


PRACTICAL RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING
WESTERN RECORDER

August 31, 1999
Vol. 173, No. 34

On Mission



Together

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FOR THE RECORD

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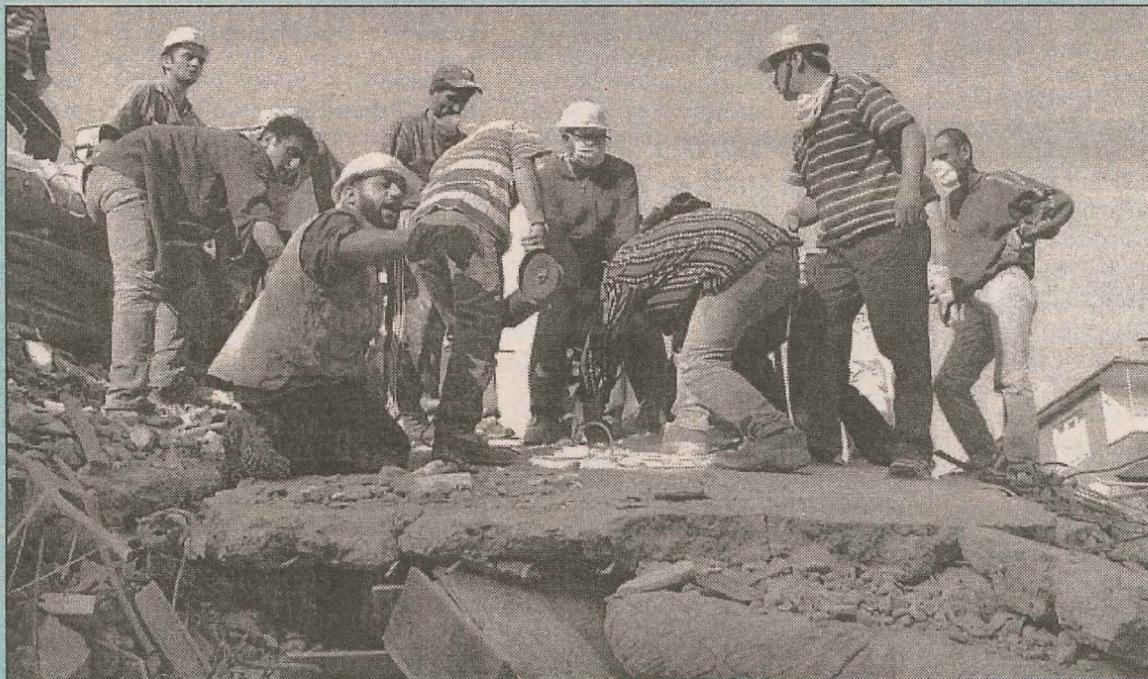
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Books
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Relief amid rubble



FRANTIC SEARCH Residents of Golcuk, Turkey, and a Turkish rescue team search for earthquake survivors with a jackhammer, sledgehammers and simple hand tools as they pound their way through concrete slabs that once were the ceilings and floors of a five-story apartment building. Baptists are among those sending relief supplies and teams into the frantic region. (BP photo)

Baptists send help to quake-damaged Turkey

By Tobin Perry
SBC International Mission Board

ISTANBUL, Turkey (BP)—Disaster relief assessors arrived in earthquake-stricken Turkey last week to see how Southern Baptists can best help alleviate the suffering of the devastated Turkish people and share with them news of God's love. The assessment team first met with Southern Baptists living in Turkey, then with the larger evangelical community to discuss ways Southern Baptists can provide resources needed for the relief effort.

A massive earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale hit the northwestern area of the country Aug. 17. More than 12,000 people have been found dead. Many fear that most of the 35,000 people still listed as miss-

ing eventually will be added to that list of dead.

Survivors struggle daily for basics like food and shelter. Baptist assessors are searching for ways to give hope and comfort to those survivors.

"We want to show the Turkish people that God loves them and we love them," said Gary Smith of Texas Baptist Men.

Southern Baptists already have committed \$100,000 from hunger relief funds to help the people of Turkey. The assessment team, made up of representatives from Texas Baptist Men, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief and the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, is looking for ways to provide volunteers, supplies and money for the

□ See *Baptists arrive in ...*, page 12

Appalachian ministry offers both promise & challenge

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

ROANOKE, Va.—The newly-formed Appalachian Mountain Ministry will present both challenges and opportunities for Kentuckians, according to the Kentucky Baptist Convention's director of missions.

Randy Jones said the project's success will depend on volunteers being willing to work alongside local residents in an attitude of humility. A failure to respect mountain-area people has hampered some past missions

projects, he said.

"We have to learn to trust each other and work together," said Jones, one of more than 20 Kentucky Baptists attending the ministry's kickoff Aug. 20-21. "That's what



I see as our biggest challenge. And, each state convention is doing its own strategy planning, so we have to bring resources together and cooperate."

More than 160 people from throughout Appalachian states attended the kickoff event in Roanoke, Va., for the new regional ministry project. The meeting aimed to motivate and share information with state missions leaders, directors of missions, ministry directors and volunteers.

The KBC will contribute \$4,000 to support ministry expenses during the coming year, the same amount allocated for 1998-99. Director Tommy Goode's salary is paid by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.

Forty-nine Kentucky counties and 23 associations with about 500 churches in the eastern third of the state will be encompassed by the regional ministry.

□ See *New ministry offers ...*, page 8

How to help

The following groups are collecting money for relief work in Turkey. Checks earmarked for "Turkey earthquake relief" can be sent to:

■ SBC International Mission Board Baptist World Relief, Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230.

■ Baptist World Aid, 6733 Curran St., McLean, VA 22101.

■ Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Box 101699, Atlanta, GA 30392.

■ Samaritan's Purse, Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607.

Kentucky Baptists serve in Poland through prayer and ministry

By Mike Creswell
SBC International Mission Board

CZESTACHOWA, Poland—Six Kentucky Baptist volunteers prayed silently in mid-August as they watched thousands of Roman Catholics gather at a monastery housing an ancient picture of the Virgin Mary.

While the Kentucky Baptists have no special quarrel with Roman Catholics, they had noticed a massive banner adorning the monastery walls proclaiming, "Mary, Lead Us to God the Father."

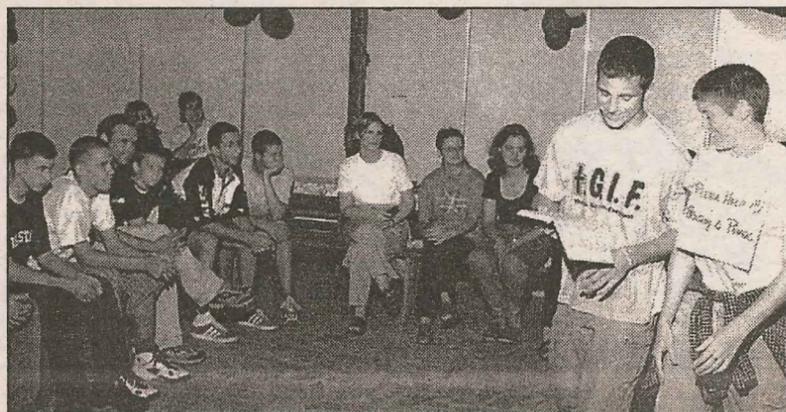
Czestachowa is a world center for the Catholic adoration of Mary, mother of Jesus; hundreds of thousands of people visit the city as pilgrims each year.

The Kentucky Baptists, mostly members of First Baptist Church of Monticello, prayed that the people present would come to know Jesus as the only intercessor between people and God.

The praying group was part of a recent team of 20 volunteers from the Monticello area who visited Poland as part of Kentucky Baptists' partnership with Baptists in that country.

A dozen volunteers alternated in teams of six people, both conducting prayer walks around the monastery and other parts of the city and teaching English to young people. Eight other volunteers served in the nearby city of Olawa, helping renovate a Baptist church building.

□ See *Kentuckians serve ...*, page 9



PARTNERSHIP MISSIONS Jeremiah Goley (left) and Jaimee Bertram perform a skit during an evangelistic meeting in Czestachowa, Poland. The two members of First Baptist Church of Monticello were part of a 20-member team sent to Poland. Kentucky Baptists are in the first year of a three-year partnership with Polish Baptists. (IMB photo by Mike Creswell)

Moving? See page 4 (0831)

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

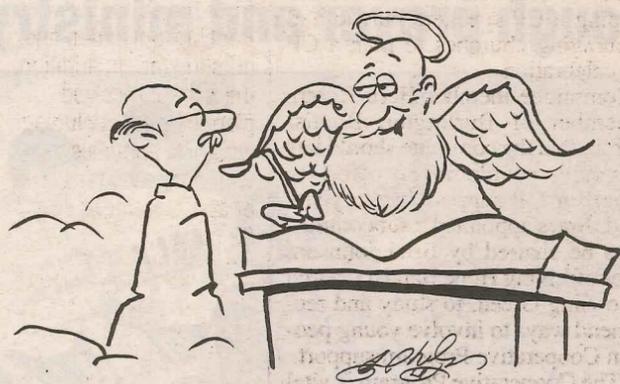
■ **Midwestern trustees finalize meeting.** Trustees of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., will hold a called meeting Sept. 13-14 to discuss issues concerning the leadership of President Mark Coppenger. Trustee chairman Carl Weiser said board leaders will finalize the official "purpose of the meeting in the days ahead." In addition to concerns about Coppenger's misuse of anger, questions have surfaced about declining enrollment and financial issues.

■ **Lottery opponents deny accusations.** Lottery opponents in Alabama have denied accusations that their efforts are being funded by casinos. Gov. Don Siegelman's office specifically cited Lt. Gov. Steve Windom and former gubernatorial candidate Lenora Pate, both Baptists, as taking money from Mississippi gambling interests. "The governor's office knows me and knows that is a lie," said Pate, co-chairman of the state Woman's Missionary Union anti-lottery initiative. Similar false allegations were made in 1997 against Dan Ireland, executive director of the Alabama Citizens Action Program.

■ **Patterson cited for N.C. impact.** Southern Baptist Convention President Paige Patterson has been included in a list of 100 people credited with helping shape North Carolina in the 20th century, according to the Raleigh (N.C.) News and Observer. The list includes "believers," activists, educators, politicians, philanthropists and others. The article describes Patterson, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., as a "conservative revolutionary." Others listed in the "believers" category range from evangelist Billy Graham to former televangelist Jim Bakker. Prominent names in other areas include basketball superstar Michael Jordan, actor Andy Giffith, NASCAR champion Richard Petty and U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms.

■ **Women in Ministry elects president.** Raye Nell Dyer, an ordained Baptist minister who works as a chaplain at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn., is the new president of Baptist Women in Ministry. She succeeds Becca Gurney, a former associate pastor in Austin, Texas. The organization, formed in 1983, provides support and resources for women ministers in Southern Baptist churches. A 1998 study found there are more than 1,300 ordained Southern Baptist women.

■ **Hardin-Simmons names new president.** Craig Turner will become president of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, effective June 1, 2001, according to a "Presidential Succession Plan" approved by trustees. Turner will succeed current President Larry Hall who has announced he will step down from the office to assume the role of chancellor. Turner, 52, currently is HSU's executive vice president and chief academic officer.



"You're the creator of the HMO plan? Sure you can stay ... for three days!"

Rogers to lead study of SBC faith statement

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)—Former Southern Baptist Convention President Adrian Rogers has been named chairman of a 15-member committee appointed by SBC President Paige Patterson to study the convention's Baptist Faith & Message statement.

Rogers, first elected SBC president in 1979, was the first in a series of conservative presidents during the past two decades who helped shift the SBC in a more conservative direction. He is pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tenn.

The Baptist Faith & Message, originally adopted in 1925 and revised in 1963, had its first addition at the 1998 SBC annual meeting when an article on the family was adopted.

The "blue-ribbon committee," approved by messengers to the 1999 SBC annual meeting in Atlanta, will bring a report to the 2000 annual meeting next June in Orlando, Fla. Convention messengers voted 2,327 to 1,063 to have Patterson appoint the committee, with the only instructions to review the document and report back in 2000.

In addition to Rogers, Patterson appointed T.C. Pinckney, a conservative Baptist leader from Virginia, who made the motion to establish the study com-

mittee. Pinckney, editor of The Baptist Banner, a Virginia-based conservative journal, told the Atlanta convention, "I believe it is appropriate at this time that the Baptist Faith & Message be reviewed and that it be made consistent with the current stand of the SBC."

