENT: Sanibel Island, Fla., 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo available for vacation rental. Large pool, tennis courts, screened porch, lovely secluded beach, bikes, canoe, kayak. Weekly rates—May through mid-December: \$615. Call **Pat Owen**, (502) 895-8752 (home), or 897-5079 (office).

Unusual Bible study offers 'Gospel According to Andy'

By Yvonne White
Religion News Service

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (RNS)—In a scene on "The Andy Griffith Show" that takes place in church, a visiting speaker extols the merits of taking life slow and easy.

Afterward, as they exit the church, Andy and Barney shake hands with the speaker. "Yes sir," Barney says to him about the sermon, "That's one subject you just can't talk enough about—sin."

Sin isn't the main focus of one special Bible study class at Twickenham Church of Christ in Huntsville, Ala., but the biblical and moral merits of "The Andy Griffith Show" are.

Each Wednesday night, the Mayberry faithful gather to sip lemonade, munch popcorn and watch an episode of the classic 1960s TV sitcom, among the most popular of all time.

"It's really amazing where the discussion goes," said Joey Fann, who worked with fellow church member Brad Grasham to design a curriculum for the weekly hour-long class. "It makes application to our everyday lives. The interest we've received has been phenomenal. We've heard from people all over the country about it off our Web site."

The class, "Finding the Way Back to Mayberry," started in June with 28 participants. It has grown since to a standing-room-only crowd of 84. Plans are underway to move the class to larger quarters.

Early arrivals are treated to taped folk music by the Dillardards, known as the Darlings on the show. Each class begins by viewing an episode about life in Mayberry selected by Fann and Grasham, followed by a discussion of the moral lesson it teaches, Scripture verses to complement the various scenes, and how to apply the lesson to everyday life.

Fann and Grasham, a deacon at Twickenham, both are longtime fans of the show.

"It's been a lot of fun," said Grasham. "We didn't think people would laugh at us, but we did wonder how would people perceive a Mayberry class. Some didn't understand the concept of how to pull bib-



BACK TO MAYBERRY A class book sits atop an open Bible at Twickenham Church of Christ in Huntsville, Ala. Teachers relate lessons from "The Andy Griffith Show" to Scripture and everyday life. "It's been a lot of fun," said teacher Brad Grasham. (RNS photo)

lical Scriptures from it, but once they sit through it, they realize what values it expounds."

Fann said Griffith, who played the beloved Sheriff Andy Taylor, "always wanted each show to have a moral emphasis and for people to enjoy it. The dialogue between the actors was priceless."

Wade Schofield, who recently attended the Mayberry class for the first time, said it's "a great idea, but I would have never thought about it as a Bible study class. I'm a big fan of 'The Andy Griffith Show' because it's a good family show. You can take real-life situations and present them in a right setting, such as the show did, and gain something from it."

Linda Laird, who has attended most of the classes, said she has been a fan of "The Andy Griffith Show" since it first aired.

"Wednesday nights are always hectic, and this just gives you a nice break to sit back and really enjoy something while getting a good lesson in life," said Laird. "I usually see the characteristics of the people on the show in myself. It was a foregone conclusion I would attend this class."

While Fann and Grasham do not claim to have the teaching skills of Helen Crump (Andy's girlfriend and Opie's teacher), they do hope the class

will provide entertainment while offering valuable lessons of life.

"We want to have a good time with it, but also get something out of it," said Fann. "We targeted it for adults, but the age range varies widely, from 8 to 80. Now that word is getting out about it, we are getting several visitors each week. People are curious about it."

The Mayberry Bible study is not the only one of its kind, said Jim Clark, who founded The Andy Griffith Show Rerun Watchers Club in 1979. It now has more than 1,000 chapters and about 20,000 members.

"It's a good blend of wholesome entertainment, and Andy Griffith used it to help make a point," said Clark. "We've had a number of preachers who have started chapters and used it informally in their church."

Clark said Lindley Park Baptist Church in Greensboro, N.C., offers a class called The Gospel According to Andy.

Mayberry also is the subject of a college course, Mayberry 101, taught by Neal Brower, a Methodist minister, at local community colleges through a continuing education program in North Carolina, the home state of the fictional Mayberry.

Some of the episodes studied by the Twickenham group include: "Barney Fife, Realtor," where Barney gets

Pastor teaches Mayberry 101

HIGH POINT, N.C. (RNS)—Pastor Neal Brower was six months younger than Ron "Opie Taylor" Howard when "The Andy Griffith Show" debuted Oct. 3, 1960.

A North Carolina native, Brower was not only captivated by the show, which was based in the fictional hamlet of Mayberry, N.C., but he especially related to Howard, one of the youngest child actors then on television.

Ever since, Brower has been a devoted fan of "The Andy Griffith Show." As a United Methodist minister, he occasionally uses the show to illustrate a sermon.

"I've always enjoyed watching the show, and it's just always been a part of my life," Brower said in a telephone interview from his home in High Point, N.C. "I don't use it a lot in my sermons, but if it ties in and is appropriate, then I'll use it."

Brower has spoken to many congregations and community groups about the moral merits of Mayberry.

Today, he has taken his fixation to other avenues by teaching a course called "The Andy Griffith Show: An In-Depth Study" at six community colleges in North Carolina. And he has written a new book, "Mayberry 101: Behind the Scenes of a Television Classic."

"Like the ministry, I feel it has been a calling," said Brower. "It's very special to me and sometimes I wonder why I was placed in this spot. I take it very seriously."

In his 10-week, 30-hour course, Brower discusses why the show is popular, the biographies of the cast members, the different types of music used and how the show geared down in its final year.