Patterson, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., also appointed his brother-in-law, Charles Kelley Jr., to the committee. Kelley is president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Other denominational leaders serving on the committee include former SBC president Jerry Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla.; Al Mohler, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville; and Richard Land, president of the SBC Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, as well as Susie Hawkins, wife of SBC Annuity Board President O.S. Hawkins.

Patterson also appointed three representatives of ethnic fellowships to the group. They are Rudy Hernandez, Hispanic Southern Baptist evangelist and member of Primera Iglesia Bautista in Grand Prairie, Texas; Fred Lauter, African-American pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans; and Simon Tsoi, pastor of First Chinese

Baptist Church in Phoenix.

Others appointed to the committee are Max Barnett, Baptist Student Union director at the University of Oklahoma; Steve Gaines, pastor of First Baptist Church in Gardendale, Ala.; Heather King, state WMU/Women's Ministries director for the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana; Nelson Price, pastor of Roswell Street Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga.; and Roger Spradlin, pastor of Valley Baptist Church in Bakersfield, Calif.

Patterson said he did "not anticipate even beginning to approximate a rewrite of the Baptist Faith & Message."

"Most folks feel, 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it,'" Patterson said, calling the document an "undeniably fabulous statement."

"However, the messenger making the motion believes, and I concur, that every 30 years or so we need to take a look at the statement of faith, not because our faith changes, but because the issues of the day usually dictate some minor revisions to remove ambiguities or address specific issues," Patterson said.

He added, however, that the committee will be "free to proceed with whatever recommendations they wish to make."

Investors in Arizona foundation must keep waiting to access funds

PHOENIX, Ariz. (ABP)—Investors in the troubled Baptist Foundation of Arizona must wait until October to learn when they can get some or all of their money back, according to an Aug. 21 letter.

The letter from an executive oversight committee set up to handle the crisis keeps a promise to stay in touch with investors in light of findings that the foundation was violating state securities law.

"We know you'd like us to tell you when you can get some or all of your funds, and we'd like to be able to answer that today but hope you understand that we don't have quite enough information to be that specific yet," the letter said.

"What we can say, however, is that by sometime in October we hope to be in a position to begin communicating a plan to deal fairly with investors."

The Arizona Corporation Commission, the state agency that oversees public utilities and securities, issued an order Aug. 10 requiring the foundation and two subsidiary corporations to "cease and desist" from offering or selling investment products in violation of the Arizona Securities Act.

Foundation trustees already had taken that action voluntarily July 22, when they also placed a temporary freeze on the withdrawal of invested funds, continuing to pay only interest and distribution of individual retirement accounts.

Baptist foundation officials in several other states have released statements explaining that each state Baptist foundation is independent from the others. That means the crisis in Arizona has no impact on the operations of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation or any other Baptist foundation throughout the nation.

According to a yearlong investigation by the Arizona Corporation Commission and the Arizona Attorney General's Office, the foundation and two subsidiaries—Arizona Southern Baptist New Church Ventures, Inc., and Christian Financial Partners, Inc.—did not disclose their "true financial condition" to the investing public. The commission concluded the three corporations "offered and sold securities within or from Arizona through material misrepresentations and omissions of material fact."

Trustees of the Baptist Foundation of Arizona consented to the state's cease-and-desist order without admitting or denying the commission's findings. "BFA will continue to cooperate fully with the state agencies," said the letter to investors.

Foundation leaders said they had heard from thousands of investors in the two weeks since their first letter, and most are willing to give them time to work on a solution. They encouraged investors to remain patient and discouraged them from suing to retrieve funds.

"We respect everyone's right to pursue legal options, but please understand that the cost of legal defense can impact the availability of funds intended for payments to investors," the committee wrote.

"We're continuing to exert every effort to avoid possibilities such as bankruptcy or receivership to give us time to work out a positive solution to BFA's current problems."

President Bill Crots, General Counsel Tom Grabinski and Controller Don Deardoff are on administrative leave after voluntarily removing themselves from their duties July 22. Their relationships with the agency "are being evaluated at this time and decisions will be reached soon," according to the Aug. 21 investors' letter.

Southern explores Ghana partnership

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—A team of students and professors from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary conducted a recent 10-day "discovery tour" of the West African nation of Ghana.

The tour sought to establish a connection between the Ghana Baptist Convention and the seminary that may develop into a missions partnership.

"Ghana offers Southern Seminary a unique opportunity for placing faculty and students in an international missions setting," said George Martin, associate professor of Christian missions at Southern.

He said Southern Baptist International Mission Board field personnel and Ghana Baptist leaders "have expressed an eagerness to work with the seminary community in partnership."

Martin noted, however, that plans for a possible partnership remain in the preliminary stages. "What will eventually come of the trip is yet to be determined. It was a fact-finding and survey trip." He said formal authorization of the partnership, if approved, may take six months.

Meeting with IMB personnel, Ghana Baptist officials and local pastors across the country, the six-member team explored ways for seminary professors and students to help Baptists in the nation of 18 million people.

Possible opportunities include surveying, church planting, evangelism with many of the country's unreached people groups, hospital ministries and leadership training.

Bluegrass churches are sponsoring Kosovo refugees

By David Winfrey & Pat Cole
News Director & Staff Writer

NICHOLASVILLE—At least two Kentucky Baptist churches are sponsoring families that have relocated to America after fleeing Bosnia.

A family of eight flew to Lexington last week, where they were met by members of Edgewood Baptist Church in Nicholasville.

And last month, Harrodsburg Baptist Church began sponsoring two men.

Several members of Edgewood have pitched in to help out the family of Muhamet Ibrahim, according to Michelle Hayden, who is coordinating the sponsorship.

Hayden said she and her husband got involved in refugee resettlement four years ago. She and her husband were attending a different church when they helped resettle a Bosnian couple, she said. The Haydens approached Edgewood about the current need and "the church was just overwhelming in their response."

Muhamet Ibrahim, his wife, their five children and Ibrahim's mother arrived in Lexington last week from Macedonia.

One of the greatest challenges was finding an apartment for eight family members, Hayden said.

Donations from church members allowed Hayden to furnish the apartment—from furniture to toiletries—for less than \$200.

"We've left no stone unturned," she said. "I think we're going to need a hammer, but I think we've got everything else covered."

The Ibrahimis are Muslim, Hayden said, and the church sees this ministry as an opportunity to share the gospel of Jesus. "By no means is it a requirement for our help, but we do see it as an opportunity to share our faith and our love for Jesus Christ with them," she said.

Churches that agree to resettle refugees are expected to assist the family for at least 90 days, but the relationship usually lasts much longer. The Bosnian couple the Haydens pre-

viously sponsored have remained friends and are helping with translation between the church and the new family.

While every sponsorship is different, the church is helping Ibrahim find a job and get transportation, she said. "We want to do whatever it takes to help them get on their feet."

In Harrodsburg, two 23-year-old Kosovar men arrived July 14 under the sponsorship of Harrodsburg Baptist Church, according to church member Janet Reed.

Church members located and furnished a two-bedroom apartment for the men. Church members also are taking the men to Lexington three times each week for English classes.

Reed said the pair are working hard to learn English and eagerly practice their new language skills with church members. "They are very kind and sweet, and they smile a lot," Reed said. "We're very fond of them."

The two men work in a furniture factory, not far from their apartment. They commute to work on bicycles.

Church members learned about the need for refugee sponsors from a story in the Western Recorder, Reed said. "The article caught some of our attention, and we thought this was something we could do."

Kentucky Refugee Ministries has helped about 50 Kosovar refugees resettle this summer, according to Director Barbara Kleine.

Kentucky Refugee Ministries is an affiliate of Church World Service, an organization that receives support from 11 denominations, including the Southern Baptist Convention, Kleine said.

Kentucky Refugee Ministries has helped 310 refugees relocate throughout central Kentucky during the last nine years.

Information about church sponsorship of refugees is available from many associational directors of missions or from the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board of at (770) 410-6343. Kentucky Refugee Ministries can be reached in Lexington at (606) 226-5661 and in Louisville at (502) 452-9055.

BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ **Baptist Healthcare System** announced it will donate \$300,000 to Partnership 2000 during the next three years. Partnership 2000 is the joint fundraising campaign for Kentucky Baptists' three liberal arts colleges. The gift will be used for scholarships for healthcare system employees and dependents entering a medical related field of study at either Campbellsville University, Cumberland College or Georgetown College.

■ **Donald Hustad**, senior professor of church music and worship at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, will be a featured performer at the Kentucky Baptist Convention church music department's keyboard ministers' retreat Sept. 24-25 at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville. Topics will include "Meeting the Needs of Keyboard Ministers in Smaller Churches." The cost of the retreat is \$20 per day or \$35 for both days and includes all concerts, clinic sessions and meals. The registration deadline is Sept. 10. For more information, call the KBC church music department at (502) 254-4727 or toll-free in Kentucky at (888) 254-5707.

■ **Georgetown College** received \$7.1 million in total donations for the 1998-99 fiscal year, which ended June 30. The total includes funds from the Kentucky Baptist Convention and gifts in kind. In addition, the school received planned gifts, including wills and annuities, with a face value of approximately \$2 million.

West Kentucky crusade gets big results for small community

By Pat Cole
Staff Writer

BARDWELL—A recent evangelistic crusade in Bardwell has proven that small communities can produce big results for Christ.

The Aug. 22-25 crusade, sponsored by 13 Baptist churches in Carlisle County, drew an average of 900 people nightly and saw 30 people make professions of faith in Christ, according to Charles Blair, director of missions for West Kentucky Baptist Association.

Attendance on youth night was approximately 1,100, a figure that equals slightly more than 20 percent of Carlisle County's population.

Lincoln Bingham, pastor of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville, preached at each service. When a planning committee chose

Bingham for that role, every member was convinced that his selection was "from the Lord," Blair said. That feeling was confirmed during the crusade, Blair added.

Bingham also serves as a cooperative ministries consultant with the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Follow-up work is under way with those who made decisions at the crusade, Blair said. "The churches in the county are getting the names of everyone who made professions. Most of the people who came forward are from this county."

Playing off the media buzz surrounding the new millennium, the crusade billed itself as Y2KC, which stood for Year to Know Christ. The event was held at the Carlisle County Fairgrounds.

The crusade's results prove mass evangelism is a viable tool in that

community, Blair said. Children, youth and young adults were extremely supportive, he added. "They thought this was the greatest thing since sliced bread."

Planning for the event began nine months ago and committees organized each facet of the crusade, Blair said.

The crusade received good paid and free promotion in the local media and steadfast prayer support from area churches, Blair said.

In addition to the 11 Carlisle County churches in West Kentucky Association, two black Baptist churches not affiliated with the association supported the crusade. Attendance reflected the crusade's inter-racial cooperation, Blair said.

Blair is optimistic the crusade's effects will be felt for months ahead.

"I think this will spill over into greater things," he predicted. "I think

we will have increased baptisms as a result of the increased awareness of lost people."

In addition to producing new Christians, the event also trained church members in evangelism, Blair said.

"Some people involved as counselors had never before led anybody to the Lord," he explained. "They are now aware that lost people are around them."

West Kentucky Association has coordinated a countywide crusade for three consecutive years in conjunction with the Celebrate Jesus 2000, a national evangelistic emphasis of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board. In previous years, crusades have been held in Fulton and Hickman counties.

To conclude the emphasis, the association is encouraging its 36 churches to hold revivals next April.

Kentucky Baptists plan to celebrate Cooperative Program anniversary

Next year will mark the 75th anniversary of the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified giving plan.

Seeking to highlight both the history and future of the cooperative effort, Kentucky Baptist Convention leaders are making plans for a year-long celebration.

KBC president Charles Barnes recently appointed a 14-member committee from throughout the state to plan and direct the effort. The committee held its first meeting Aug. 26 at the Baptist Building in Middletown.

Focusing on the theme, "Partners in the Harvest," the committee will recommend ways Kentucky Baptists can join Southern Baptists throughout the nation in affirming the ongoing impact of the funding plan.

The Cooperative Program is a voluntary giving plan that begins at the local church level with congregations sending a portion of individual tithes and offerings to help fund state, national and international min-

istry efforts. The state convention uses a portion of those funds for in-state mission and ministry priorities. An additional percentage is forwarded to the Southern Baptist Convention to fund efforts in the nation and around the world.

CP Celebration Committee chairman James Jones, pastor of Campbellsville Baptist Church, said the planning committee has an opportunity "not only to show our support for the Cooperative Program but to show we continue to believe this is God's tool for our denomination not only today but for the 21st century."

Steve Thompson, KBC executive associate, shared a brief history of the Cooperative Program. He said the idea for a unified system of giving among Southern Baptists began in the early 1900s in West Kentucky. First Baptist Church of Murray adopted a plan in 1915 that became the model for the Cooperative Program 10 years later.

KBC Executive Secretary Bill Mackey presented an overview of ministry challenges and opportunities

in the state that are dependent on strong Cooperative Program support. Affirming the need for effective ministry efforts on the state level, he said, "Without a strong foundation, you cannot increase your reach to the world."

He cited such needs as new church starts, expanded collegiate ministries and assisting bivocational and smaller membership churches as major needs for the future.

Robert Reeves, KBC communications director, detailed plans for CP promotion on the national level. He said major objectives include "repositioning the Cooperative Program as the heart of SBC missions" and "reconnecting the Cooperative Program to the pastor and pew."

Reeves said national CP celebration goals include baptizing 1 million people during 2000, involving a record number of mission volunteers and raising \$750 million in combined Cooperative Program and other mission gifts.

Celebration resource materials will

range from a music video and wristbands to a national "I'm a Partner" ad campaign.

KBC communications specialist Denise Withers said plans are under way to customize a marketing plan for Kentucky Baptists at an estimated cost of \$60,000. Plans include recognizing leading CP churches in the state, developing a CP speakers bureau and encouraging churches to plan a CP Day celebration.

Committee member Herb Booth, member of Burlington Baptist Church, said the committee should target young people in an effort to strengthen CP support in the years ahead. Jones appointed a subcommittee to be chaired by Brad Johnson, pastor of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green, to study and recommend ways to involve young people in Cooperative Program support.

"The Cooperative Program is vital if we're going to do missions, ministry and education," Jones said. "It has not only served the past, but can serve the next century as a tool from God."

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

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A call for martyrs

I read with disturbed curiosity the letter by James Clark in the Aug. 10 issue of the Western Recorder. Thankfully, Clark has raised the awareness of a movement that is regaining its place in the life of the Southern Baptist Convention. Unfortunately, his letter was a poor characterization of the position of the "devotees of the doctrine known as Calvinism."

John Piper did indeed call for missionaries who are willing to die for their faith in Christ. Such a commitment is completely biblical, for Jesus assured His disciples they would suffer persecution for their adherence to His teachings. To serve our Lord on the mission field is no light calling and demands our unwavering commitment to the glory of God. Jesus calls us to give all and follow Him without looking back.

Remember that William Carey, the father of modern missions, was a strong Calvinist, and the first mission society was formed by Calvinist pastors such as Andrew Fuller and John Ryland. Far from being a "morbid cult," Calvinists are committed to the grace, sovereignty and glory of God, and this commitment demands that we take His commands seriously. Such a summons is not the result of a morbid obsession with death, but rather, it is the result of serious reflection upon the Great Commission and the cost of discipleship. Not every Christian will be a martyr, but every one of us must be willing to serve God in death as well as in life.

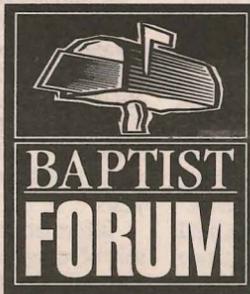
Those who were calling for martyrs at the 17th annual Founders

Conference were issuing a wake-up call to all who would follow Christ. Our Lord commands us to reach out to all people, not just those who do not hate us and might not kill us.

*Leonard R. Smith Jr.
Dry Ridge*

Time for the Bible

It only takes 66 hours to read the complete Bible cover to cover. This includes the "begats."



The Western Recorder recently reported on a group that did it in four days but they could have done it in less. According to the clock, it takes 66 hours to read all 66 books. That averages one hour per book. Jude, 1 and 2 Peter and 1, 2 and 3 John raise your average but there are enough

longer ones to bring the average down.

When I became a Christian 55 years ago, about all the counseling new Christians got was "pray and read your Bible." I got this advice every week and followed it. By the time I was 12, I had read the Bible through at least twice. I didn't understand most of it but I read, as directed, waiting for the "magic" to work on me. I continued this through my teen years.

Then in 1953, during a two-week wait to ship to Korea, I decided to

write down the amount of time I spent reading. This was easy to do because sometimes I could read four hours or more at a sitting. Soon I had a Bible with the time to read each book written on its first page. I remember Matthew took two hours. That way if I knew how much time I had to read I could pick a favorite book and finish it.

Being familiar with the content of the Bible has served me well during my life. So to anyone reading the Bible through, I say, "It only takes 66 hours even if you read carefully." Each Christian should be familiar with the content of the Bible. It will certainly keep you from being "tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine by man."

*Gene Iglehart
Bowling Green*

Camp makes impact

My experience at Cedarmore was a wonderful one. At Discover Missions Week '99, I thoroughly enjoyed hearing the different testimonies of my youth group and what they did.

Most of my group worked off campus, but I worked at Cedarmore and Cedarcrest, chipping wood and cleaning cabins. It made me feel really great that so many people could gather together in the name of God to do work. I would love to do it again.

*Carrie Burgener
Wheatley*

What are you thinking?

The Western Recorder considers letters on any subject for publication, provided they don't make a personal attack. The maximum length for a letter is 300 words. Baptist Forum is limited to Western Recorder subscribers, unless someone is responding to a story or editorial of which they are the subject. Submit by mail, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253; fax, (502) 244-6474; or e-mail, wesrec@ntr.net.

PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

Associations: partners in ministry

The fall of the year ushers in football, trips to the mountains, festivals and annual associational meetings. Baptists will gather all across Kentucky in more than 70 locations. The first meeting was held in late July, and meetings are scheduled through the latter part of October.

One of the first meetings was in Owen County Association, Aug. 3. There were reports on associational and Kentucky Baptist Convention ministries as well as on Southern Baptist North American missions and international missions. South Fork Baptist Church, the host church, prepared a wonderful fellowship meal.

The association conducted its annual business by electing officers, approving the budget and various reports, establishing program and ministry priorities, and hearing inspirational messages and reports from the churches. Several churches reported revival among members and record baptisms. They had overcome challenges through prayer.

The director of missions, George Stack, has served for more than 40 years and continues with vision for the future.

Local associations have a vital role in Baptist life. They can customize training for the churches and meet needs because they are close to the churches. Personal attention and support can be given to bivocational pastors and smaller membership churches that may not participate in KBC events. Local leaders can network resources of the denomination to assist churches during times of challenge and change.

Local associations also can develop plans for missions and ministry development and for reaching their communities for Christ. In concert with their churches, every person can have an opportunity to hear the gospel in an understandable way and an invitation to receive and follow Jesus Christ. The Kentucky Baptist Convention works in partnership with local associations to

conduct missions and evangelism ministries.

More than 47 Hispanic ministries have been launched in cooperation with local associations. I recently received a wonderful letter from Carl Freudenthal, director of missions in the Bethel and Logan Baptist associations, thanking the KBC for resources to help fund a Hispanic minister who has just started his work.

The KBC also has worked in partnership with 32 associations that are planning crusades as a part of Celebrate Jesus 2000. Long Run and Elkhorn associations have plans to share a witness with every household in their geographic areas.

All KBC institutions and agencies and KBC staff departments relate to associations as partners in ministry. Each will send representatives to associational meetings. I look forward to participating in 12 annual meetings this fall and to strengthening the partnership with associations.

Pray for these meetings and the ministries that will be represented. Plan to participate in your local associational meeting!

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

GIVING

Planned giving: a tidal wave of opportunity

By Laurie Valentine

It is estimated that in the next 15 years \$10.5 trillion dollars will pass from one generation to the next—the largest intergenerational transfer of wealth in recorded history.



This situation provides a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for churches to encourage this generation of faithful givers to consider going to the next level in their Christian stewardship by making a "planned gift."

A planned gift is a gift out of capital resources (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, real estate, etc.), rather than out of income. Planned gifts include endowment fund giving, bequests, gifts of life insurance, charitable lead trusts, charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts. In many cases, the church's enjoyment of the planned gift will be deferred until the giver's death.

Planned giving provides benefits to the giver, as well as to the receiver. Life income gifts such as charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts provide the opportunity to turn a low-yielding, but highly appreciated asset into a gift that can provide a higher level of income to the donor for the rest of his or her life. The donor also may reap income tax and capital gain tax savings.

The church will benefit from adding a planned giving emphasis to its stewardship education in a variety of ways. Planned gifts are generally irrevocable which will provide assurance of funds for the church's future. Individuals who have made a planned gift to the church will be very interested in its future—they now have a stake in it. Tax savings and increased income from life income gifts can actually increase a donor's capacity to give.

A church planned giving program is not campaign-oriented; it is an ongoing educational process. It is not intended to replace tithes and offerings giving; it provides the means to give "above and beyond" your tithes and offerings.

Planned giving truly provides a tidal wave of opportunities for a church and its members. For more information about how to develop a planned giving program for your church, contact Laurie Valentine or Barry Allen at the Kentucky Baptist Foundation at (888) 254-5701.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation

How can I cultivate a positive, lasting romantic relationship?

Q: I seem to move rapidly from one dating relationship to another. These relationships tend to be passionate and quickly burn out. What am I doing wrong?

Your problem may come from a wrong understanding of what love and commitment are all about. Romance, being "hopelessly in love," is often viewed as the passionate ideal. This plays itself out in the high U.S. divorce rate and in the restlessness of our lives.

Scripture describes real love as the opposite of being "in love." 1 Corinthians 13 teaches that real love focuses on the other person and their needs. Being "in love" is an obsession with one's own needs and those needs being met by a fantasy person. One's own unfulfilled needs get projected onto the attractive person along with desperate, impossible demands for fulfillment.

The proper goal of marriage is "companionate" love, whereby each says of the other, "This is my best friend." Most Americans take more time planning their vacations than in getting to know their potential mates. I urge you to take part in premarital counseling if you're in a relationship where marriage is a possibility. If you're in a relationship with someone who would not make a good marriage partner, get out! Many people continue a process designed for mate selection with someone with whom they are ill matched. Then, through physical involvement or mere laziness, they "drift" into marriage. They wonder why they so easily drift away later.

In the relational world, use your heart and your head in proper balance. Seek friendships first and foremost. Beware of romance. It's a powerful potion that can be deadly.

Honor your relationship with God. This will help you not deify the opposite sex. If your love doesn't resemble the unselfish portrait of 1 Corinthians 13, it's probably something else. Don't let the elixir of romance inebriate you to live a fantasy, which will only destroy.—James Stillwell

Q: What can our church do to help retiring professionals?

The identity of retiring professionals is bound up in the retirement roles of this society. Because of this, ministry with retiring professionals must broaden the options within which the biblical principle of vocation can be understood and pursued. Churches over time do affect the expectations of people and can help create new role possibilities for the later years of life. Presently the older adult ministry of most congregations provides entertainment or volunteer service for active elderly—usually shut-ins and residents of nursing homes.

One way local congregations can help retiring professionals who are "freelance" workers is to offer office workspace. For a minimum cost, two or three people can share an office and the related services. Often these professionals lack facilities, which has a negative effect on the tendency to remain active.

Be aware of the skills available from these professionals. They often can provide valuable support services that can be a major ministry for the church and its community. It is possible to help alleviate the sense of boredom experienced by some retired people and to ward off the feelings of uselessness which many older people dread. Your church could help facilitate such changes.—Jon Rainbow

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; Jon Rainbow, a clinical gerontologist and professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; and Wade Rowatt, director of the St. Matthews Pastoral Counseling Center in Louisville. Send questions for Family Forum to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253 or e-mail us at wesrec@ntr.net.



Moving beyond being 'busy Baptists'

The start of a new school year typically signals the beginning of a new church year in most Baptist congregations. As fall rapidly approaches, churches become a non-stop hub of activity. Back-to-choir celebrations, missions fairs, youth council retreats, committee meetings, new discipleship classes, high attendance campaigns, fall softball leagues—the list goes on and on.

Amid all the excitement of new activities, it's important to pause and evaluate the purpose and goals of our varied ventures. During a recent Baptist Building chapel service, evangelism director Dan Garland emphasized that being "busy Baptists" isn't necessarily the same as being effective Baptists.

Garland placed an old cast-iron water pump on the chapel stage as an object lesson. He noted that no matter how much he pumped the handle, not even a trickle of water would come out because the pump wasn't connected to a source. He made the timely point that busy Christians and churches also are sometimes disconnected from the source of our ministry motivation—Jesus Christ.