"People relate to the show and I think people want to believe there is a real Mayberry," said Brower. "It shows the best in people, and there are no major problems. We long for a place like that."

into real estate and urges Andy to stretch the truth about problems with his house so it can sell; and "Opie's Hobo Friend," in which Opie begins to emulate a hobo—Mr. Dave—by playing hooky to go fishing.

"Television can be bad, but sometimes, like tonight, it can be used for good," Fann told the attentive class.

"Mr. Dave never took responsibility for his actions, and it didn't take long for Opie to start doing the same thing," Fann continues. "We have no idea what kind of influence we have on people. It can be good or bad."

Editor's note: For more information, visit the class' Web site at www.hsv.tis.net/~thefanns/Five.htm.

Pastor and former White House chef shares food & God's love

BALDWINSVILLE, N. Y. (RNS)—Pastor Charlie Booth feeds his soul by feeding others.

Every Sunday after services at Freedom Church, which he founded and leads, Booth gets cooking. Actually, he does most of the work Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning in the church's kitchen or in the small kitchen in his apartment.

He single-handedly whips up savory meatloaf, scalloped potatoes and ham, carved turkey and fried chicken, salads and desserts.

Although his congregation numbers only about 30 folks, Booth cooks enough to feed 50 or 100 people. Everybody is welcome to chow down.

"I love food," he says. "It's that simple. I love to give away food."

Booth, 74, now cooks without pay but he once worked as a chef at some of the country's most prestigious country clubs and colleges and in the most influential house of all—the White House.

Growing up in Blacksburg, Va., Booth learned to cook from his aunt, who raised him after his parents died. The rest he figured out on his own.

He started his gourmet career as a dishwasher at Virginia Tech University and slowly earned his way into the kitchen. At 19 he became head chef.

He later worked in country clubs

and eventually was invited to the White House, where he worked as President Nixon's meat chef for two years.

Nixon, he says, loved stuffed, fresh cured ham. Booth wrote a cookbook based on his time there called "Confessions of a White House Cook: Truth in the Nixon Kitchen."

Because his two young children didn't like Washington, however, Booth left the White House and became head chef at Colgate University and the Colgate Inn in Hamilton, N.Y. There he had five heart attacks, which partially paralyzed him, left him on oxygen and 25 medications, and forced him to retire.

Then in 1977, Booth says, God healed him. Booth took off the oxygen mask, dumped the pills and hasn't needed either since. That's when he founded his church. Since then, he hasn't cooked a single meal for pay.

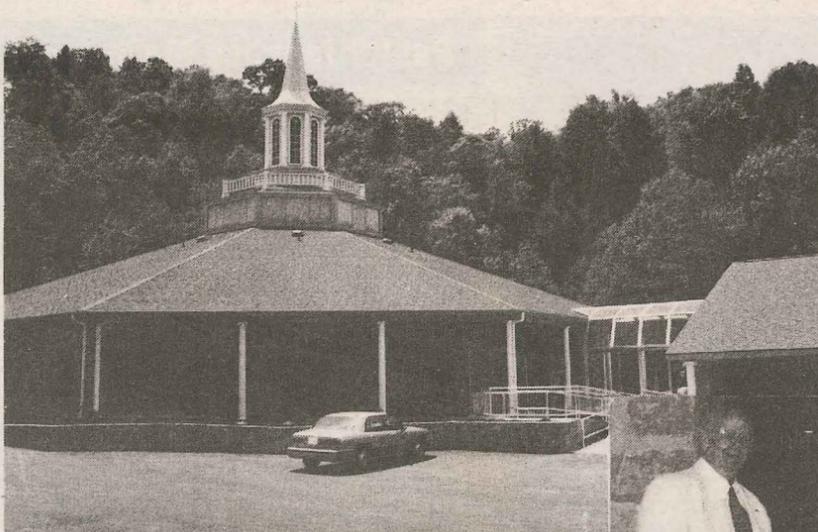
Booth was diagnosed with prostate cancer two years ago, but it has slowed him down only in his own kitchen. He doesn't cook much for himself anymore, but he continues to provide physical and spiritual food for the community.

His favorite ingredient?

"A cup full of love," he says. "That's the best ingredient in the world. Roast it. Bake it. You don't need anything else. That's what keeps me going."

"A cup full of love. That's the best ingredient in the world. Roast it. Bake it. You don't need anything else. That's what keeps me going."
Pastor and chef Charlie Booth

Happenings at Clear Creek



The new classroom building was dedicated on August 4, 1998 during Alumni Conference. The building is 8,500 square feet with an estimated construction cost of \$600,000. In the center of the foyer is an 800 gallon aquarium that will be stocked with American fish. The new facility houses four classrooms, a lecture room, a science lab, and a book store.

At right, Tom Westfall, Chairman of Trustees; Charlie Rice, Faculty; and Todd Buck, Student Body President cut the ribbon during open house.



Shopping Spree
December 1, 1998

Calendar of Events

- September 22-24 Campus Revival - Jeff Pound from Granville, OH will be our evangelist.
- November 4-5 James Barry Lectures - Featured speakers are Dr. David Olford & Dr. John Balmer with Encounter Ministries.
- December 1 Shopping Spree
- December 2 Turkey Day
- December 9-17 Holy Land Tour - Contact Charlie Rice for more details.



Carol Taylor, Secretary to the Dean of Students, accepts a Shopping Spree donation from the Sonshine Sunday School Class at Parkway Baptist Church, Lexington, KY, July 9, 1998.



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