The fact is we do tend to have a reputation for being "busy Baptists" rather than effective ministers of the gospel.

Jesus addressed a similar issue in Luke 10. As He was visiting in the home of Martha and Mary, Martha "was distracted with all her preparations" while her sister sat at Jesus' feet, joyfully soaking in His words. Martha grew so frustrated that she confronted Jesus with the situation. "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me."

"Martha, Martha," Jesus answered, "you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only a few things are necessary, really only one, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

Wow. Talk about a wake-up call for Martha—and for us. Jesus said it's more important to focus on hearing from Him than being busy with external priorities.

We know the story well, but do we put it into practice? Are your church's activities focused on making an eternal impact in the lives of people around you or does your fall schedule merely reflect the historic Baptist declaration: "That's the way we've always done it"?

While busy schedules are not necessarily negative by nature, our true motivation should involve planning and promoting activities that are effective in accomplishing specific ministry goals. But how do we make certain we have "chosen the good part" as Mary did?

Here in Kentucky, we are fortunate to have "Super Saturday" training events sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention. While many of this year's events already have taken place at sites throughout the state, the final two sessions are set for Sept. 11 at Unity Baptist Church in Ashland and First Baptist Church of Paducah.

Highlighting the 1999 theme, "Boldly Conquering the New Millennium," Super Saturday provides church leadership training for pastors, teachers and other church workers. Various workshops address church health, ministry resources, leadership gifts and other needs as the conference seeks to "mobilize leadership for ministry in and outside the church."

I'm not seeking to promote one specific training event, however. There are numerous other training options available on the local and associational levels as well as other sources. The key is to step back from your typical church routine and consciously seek a clear vision of what God would have you do in your specific ministry setting.

God may give you a renewed commitment to accomplish the tasks in which your congregation already is involved. He may lead you to "color outside the lines" as you dream new dreams and make bold plan for the future.

The constant challenge is to move from being busy Baptists to being effective Baptists in all we seek to do. As your church begins a new year of ministry, make a fresh commitment to carefully choose "the good part."

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

Who will rescue me from ... death?

By Greg Faulls

"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?" (Romans 7:24)

The struggle to please God while being tempted by the allure of sin often fatigues followers of Christ. Many feel discouraged as they frequently fail to gain victory over the law of sin in their lives. But it doesn't have to be that way.

The Apostle Paul tells us that it is none other than Jesus Christ who rescues us from the enslaving power of sin in our souls (Romans 7:25). The salvation of Christ we have received has changed not only our eternal destiny but also our spiritual identity. According to God, we have been transformed from "sinner" to "saint." The Lord has given us victory over sin

and it has resulted in a complete change in our purpose and power.

A common statement Christians use in describing themselves is "I'm just a sinner saved by grace." Though there is some truth to this (we all have sinned, and salvation is by grace alone), the New Testament never labels a Christian's identity using the word "sinner." The Bible describes a believer in Christ not as a sinner, but as a "saint" (2 Corinthians 1:1; Ephesians 1:1; Philippians 1:1).

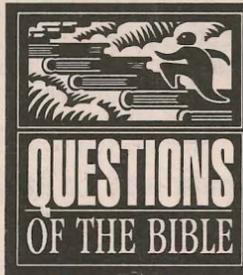
Leaders in the Catholic Church are now considering canonizing Mother Teresa and giving her the designation of saint. Some in that church think it is too soon after her death to do so. Yet to the New Testament, such a discussion of sainthood is needless. After all, the Bible never defines saints as special, super-serving, super-human, spiritual giants. The Scriptures

refer to every believer in Christ as a "saint."

Sainthood is not something earned through maturity. It is the identity of all who are set free from sin and set apart to fulfill God's will. When you accept Christ, according to God, you are no longer a sinner, but a saint. You still sin on occasion, but sin is no longer your identity. Jesus Christ has delivered you from sin and given you the freedom to follow Him in obedience.

As a pastor, people refer to me in a variety of ways. When I am in the North, folks are inclined to call me Reverend Faulls. When I am in the South, many call me Brother Greg. In formal settings I am sometimes referred to as Dr. Faulls. But when I read my Bible, it seems to suggest that people should really refer to me as Saint Gregory. The same goes for you if you have accepted the salvation of Christ. Jesus has rescued you from the death of sin. He has given you victory. He has set you free. Thanks be to God!

Greg Faulls is senior pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro



How about fishing where the young fish are?

America's youth aren't likely to be reached with the gospel by targeting the 12 percent of students in grades seven through 12 who currently attend church, according to a Southern Baptist North American Mission Board student evangelism specialist.

A more effective strategy is to equip and empower those students to reach their peers personally on the neutral territory of school campuses.

"To reach this generation, the best influence in a student's life is another student," said Chad Childress. "Ninety percent of the student population in America spends seven to eight hours a day, nine months a year on the campuses, and that's where we need to focus. Basically, we're fishing where the fish are."

Churches should break the huddle and execute

Churches should "break the huddle" if they're going to score touchdowns for Jesus, according to a Georgia pastor.

George McCalep, pastor of Greenforest Community Baptist Church in Decatur, Ga., is author of "Breaking the Huddle," a book about evangelism. The title refers to when football players, after learning their next play, "break the huddle" and move to the line for action, he said.

"In football, if you don't break the huddle, you can't score. Likewise, in the church, if we stay in the huddle, we can't score for Jesus," McCalep said.

The Georgia pastor chastised churches for staying in the huddle and never moving to the front lines. He said the church huddles on Sunday mornings for Sunday school and Sunday nights for discipleship training; it huddles for mid-week Bible studies; it huddles when members eat out together; and it huddles during choir practice.

"It's time for the church to break the huddle and take the holy place to the market. It's time for the saints to go to the ain'ts."

Jesus spent very little time in the church, McCalep reminded the group. "He performed very few miracles in the church. If we're going to evangelize, we've got to break the huddle."

People are visual, and churches should be, too

The world is in the midst of a visual revolution, and the church has to join in to minister effectively in the 21st century, a consultant for LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention said.

"Every generation has become a little more visual than the one before it," said Steve Williams, a specialist in LifeWay's discipleship and family leadership department. What started with the television in the 1950s has progressed to the Internet today, he said. "The church has to respond to that by unleashing the power of the visual in worship services and classrooms."

Churches are using electronic visual media in four main areas, he said:

■ **Worship.** Data or video projectors display on screens or walls the words to hymns and choruses, sermon outlines, announcements, Scripture verses, music and video clips.

■ **Classrooms.** Portable computers project teaching outlines, information about future events/studies, class assignments and music and video clips that relate to Bible study lessons.

■ **Hallways.** In larger churches, computer monitors or television screens show announcements, taped or live worship and Bible study programs, music videos, touch-screen maps of the church campus and other touch-screen menus with other church-related information.

■ **Living rooms.** Electronic media is being used for electronic newsletters to members, church-related Internet Web sites, a pictorial church directory on diskette and computer linked-classes.

Defined purpose, publicity can help a church's discipleship program

Struggling to attract a crowd to discipleship training?

Developing a purpose statement for the ministry and trying different methods of publicity could help increase interest and attendance, a leader from the Baptist General Convention of Texas said.

"Developing a purpose statement for discipleship helps your membership understand why you're doing what you're doing and what you want to accomplish," said Eric Williams, discipleship training coordinator for the BGCT. "The goal is to help them catch a vision for how discipleship can help them grow toward spiritual maturity."

Once the ministry is established, Williams said personal testimonies from people who have been through discipleship studies are often the best way to promote future sessions.

"When someone can talk about what the study meant to them and how it changed their life, you can't get any better publicity than that," he said.

Other keys for a successful discipleship ministry, Williams said, include "enthusiastic support from the pulpit" and leaders "who have a passion for seeing people grow in Christ."

Face family pain now to ease chance of depression later

Failure to deal with a painful family history can be a trigger for depression later in life, according to an editor of life support materials at LifeWay Christian Resources.

"God intended for us to have healthy families. Unfortunately for a lot of us, that just wasn't our experience," said Dale McCleskey.

To break the cycle of hurt, McCleskey encouraged church leaders to help people deal with the baggage from their past and learn to effectively communicate negative emotions.

"In my family, we just didn't do anger. It was either calm or we were screaming," he said. "So, it seemed to me that being angry meant you were out of control. But it doesn't have to be that way.

"Dumping our anger on other people isn't what we need to do," he added. "We need to learn to cry out to the Lord. And we have to learn to communicate with other people."

In a healthy family, McCleskey said:

■ Open communication is practiced, including a willingness to talk about problems and hurts.

■ Conflict is viewed as a normal part of life.

■ Parents have an intimate marriage, openly showing love to one another.

■ People are permitted to be themselves and are accepted as such.

■ Home is a safe place.

■ People share encouragement and affirmation.

Becoming a godly man requires seeking wisdom

At a time when Christian college men are making decisions about career and marriage, they also must give top priority to seeking wisdom, a student ministry director said.

"If you love Jesus, you love wisdom. If you don't love wisdom, you don't love Jesus, because He is wisdom incarnate," said Gregg Matte, director of Breakaway Ministry at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas.

Matte said wisdom is the most important quality for a Christian man. "If we're wise, everything else takes care of itself." He is author of "The Highest Education: Becoming a Godly Man," slated for release in February by LifeWay Christian Resources.

Matte listed three sources of wisdom, the most important being God Himself. "Pray for it (wisdom). Admit you don't have it."

Second, he encouraged students to seek wisdom in the counsel of godly people.

The third source of wisdom, Matte said, is simply living life. "We learn to make good decisions by making bad decisions."

Wisdom is of ultimate importance for college men who are in the process of deciding who they are going to be and what they are going to do. "The stakes get really high."

Women should define their worth in Christ

Too many female Christian college students are defining their worth by the standards of the world instead of their relationship with Christ, a woman's

ministry director said.

"Your worth should be equal to who you are in Christ," said Vicki Courtney, director of Crossroad Women's Ministry in Austin, Texas. "Do you see yourself as God sees you, righteous before Him?"

Courtney acknowledged that focusing on the biblical model of womanhood can be difficult when the volume of worldly messages is so loud.

"From the time we are young, we are bombarded with messages from the world," including movies, television, magazines, even Barbie, she said.

Describing herself as a "poster child for a gal who tried to define my self-worth by the standards of the world," she cited three equations that are recipes for disaster.

The first, "Worth equals what you do," majors on performance. "You can be a Christian, a teacher or a Sunday school leader and still be defining your worth on performance," she said.

"Worth equals what others think of you" and "worth equals what you look like" are the other two worldly equations driving many women, Courtney said.

Instead of worldly values, Christian women should give priority to their relationship with God, she said.

Innovative church leaders start with prospects' needs

Church leaders must not limit the possibilities of the future by the successes of the past, according to pastors, authors and other speakers at an innovative church leadership conference.

"Innovation is the engine behind making the world better for everyone," said author and futurist Joel Barker. "If you can imagine a world without computers, automobiles, indoor plumbing, electric lights or the Post-it note, then you can begin to see where we'd be without innovation."

Speakers at the conference agreed the goal is not change for change's sake; it is to change the right things. Innovative pastors, they said, may change forms, structures and strategies to adapt the methods of the church to reach people for Jesus Christ, but that does not mean they are willing to compromise the integrity of the faith.

As it applies to the established church, innovators must be careful what they change, speakers said.

Leith Anderson, senior pastor of Wooddale Church in Eden Prairie, Minn., said innovative pastors must exercise wisdom to know what they should change. For instance, he said, a Pittsburgh church has the times of its services carved into the granite over the main entrance. "It is hard to switch a service to 10:30 if (the building) reads 11."

Anderson added that pastors should give greater weight to the needs of the prospects than the needs of the institution.

"The significant mistake of the traditionalists," Anderson said, "is they require the people to start where the church is instead of the church starting where the people are. Innovators begin by asking, 'What do we need to do to reach the people where they are?'"

Summer Sampler

Tips from Ridgecrest & Glorieta conferences

RESOURCES

Editor: Help youth group leaders know rules of the road

By Charles Willis
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Just as driving a car requires rules for safety, adults also need rules for the road when youth come to them with emergencies on the highway of life, according to a youth Bible studies editor.

Dealing with youth crises should not be regarded as a casual process, said Alice Stegemann, an editor for LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Speaking at a Sunday school leadership conference, Stegemann said the setting for conversation is as impor-

tant for the youth leader as it is for the young person who needs to be heard.

Public locations that still permit confidential conversations are best for both parties, she said. She discouraged meeting alone with a teenager of the opposite sex, regardless of how well the teen and counselor know each other.

Dealing with specific problems warrants guidelines to benefit the teenager and the adult leader, she said.

Among her suggestions:

■ **Identify the real problem.** "Sometimes the problem they are telling you about is not the real problem," she said. "Keep listening. Restate the problem to the young person to see if

you have heard correctly."

■ **Decide on short-term goals.** Goals could include such actions as finding another person to talk with or offering something to read. In some cases, short-term goals might involve a parent.

■ **Offer perspective.** Sometimes a problem that seems unique from a young person's point of view is common to many other youth, Stegemann said.

■ **Be honest about the amount of time available to give to a situation.**

■ **Do not minister beyond competency.** "Set ground rules regarding confidentiality," Stegemann urged. "If what is going to be shared will hurt the youth or someone else, you may not be able to promise confidentiality." She also recommended having a list of other people and services to whom you can refer the youth.

■ **Ask to pray with the teenager.**

■ **Love unconditionally.** "Care about the person and not just about the action involved," she said.

■ **Follow up on the situation.**

■ **Be mindful of touch.** Youth leaders should make certain they are appropriate in the way they hug or touch a teenager, Stegemann said.

■ **Location, location, location.** Be

sure conversations are conducted in an area that is open or are held in the presence of another adult.

■ **Notify others.** Adults in a long-term ministry situation should be sure someone else is aware.

■ **Take notes.** Notes should include the conversations, goals and plans for solving a problem. For legal reasons, youth leaders should avoid the terms "counselor" or "counseling" if they don't have credentials for that profession, Stegemann said. Lay leaders are equipped to listen and talk, not provide professional counseling to a teenager, she added.

Youth leaders can prepare themselves to help teenagers by reading current literature, newsletters and teen magazines, Stegemann continued. They also should take advantage of clinics and workshops for youth leaders, she added.

To influence youth, Stegemann recommended leading an issues-oriented Bible study, taking advantage of teachable moments and providing youth opportunities to practice what they have learned.

"Plan to be available and let youth know you are available," Stegemann said, "but realize you don't have all the answers."

"Plan to be available and let youth know you are available, but realize you don't have all the answers."

Alice Stegemann, youth Bible studies editor for LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention

Convention Week Activities

The printed program for the 1999 Kentucky Baptist Convention to be held in Covington Nov. 16-17 will be going to press soon. Groups that would like to have their convention week activity listed in the program should send the information to the Communications/Media Department by Sept. 10.

Communications/Media Dept.
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P.O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433



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September 13-15

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Call Andy McDonald
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Frankfort Civic Center

POWER SURGE

September 13-15

Call Rick Long

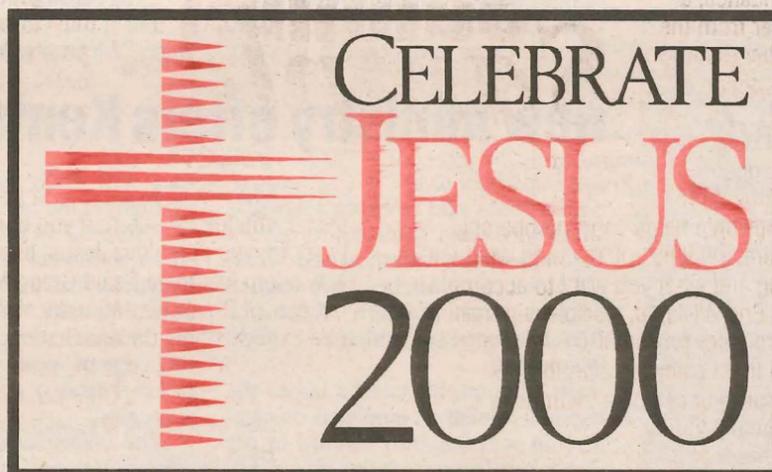
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November 6

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Williamsburg

QUEST

November 19-20

Cumberland College

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Louisville

November 20

Highview Baptist Church

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(502) 239-7711

Ministry coalition adds 10th state during kickoff event

"The mobilization of volunteers is the resource most needed in Appalachia."
Tommy Goode,
director of Appalachian
Mountain Ministry

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

ROANOKE, Va. (BP)—The Appalachian Mountain Ministry welcomed a 10th state into the fold as the Southern Baptist cooperative missions effort celebrated its kickoff Aug. 20-21 at North Roanoke Baptist Church in Virginia.

During the conference, Appalachian Mountain Ministry Director Tommy Goode announced that officials from the South Carolina Baptist Convention have expressed a desire to join the multi-state effort.

That will boost the number of churches (more than 4,200) and resident members (more than 931,000) involved in the effort, which has the cooperation of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board and Woman's Missionary Union.

Current participants include state conventions from Kentucky, Georgia, Maryland-Delaware, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania-South Jersey, Tennessee, West Virginia, Baptist General Association of Virginia and Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia.

Goode, formerly director of the seven-state Mississippi River Ministry, said he expects local churches and ministries to submit at least 200 requests for assistance for next year. A booklet listing ministry needs should be ready for distribution throughout the Southern Baptist Convention by early November.

Projects and prayer requests also will be listed on the group's Internet site —

www.sbclink.net. However, the site was not yet operating at the ministry's kickoff.

"The mobilization of volunteers is the resource most needed in Appalachia," Goode said. "We heard a lot this weekend about partnership. Partnership regionally through the states, and nationally, is essential to accelerating missions work here.

"The thing that always touches me is points of pain and problems. I heard of problems like apathy, limited resources, overwhelming needs and lack of openness to starting new churches," he added. "All of those are something we can do something about through a regional ministry."

Several speakers discussed what participants can expect God to do as they respond to His call.

Tim Cox, who coordinates the Mississippi River Ministry's work in Tennessee, told participants God would create opportunities for Him to reach non-Christians.

"One of the great things about Mississippi River Ministry and Appalachian Mountain Ministry is these ministries enable churches of any size to minister to people," said Cox, pastor of Brinkley Heights Baptist Church in Memphis.

Composed of a handful of members when he came to the church 10 years

ago, its building was in such bad shape it eventually had to be demolished. But thanks to assistance from Mississippi River Ministry, today the congregation has grown and maintains a vibrant ministry center, Cox said.

Among the church's ministries are Memphis' third-largest food bank, clothes closet, medical clinic, after-school tutoring and a series of summer Bible camps, he said.

"Mississippi River Ministry has made it possible to do whatever we believed God wanted us to be," said Cox. "We've never failed. How can you when you're looking for what God is doing and joining Him? My challenge for you today is look for people who don't look like you and look for what God is doing in their lives."

Reginald McDonough, executive director of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, told participants that if they don't develop a vision of what they want to do, they will fall flat on their faces.

Recalling his grandmother showing him the high-water mark in her neighbor's house prior to the construction of a flood-control levee, he said Appalachian Mountain Ministry won't rise above its supporters' vision.

"You can pour money and resources into it and not achieve what God wants," McDonough said. "If we see the

needs as so overwhelming we can't do anything about it, then we'll go back into our shell and try to shut ourselves off from the needs."

Dalene Tew, WMU's coordinator of volunteers and the agency's representative to Appalachian Mountain Ministry, lamented a "fortress" mentality that prevents some Christians from working outside the walls of the church. She said she discovered that mentality when she returned to the United States in 1995 after 12 years as a missionary to Japan.

"There was a mentality of 'us vs. them,'" Tew said. "It's 'us for them.' God didn't call us to stay in our fellowship; He called us to clean the filth out of this world. There are 6,250 churches in this area. Can you imagine, if every church adopted one homeless family what a difference that would make?"

Douglas Beggs, strategy coordinator for NAMB, said many people in Appalachia live "where nobody goes." The idea of reaching those who are often overlooked fits with the mission board's strategy of taking the gospel to everyone on the continent, he said.

Referring to the demon-possessed man who lived in a cave until he was freed by Jesus, Beggs said the man hadn't shaved for a while and didn't smell too good, and he wouldn't have ranked high on a church's prospect list.

"Yet he's the very person Jesus died for," Beggs said. "We need to go where the people are and touch them where they are. Then they'll become like Jesus, not like us."



Innovative ministries already active throughout Appalachia

ROANOKE, Va. (BP)—When mission volunteers from across America visit Appalachia, they will find a variety of creative outreach avenues, speakers said during the Appalachian Mountain Ministry kickoff, Aug. 20-26.

Charley Drake, pastor of Burke Memorial Baptist Church in Princeton, W.Va., said God led him to get the church to adopt a nearby elementary school. Most of Memorial's members are elderly, but 23 people signed up to read to children, eat lunch with them and provide tutoring. As a result, a number of children have become Christians.

Gary Lee Corns is co-director of Dayspring, a community ministry in Logan, W.Va., an economically depressed coal-mining town. With unemployment at 40 percent and businesses closing, he said God had brought denominations together for a united Christian witness.

Michelle McCluskey of Cleveland, Tenn., shared how a free housing repair program had led people to Christ and opened other doors. The recipients of the outreach included a man who had lost his job after 30 years because the factory where he worked had closed. The man had stopped attending church because he didn't feel worthy. After the repairs, he and his wife rededicated their lives to Christ.

McCluskey also described meeting a former corporate executive who quit a good-paying job to live a carefree lifestyle and raft frequently on the Ocoee River. When she asked if he attended church, he pointed at his multiple body piercings and asked, "What family would want me sitting next to them?" McCluskey learned the man was a rafting guide on the river, and asked to start a Bible study for resort workers. There are now three such studies.

Bruce Sheets, interim director of the Bland Ministry Center in Virginia, said God has been providing a wealth of supplies for its food pantry, clothes closet and other programs. "I'm an electrician by trade, but God has me giving out food," Sheets said. "God can use anybody if they're willing to be used."

New ministry offers Kentucky promise, challenge

Continued from page 1

But Jones said he expects Appalachian Mountain Ministry to have a statewide impact. Central and Western Kentucky churches have formed liaisons with Eastern Kentucky churches for years, which he expects to continue.

In addition, he said he hopes the regional ministry's emphasis on partnership will inspire churches in the East to send mission teams elsewhere.

"One of my desires is to see Appalachian churches recognize they can be sending teams out as well as receiving them," he said. "Part of the stereotype has been, 'Let's go help those folks.' Our people can do these things as well as those coming in."

While the recent kickoff marked the ministry's official start, Jones said teams already began visiting this summer after the AMM office released a list of about 65 projects in four states.

That booklet inspired about 10 teams to come to Kentucky in addition to others who already had scheduled trips.

Jones predicted a 50 percent increase in visiting missions teams in 2000 as a result of publicity generated by the new ministry. David Aker, director of mountain missions, said he knows of 200 volunteers prepared to come to Eastern Kentucky.

"It may be a challenge to get enough places prepared to receive teams," Jones noted. "After Woman's Missionary Union did a missions study on the Mississippi River Ministry, they were inundated with people."

Goode's focus on new opportuni-

ties will help develop missions throughout the region, Jones added.

"His creative mind is going to give us an additional resource in Eastern Kentucky that we haven't had to this point," he said. "With someone having the time to concentrate on the cutting edge of what will work in Appalachia, I think it will come out in new strategies."

The coordinator of a new, interdenominational ministry in Hazard also expects Appalachian Mountain Ministry to generate more volunteer support and resources for its work.

John Morris, pastor of Lothair Baptist Church, will become the coordinator of Chreia Church Resources, effective Sept. 1. It will coordinate such ministries as food and clothing distribution and home Bible studies by working with a variety of churches.

Morris said he had made numerous contacts during Appalachian Mountain Ministry's kickoff.

"I met people who are willing to send youth groups in and received encouragement from other churches who are doing work similar to this," he said. "We also have people dedicating to praying for our ministry."

KBC missions growth team leader Larry Martin said Kentuckians and their Appalachian ministry partners face several challenges in joining God in His work.

In a speech that concluded the two-day conference, Martin emphasized that reaching people throughout the region will call for a sense of spiritual adventure.

"Did you ever want God to draw a

road map for you?" he asked. "Every time He's drawn one for me, it's one of where I've been. He never draws me one of the future. It will be given to us one step at a time."

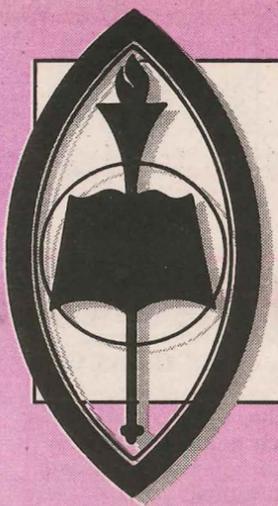
This kind of spirit will lead Christians to apply principles that will work in the context of the 21st century, he said.

Recalling how a house's front porch used to be a place for telling others about Christ, Martin said the church must determine the location of today's front porch. Areas to share the Christian faith might include campgrounds and other recreational spots where people are relaxed and willing to talk, he said.

Appalachian Mountain Ministry supporters also must commit to reach all of the region, Martin said. Not only does that mean those who live in substandard housing, but the affluent. He pointed out that one Eastern Kentucky county contains the state's highest percentage of people living in poverty and its highest percentage of millionaires.

Christians must continue to tell the story of what God is doing, he said. Bad news "has a life of its own." Often, when people say they want to discuss something realistically, they mean they want to talk about the negative, he said.

The church also must strengthen its prayer base across denominational lines, Martin said. "The two common characteristics of the Second Great Awakening (in the 1800s) were that people prayed together and started telling what God was doing."



ON MISSION TOGETHER

A quarterly publication of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union
P.O. Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569 • (502) 244-6485 • Toll-free: (888) 254-5726
Supplement to Western Recorder

On Mission Together is a free, quarterly publication of Kentucky WMU and is mailed the first week of March, June, September and December to all WMU leaders as an insert in the *Western Recorder*. If this special mailing causes you to receive two copies of the *Western Recorder*, please share one with a friend. Kentucky WMU staff: Joy Bolton, Executive Director/Treasurer; Anna Mary Byrdwell, WMU Associate-General WMU; Brenda Price, WMU Associate-Preschool & Children; LaRaine Dail, WMU Associate-Youth and College; Donna Dye, Office Manager and Financial Coordinator; Denise Gardner, Administrative Assistant; and Doris Riddle, Receptionist/Secretary.

Fall 1999

TRANSFORMED
TO GO, SEE + DO



1999 KENTUCKY STATE MISSION WEEK OF PRAYER and ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING FOR STATE MISSIONS September 12-19

Your Prayers and Your Gifts will help:

Missionaries and Family Nurture	\$7,050
Scholarships	\$3,452
Ministry Projects	\$56,925
Missionaries	\$221,000
Cooperative Ministries	\$79,036
Special Ministries	\$116,300
Student Work	\$33,000
Special Projects	\$21,000
WMU Activities	\$175,636
WMU Publications	\$12,700
WMU Miscellaneous	\$23,901

Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering Goal \$750,000
CHALLENGE GOAL: \$800,000

(For divisions within these categories, see the bulletin insert.)

Order posters, envelopes, bulletin inserts and preschool, children, youth or adult study material by calling Kentucky WMU toll free: (888) 254-5726.

Meet our New Exec—Joy Bolton

Joy Bolton's life-long interest has been missions. Both her parents were missions educators in Alabama and Louisiana. In Joy's formative years, her mom served as an intermediate GA leader and associational GA director. "That meant I learned about missions at my dining room table as I hung around those older girls," Joy says. Each summer she stayed at the association camp where her mom served as camp director and her dad was camp pastor.



Joy Bolton, Executive Director

Joy accepted Christ at age 7 1/2 and the following summer felt a call to missions. In college her major was music education. She heard about a Baptist school in the Philippines and thought surely that was where she was supposed to serve.

After graduating from Mississippi College, Joy worked for a year as youth and music director in a church in Pittsburgh, the home church of Lee Bolton whom she dated and later married. She attended New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, but transferred to Southern Seminary to work toward a degree in church music. She worked her way through school on the night shift in a nursing home. Ten years later, she wrote a book based on that experience.

Joy was selected for an internship with national WMU which opened the door for writing and many other opportunities. Joy completed her studies in December 1978 and married Lee on December 29. They both worked in the national WMU office in Birmingham, Ala., in the summer of 1979, then returned to Southern Seminary that fall for Lee to complete his degree. Their daughter, Carol, was born in 1980. Now she is a sophomore at Anderson College.

The family lived in Pittsburgh where Joy served as the associational Acteens director and began working with the state WMU in training events. She began contributing regularly to WMU, SBC publications—*Accent*, *Dimension*, *Contempo*, *Royal Service*, *Associational WMU Planning Guides* and sections of other WMU publications.

The Boltons moved to Pennsylvania where Lee was a pastor. Joy was music director as well as church and associational WMU director and a member of the state WMU executive board. Their son, Roscoe Lee Bolton IV, better known as Ros, was born in 1985.

Joy wrote her first book, *Ideas for Nursing Home Ministries*, in 1989.

In the fall of 1989, Lee was called to be a pastor in Annapolis, Md., and Joy worked with Arundel Baptist Association as administrative assistant. She was active in association WMU as director and as mission action leader.

She has made mission trips to Rwanda; Long Island, N.Y.; Pennsylvania; Kyrgyzstan and Romania.

Joy wrote two other books while in Annapolis, *More Ideas for Associational WMU Activities* (1991) and *Ideas for Community Ministries* (1993).

On Jan. 1, 1995, Joy began work as women on mission consultant for South Carolina WMU. She and her family were members of St. Andrews Baptist Church, where Lee and Joy led Youth on Mission. This group is very active in community missions.

In Kentucky, the Boltons will make their home in Shelbyville. Joy will begin work as Kentucky WMU executive director/treasurer on Sept. 1, 1999. Pray for her and her family as they join us On Mission Together.

—Peggy Hicks



In Appreciation to Brenda Price

For Service Rendered
In the Cause of Christ and
Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union
As Missions Educator and Administrator

For her capable, dedicated, loyal and
sacrificial service over the last 22 months.

Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union
expresses gratitude and appreciation

Presented this 1st day of September
Nineteen hundred ninety nine



ON MISSION TOGETHER

A quarterly publication of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union

Information for WMU directors

WEEK OF PRAYER for State Missions

First on your agenda, be sure that your church has set a worthy goal for the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions and that you will help the entire church assume responsibility for reaching the goal. Many ministries in Kentucky depend upon our prayers and financial support.

Excitement and anticipation are in the air as we approach the year 2000. As a mission leader in your church, you have a challenge and a responsibility to do everything within your capability to share the story and love of Jesus with everyone. Keep before your church the fact that "Woman's Missionary Union challenges Christian believers to understand and be radically involved in the mission of God."

This statement is found in the front of our publications and should continually be part of our thinking. Approach your leadership role with urgency. Know that YOU really can make a difference by the way you lead and the commitment that you show.



NEED MINISTRY IDEAS?

One of the exciting new publications of Woman's Missionary Union this year is *I Can Do That! 100+ Ways to Be On Mission*. This is a 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inch book of 117 pages with one ministry idea per page. Suggestions can be used by various age groups. Cost is \$6.99 plus shipping from WMU, Birmingham, (800) 968-7301.

BAPTIST WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, Nov. 1

Material for this emphasis is found in the center of the fall issue of *Dimension*.

WMU directors are responsible for this emphasis, and many choose to delegate this to Women on Mission leaders. In some areas, associational leaders involve several churches. Remember that the offering given by Southern Baptists is very significant in the work of the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance.

SEASON OF INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS, Nov. 28-Dec. 5

Two things are different this year:

1. The study emphasis is during the week of prayer, not in November.
2. Content for the study will be in magazines/periodicals and NOT in mission study books. *Missions Mosaic*, *The Commission* and youth, children and preschool magazines will carry the material. The teaching guides are available for purchase from WMU or from LifeWay Christian Resources.

KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION, Nov. 16-17

Northern Kentucky Convention Center, Covington
Many WMU members serve as messengers from their church to the Kentucky Baptist Convention. This might be your first opportunity to meet Joy Bolton, new Executive Director-Treasurer of Kentucky WMU.

—Anna Mary Byrdwell

Calendar

September

- 10-11 Youth on Mission Night, Georgetown College
- 13-20 Season of Prayer for State Missions and Eliza Broadus Offering
- 18 Children in Action Day Camp, Cedar Crest
- 24-25 Women/Adults on Mission Retreat, Jonathan Creek

October

- 1-2 Women on Mission/Adults on Mission Retreat, Cedarmore
- 8-9 Women on Mission/Baptist Nursing Fellowship Retreat, Parish Nurse Training, Cedarmore
- 10 World Hunger Day
- 15-16 Ministers' Wives Retreat, Cedarmore
- 29-30 Women on Mission/Baptist Nursing Fellowship Retreat, Jonathan Creek

November

- 1 Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer
- 16-17 Kentucky Baptist Convention, Northern Kentucky Convention Center, Covington
- 28-12/5 International Mission Study
Season of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Women on Mission

Things to Remember

✓ Remember to encourage women from your church to attend a **Women/Adults on Mission Retreat** at either Cedarmore or Jonathan Creek. The retreats will feature exciting speakers and missionaries, dynamic musicians and a simulated partnership missions trip to Tanzania! Call the WMU office for a brochure. Cedarmore: Oct. 1-2 & Oct. 8-9; Jonathan Creek: Sept. 24-25 & Oct. 29-30

✓ There's never been a better time to start a new Women/Adults on Mission group! National WMU has introduced an incentive plan whereby any new WMU organization can get up to five pupil pieces and one leader book free for one year. New groups also can get a 20 percent discount on purchases made during the first year. For additional information, contact your associational WMU director or Women on Mission consultant or call the Kentucky WMU office.

✓ *Missions Mosaic* is slated for re-design beginning with the January issue. Watch for information in the October issue. Each Women/Adults on Mission Retreat will feature workshops on using the re-designed magazine. ✓ The curriculum for Adults on Mission will now be available only on the WMU web site. If you do not have access to the web site, call the WMU office at (888) 254-5726 to get a copy of these materials.

✓ The Kentucky chapter of Baptist Nursing Fellowship has selected a new mission project for 1999-2000. Kentucky BNF will partner with Kigoma Baptist Hospital in Tanzania to provide prayer support, medical items, and on-site assistance through mission trips. For a project guide, please contact the KY WMU office at (888) 254-5726.

—Denise Jones



Mission Friends

TAKE THE STAND to begin an exciting year in Mission Friends as you lead preschoolers and their parents to know about Jesus and His mission.

Use the *Mission Friends Guide*, *Mission Friends Planbook*, *Start, Share* and *First Steps in Missions*.

Introduce Mission Friends to the country and people of Taiwan by using the *1999 International Mission Study Preschool Teaching Guide*, found in the fall issue of *Start* and in *First Steps in Missions*. The unit can be taught during a churchwide study or during any regular class for preschoolers.

Encourage parents, grandparents and friends of preschoolers to give one of the many delightful books produced by WMU, SBC as a gift for that special preschooler. The newest releases include *Good Things Jesus Did* and *Thank You, God, for My Bible*. For a complete list, see the WMU Materials Catalog in the *1999-2000 WMU Year Book*.

Children in Action

Children in Action Missions Day Camp

(for boys and girls grades 1-6)
Saturday, Sept. 18, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Cedar Crest (on grounds of Cedarmore Baptist Conference Center)
Cost: \$7 per person
For more information, contact Kentucky WMU (888) 254-5726.

—Brenda Price



Acteens and Youth on Mission

What an exciting summer at camp! I enjoyed meeting so many Acteens who are making their lives an example everyday. I am looking forward to next summer already, especially the overnight at Jonathan Creek.

For years, Acteens have enjoyed the State Acteens Conference. Now, Youth on Mission groups will be able to enjoy a statewide event. The first-ever "Youth on Mission Night" will take place at Georgetown College Sept. 10-

11, 1999. Groups will hear missionary testimonies from some of the 70 Georgetown summer missionaries. Ken and Beth Perkins will deliver missionary messages. The Baptist Student Union Praise Band is scheduled to lead worship services.

Seminar topics will range from faith to college life to sign language. A missions fair and fellowship is scheduled on Friday night in the gym, and Youth on Mission groups will get to eat in the college cafeteria!!

The cost is \$20 per participant and includes meals and program fees. Seventh through 9th grade students will stay in hotels with leaders while 10th-12th graders have the option to stay in the dorms (at no additional cost). Contact the state WMU office for more information. Space is limited to 150 participants, so act quickly!

The youth material for the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions examines issues faced by Missionary Kids who return to the United States after high school abroad. Kentucky WMU sends Kentucky MKs to the "MK Re-entry Retreat" each year. I encourage each group to use this material in order to gain a new perspective on missions. Maybe we will understand missionaries a little better.

—LaRaine Dail



One of the things we have come to expect over the years is change.

As I told our Kentucky WMU board recently, a significant change has come to my family. My husband, Dennis, has accepted a new position with American Airlines in El Paso, Texas. Consequently, we will be moving soon and I will be leaving Kentucky WMU.

I want to thank each of you for the warmth and friendship you have extended to me during my tenure with Kentucky WMU. I have enjoyed being with you at WMU events across the state and I thank you for the opportuni-

ties I have had to visit with you in your churches. I will miss all of you and I ask for your prayers as we move. We have lived in Louisville for 18 years and during that time, we have put down very deep roots.

Many of you have asked me if I intend to work in El Paso. As most of you know, my husband and I have a three-year-old son. I am delighted that I will be able to be a stay-at-home mom.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers. Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you.

—Denise Jones



Denise Jones



ON MISSION TOGETHER

A quarterly publication of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union

President's Perspective

Welcome our new director

Dear Co-laborers,

What an exciting way to begin the 1999-2000 WMU year!



Peggy Hicks
Kentucky
WMU
president

Our new Executive Director/Treasurer, Joy Bolton, comes to us from South Carolina, where she has been Women on Mission/Adults on Mission Consultant since 1995. She also held previous positions in WMU in Maryland/Delaware and Pennsylvania. She has music degrees from

Mississippi College and Southern Seminary. She has skills in editing, writing and income tax preparation and is an experienced conference leader. As she begins with us, I, as your president, ask you to welcome Joy heartily and to covenant with me to:

- Pray regularly for Joy and the staff as they develop team.
- Pray for the staff and any necessary changes.
- Pray for energy, strength and creativity.
- Ask the Lord to give them a broad vision for missions education and activity in the future.

It has been my privilege to work with our staff through these years and I greatly appreciate each one of them. Brenda Price has given strong, effective leadership in the interim and is to be commended for a job well done. We received Denise Jones' resignation and wish her God's blessings as she moves to Texas. She will be greatly missed. Also, our Camp Specialist, Kim Davis is making a career change with her husband and will be missed. May I express our gratitude to all three of these who have given so much to Kentucky WMU.

The new WMU year begins September 1. Many of you are going to be ready because you were a part of one of our training weekends for associational and church leaders. Our trained Resource Team assisting our associates, along with others including our missionaries, offered many conferences. The fellowship at meals, in the dorms and in the conferences was special. My prayer is that you will share and implement many of the things you learned.

May I make an urgent appeal to promote and support our Eliza Broadus Week of Prayer and State Missions Offering. We fell short this year and ministries across our state will feel the effect. Make the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions a major promotion in your church.

In service together,
Peggy Hicks



ProjectHELP: Violence

The Kentucky Resource Kit for **Project HELP: Violence** was introduced at World Missions Unlimited training in August. Compiled by a task force under the leadership of Brina Stephens, the kit gives churches new ideas in implementing **Project HELP: Violence**. The kit is a great re-

source because it is Kentucky-specific, written by women in Kentucky for the people of Kentucky. Use the order blank below to receive a kit.

The conference "Youth in a Violent World" at summer training reminded us that almost all of us are affected by violence at some point in our lives. The workbook *Violence: The Desensitized Generation* was used as a discussion guide. Some findings from the "Youth Questionnaire on Violence" administered by the Baptist Sunday School Board in 1992 include:

- 27 percent indicated they had been involved in a physical attack on another person.
- Approximately 25 percent have participated in the destruction of both private and public property.
- Approximately 30 percent have carried weapons and 7 out of 10 observed youth at their schools with guns, knives or other weapons.

• 22 percent of the youth said they had been personally attacked.

• 4 percent indicated they had been raped.

• More than 90 percent notice violence in movies, TV shows and music videos.

• 58 percent feel this violence is, to some degree, acceptable.

• 77 percent reported a gun in their house.

• Approximately 30 percent indicated they feel a need for help in coping with anger.

• "One's own self" was indicated as the individual most influential in changing a person's violent behavior. "Friends" was the second choice.

Churches must reach youth while their hearts are still tender. The desensitized generation will soon be raising another generation and have leadership roles. Get involved.

ProjectHELP: Violence Kit Order Form

Make checks payable to Kentucky WMU. Send form and check to Kentucky WMU, Kentucky Resource Kit, P.O. Box 43569, Louisville, KY 40253.

Name _____

Church _____

Association _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone Number _____

Number of copies: _____ x \$5.00 per packet:
_____ total enclosed

Camp Roundup

THANKS!

I want to say thank you to all the volunteer counselors at Jonathan Creek, and to all of our paid staff at both camps. Your dedication and commitment is inspiring. Thank you churches, for making it possible for the girls to come to camp. I appreciate all of the phone calls, the driving, and the patience and effort it takes to get a group signed up and off to camp. I also want to thank the campers for coming to camp! It's exciting and a little scary leaving home. Thanks, parents, for trusting us with your children.

LIVES WERE CHANGED AT CAMP THIS SUMMER!

It is a humbling and awesome experience to see God at work in the lives of our children and youth. Here's just a sample of how campers and staff were touched by God this summer at GA and Acteens camp:

Cedar Crest Lifeguard/Counselor Stefanie Russell says:



"A camper wrote me and said, 'I had a fun week at camp! I have prayed for you every night. I continue my quiet time in the morning. God loves you, so do I.'

"I felt so encouraged by that! To know that at least one girl is continuing her quiet time every day makes the whole summer worthwhile. Another camper e-mailed me and said that since she doesn't get to see her friends very often, she is witnessing through e-mail. Everyday she types three devotions and sends them to her friends. What an awesome result!"

Cedar Crest Unit Leader Kasey Line writes:

"God revealed Himself to me in so many ways this summer; through His beautiful creation, by watching the girls grow and come to understand Him better, and through the many lifelong friends that held me accountable every day. Cedar Crest is a very special place, not only for the hundreds of GAs and Acteens that come to learn about God's abiding love, but for the 20 staffers who come to serve our Lord as well."

Jonathan Creek Acteens Camp Director Etta Butcher said:

"I wanted to prepare the girls to go into the world. I think they caught that glimpse. It was a good week—a very good week. God was in control and amazed us. I enjoyed the week as much as the girls. The Tuesday night Acteens praise and worship service was just one example

of God's amazing ability to change lives. One Acteen from each group had been asked to share her testimony. During the middle of the service a girl jumped up from her seat, ran to one of the camp staff and said 'You've got to tell me how to be saved!' God had touched her and she could not wait until the end of the week or even the end of the service to find Jesus. She had to know right then."

No matter what the location, Kentucky GA and Acteens camps continue to make a positive spiritual impact in the lives of our children and youth!



Kentucky BNF Offers Parish Nurse Training

Mark your calendars! An in-depth "Introduction to Parish Nursing" will be offered at Cedarmore

Baptist Conference Center on Oct. 9-10, 1999. The program will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday and conclude at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday and offer 10 hours of intensive training. (Continuing education credit is expected.) The speaker will be Diane Kiser, Coordinator, Health Ministries/Congregational Nursing, Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital, Somerset. The cost is \$75, which includes overnight accommodations, dinner on Friday, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, handouts and instruction. Please call the WMU office at (888) 254-5726 for a brochure and application form.

Kim Davis Farewell

One of my favorite verses is Psalm 37:4 "Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart." I have found this promise to be true. I had just graduated from high school when I first worked at a GA/Acteens camp. Another camp staffer and I said, "Wouldn't it be great if you could do this year-round—as a career." We laughed because we knew that kind of job didn't exist. God has granted me that opportunity through being the Camp Specialist for Kentucky WMU. It has been a joy and a privilege. With a mixture of sadness about leaving Kentucky WMU and an excitement about the future, I seek to follow Christ. Thank you for your prayers, support, and friendship.
—Kim Davis



ON MISSION TOGETHER

A quarterly publication of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union

Appalachian Mountain Ministry

Southern Baptists On Mission In Appalachia

by Randall Jones



Randall Jones

Appalachian Mountain Ministry is a cooperative effort of the Baptist state conventions of Georgia, Kentucky, Ohio, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia and the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board and national Woman's Missionary Union. The Appalachian Mountain range runs through parts of these nine states which includes 262 counties, 10 Baptist state conventions, 119 Baptist associations and 4,258 affiliated Southern Baptist churches with a resident membership of 931,470. According to an estimated 1997 census, there are 15,675,597 residents living in this region.

AMM was officially organized at a meeting in Bristol, Va., on March 22-23, 1999, and was officially launched Aug. 20-21, 1999, in Roanoke, Va.

The Appalachian Mountain Ministry is a grass roots initiative ministry designed to encourage and network Southern Baptist churches, associations and state

conventions in the region. It is intended to assist and resource them in accomplishing their local, God-given mission. The ministry's plan of action is to cooperate with associations and churches in identifying missions needs and opportunities, and to solicit volunteer project requests for local and national promotion. By bringing local and national attention to the diversity of needs in the Appalachian region, Southern Baptists hope to mobilize their resources to provide ministries, to evangelize the lost, to strengthen existing churches and to assist in starting new churches in Appalachia.

Tommy Goode is director/coordinator of Appalachian Mountain Ministry. His office for this regional ministry is in Scott Depot, W.Va. He may be reached at Appalachian Mountain Ministry, One Mission Way, Scott Depot, WV 25560; phones: office: (304) 757-0944, home: (304) 562-5976; fax: (304) 757-7793; e-mail: TommyGoode@csi.com.

In the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Mountain Missionary David Aker and Randall Jones, state missions director, work directly with AMM. They will be glad to answer your questions.. Aker can be reached at (888) 468-1653 and Jones at (800) 266-6477.

PARTNERSHIP 2000

Unified in Purpose and Promise

With the hazy days of late summer come new beginnings for approximately 4,500 students enrolled at our three Kentucky Christian higher education institutions: Campbellsville, Cumberland and Georgetown. Lives will be transformed as students become equipped with moral discernment, leadership skills, sacrificial spirits and personal courage, growing out of a Christ-centered commitment to the will of God.

Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union continues to be committed to PARTNERSHIP 2000. The missions environment of the three institutions can be strengthened by helping provide scholarships and missions activities on each campus. Donors can further help the missions objectives of Kentucky WMU by designating gifts to the "PARTNERSHIP 2000/Kentucky WMU Scholarship Fund." This endowment fund will be administered by Kentucky WMU and will provide financial assistance for students to attend one of the institutions to further our missions tasks.

Be a part of PARTNERSHIP 2000 and make a difference for the cause of Christ!

New Free Publication

Beginning with the October issue, *Commission Magazine* will be a free publication! As you know, *Commission* is a publication of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board and highlights missions around the world. Watch for important news about this transition from the IMB.

Retreats, special events

Youth on Mission Night

At Georgetown College
Sept. 10-11, 1999

-Hear missionary testimonies from Georgetown summer missionaries and Ken and Beth Perkins.

-Worship with the Baptist Student Union Praise Band.

-Eat in the college cafeteria.

-More information on page 2

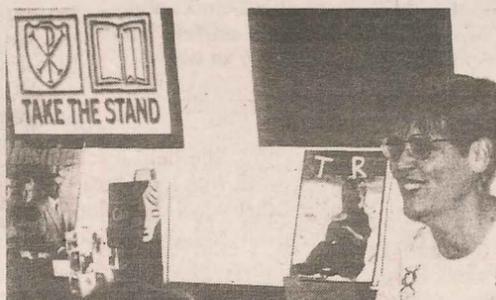


World Missions Unlimited Wrap-up



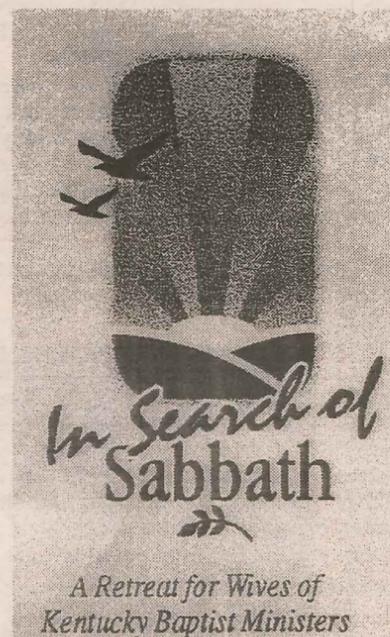
World Missions Unlimited 1999 is now history. Three hundred and thirty-two people registered at the two locations and more than 30 conferences leaders, speakers and musicians participated at each site. Overall, evaluations were positive. Folks liked the variety of conferences, hearing the missionaries, contact with people from other areas, the great food, inspiration and new ideas. The folks with whom we worked in both our Baptist schools were WONDERFUL and sought to meet our needs. We especially appreciate working with Eric Graves at Campbellsville and Lisa Bartram at Cumberland.

Conferences in 2000 are scheduled for July 14-15 at Campbellsville and July 21-22 at Georgetown. Mark your calendar!



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MISSIONS

Kentuckians serve in Poland through prayer & ministry |

Continued from page 1

Southern Baptist missionary Marc Byrd praised the Kentucky team's ministry—he said he saw eight people become Christians and enlisted about a dozen people for Bible studies.

Coy Webb, pastor of First Baptist Church of Monticello, said the eight conversions were a blessing. The group had been praying for at least one or two people to become Christians as a result of the mission team's work. Volunteers were aware of Polish suspicion of Baptists, he said.

Byrd and his wife, Annie, moved to Czestachowa in July with their three children to help start a Baptist church they pray will spark a church planting movement throughout the surrounding part of Poland. The Byrds have worked closely with Polish Baptist Zbigniew Sobczak, who has labored several years to get a church started.

Czestachowa, a city of about 300,000 people, is one of the world's top pilgrimage destinations for Roman Catholics, who revere a painting of Mary, the "Black Madonna," which probably dates back to the Middle Ages.

The painting is in a fortress monastery called "Jasna Góra" that dominates the city. The icon is said to heal people and is credited with saving the nation of Poland when Swedish troops invaded in 1655.

During Catholic holy days, such as "Ascension of Mary Day" in mid-August, as many as 300,000 people gather at the monastery for virtually non-stop worship services. But most of the devotion is focused on Mary, regarded by Catholics as a more accessible intercessor to God than Jesus.

Baptists are seen as little more than a cult here, and newspapers and radio programs warn against such groups promoting faith in Christ.

In this kind of atmosphere, the Byrds have sought to build prayer support among Southern Baptists. Several volunteer teams, including those from Kentucky, help the Byrds get to know local people, despite such official warnings.

Baptist leader Zbigniew Soczak said many of the Catholics who come to his town are Catholics only because they were baptized into the church as babies.

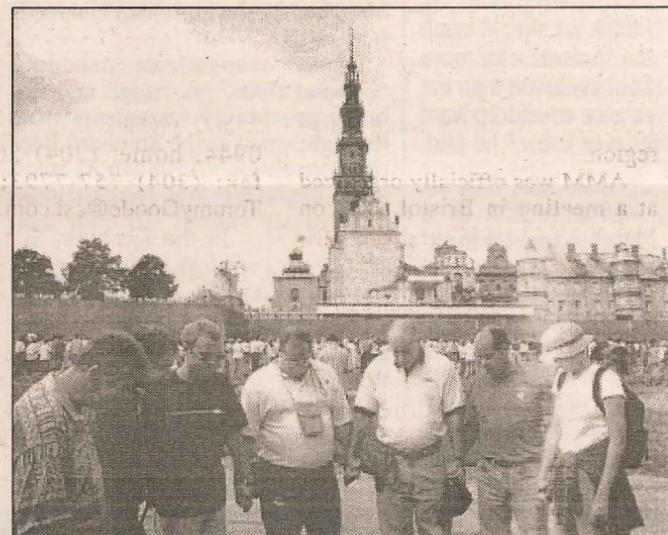
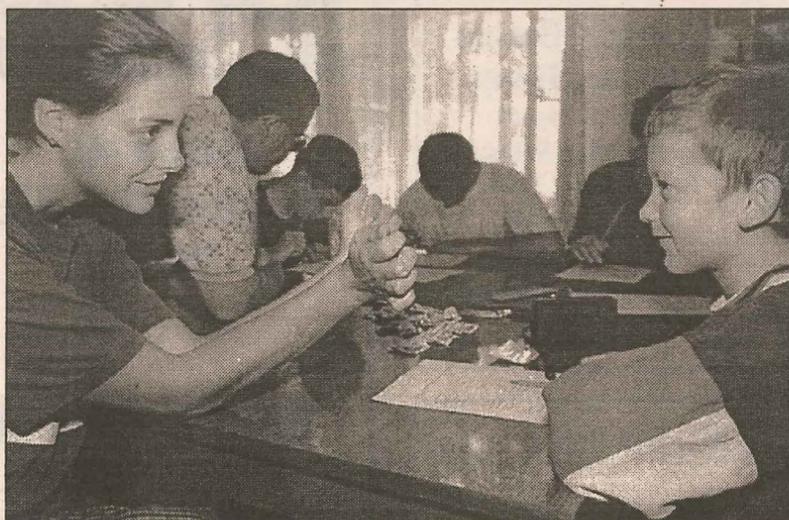
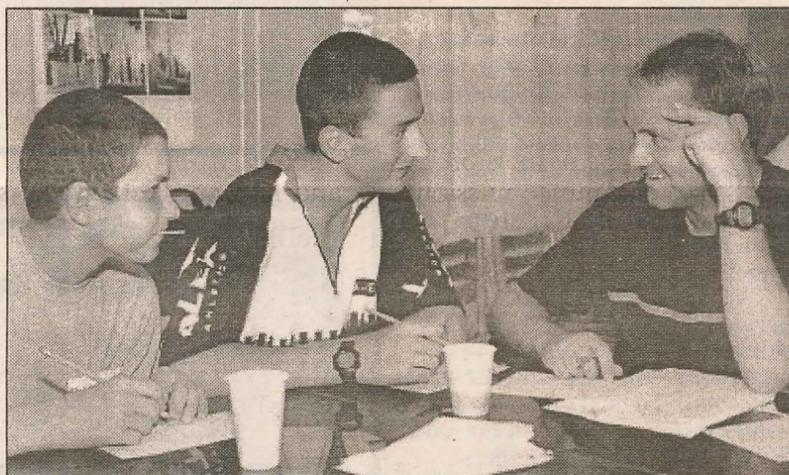
"In Polish, 'baptized' and 'Christian' sound almost like the same word," he said. "These people don't trust God. They know God exists but they don't trust Him. They need conversion and they need Christ.

"Without Christ they are lost," he said. "Some people here believe the Trinity is God the Father, Jesus the Son and Mary," he explained. "They use the same words we do, but those words have different meanings."

Poland, a country of almost 40 million people, has fewer than 5,000 Baptists and there are few other evangelicals.

For the Monticello-area volunteers, the Poland trip was another chapter of growing missions awareness. The members of First Baptist Church of Monticello have sent other teams to Russia and many missions sites within the United States.

On this trip, the church sent along



MISSIONS MOMENTS A team of 20 Kentucky Baptists recently served in Poland as part of the state convention's partnership with Polish Baptists. ■ **Top:** Amy Wheeler (center) teaches English to young Polish women in Czestachowa. ■ **Middle left:** Jason Catron (right) teaches English. ■ **Middle right:** Standing in front of the Jasna Góra monastery in Czestochowa, with its banner, "Mary, Lead Us To God the Father," Kentucky Baptists pray with a Southern Baptist missionary that local residents will learn to trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. Shown are (from left) Coy Webb, pastor of First Baptist Church of Monticello, Southern Baptist missionary Marc Byrd and Kentucky volunteers Jason Catron, Bruce Rousey, Menvil Dishman, Jim Rousey and Jaimee Bertram. ■ **Bottom left:** Karyn Cowan (left) gives English lessons to a young Polish boy. ■ **Bottom right:** Volunteers often serve as instant uncles and aunts to missionary kids during overseas assignments. Jeremiah Goley entertains Hannah Byrd, 4, daughter of Southern Baptist missionaries Marc and Annie Byrd. (IMB photos by Mike Creswell)

\$11,000 for building supplies, about \$500 for literature and supplies, along with volunteers.

"The interesting thing is that, as we have done that, the Lord has blessed us with more and more money. We've not missed a dime out of our general fund and we've probably been able to send 30 cents out of every dollar that has come into our church for missions," Webb said.

Tackling international missions projects also has made First Baptist members more sensitive to local needs, Webb said. The church has launched a Spanish language minis-

try plus a ministry to migrant farm workers in recent years.

Missionaries Marc and Annie Byrd said they were thankful for the boost to their ministries given by the Kentucky group. But they also have requested two-year missionaries and other volunteers to come help teach English classes, work with local businessmen and in other ways share that to be Christian means to have faith in Jesus Christ.

Southern Baptists who want updates on the work being done by Marc and Annie Byrd can contact them by e-mail at mabyrd@iname.com.



Statements aside, evangelical couples often on equal footing

By Mark Wingfield
Texas Baptist Standard

PRINCETON, N.J. (ABP)—Conservative-evangelical couples such as Southern Baptists have more egalitarian marriages than their public statements about male leadership might indicate, according to a new study.

Likewise, conservative-evangelical parents, while more likely than others to spank their children, are warmer and more loving than other parents, a related study finds.

The research by Bradford Wilcox and John Bartkowski is part of an ongoing study of family relations among evangelicals.

Parts of this research recently were published in the American Sociological Review and a journal called The Responsive Community. Wilcox recently completed a fellowship at the Brookings Institution and is a doctoral student in sociology at Princeton. Bartkowski teaches sociology at Mississippi State University.

Many evangelicals denounce "cultural elites" on the left and embrace pro-family statements from the right, such as the Southern Baptist Convention's 1998 family statement declaring that wives should "graciously submit" to their husbands.

In what the authors call the "evangelical family paradox," however, researchers found that actual practice often confounds both trends.

"Evangelical family practice doesn't match evangelical family rhetoric," they report in The Re-

sponsive Community's summer issue. "When it comes to the practice of family life, evangelical men and women act in ways that parallel or are in fact more communitarian than other Americans."

Wilcox and Bartkowski say evangelical Christian couples are no different than other American couples in how they deal with family finances, child rearing, work decisions and division of household labor. They cite only two exceptions: evangelical couples are more likely to say the husband takes the lead in "spiritual matters," and evangelical couples are more likely than other American couples to report high levels of marital satisfaction.

"When it comes to parenting, evangelicals—especially evangelical men—are in many ways more communitarian than other Americans," they report. "The single exception to this pattern is that evangelical parents spank their toddlers and preschoolers more often than other parents."

Despite their use of corporal punishment, evangelicals display more warmth and affection to their children, they add. "We find that evangelical mothers praise and hug their children more often than do other mothers. More surprisingly, we also find that evangelical fathers are more likely to practice this kind of expressive parenting."

"In fact, we find that evangelical fathers are more involved with their children than other fathers," the report states. "They have dinner with their children and volunteer for youth activities like soccer and Scouts more than other fathers."

Religious leaders for gays request meeting with Focus' leader Dobson

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (RNS)—A coalition of religious leaders that supports gays and lesbians is accusing James Dobson, president of Focus on the Family, of spreading "false and inflammatory rhetoric" about homosexuals through his worldwide broadcast and print ministry.

The National Religious Leadership Roundtable leveled the charges in a letter delivered Aug. 25 to the influential Colorado Springs, Colo.-based evangelical Christian ministry.

The roundtable, an interfaith group of about 40 people, drafted the letter at the close of a two-day semi-annual conference held in Colorado Springs. The group chose the city, headquarters to several conservative ministries and groups, stating it wanted to present an alternative view on spirituality and homosexuality.

The letter charges that Focus on the Family's "anti-homosexual campaign leads directly and indirectly to broken families and divided churches, and to suffering and death to God's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people."

The group asked for a meeting

with Dobson "to hear our case, and together to begin a process of seeking truth about homosexuality and homosexuals."

The goal is not to sway Dobson on the issue, said Nori Rost, pastor of Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church in Colorado Springs.

"What we really want is to have a dialogue about this," Rost said. "It's OK if they disagree. No one's asking them to embrace gays and lesbians or advocate for same-sex marriages. What we want to see stopped is the dangerous rhetoric that portrays gays and lesbians as monsters."

Dobson was on vacation and unavailable to respond to the letter, said Amy Tracy, a Focus on the Family spokeswoman.

John Paulk, one of three former homosexuals working full time on gay issues at Focus on the Family, said the ministry's message is neither false nor inflammatory. It is simply a response to an "aggressive homosexual agenda" advanced nationwide, he said.

"We are not assaulting the gay community," Paulk said. "We don't have a campaign against anybody."

Teach more evolution, not less, opponent responds

TOPEKA, Kansas (BP)—A leading opponent of the theory of evolution said a recent Kansas state board of education decision to lessen the teaching of evolution is a victory, even though he doesn't favor the action.

"I want to teach more about evolution, not less," said Philip Johnson, a law professor at the University of California at Berkeley and author of "Darwin on Trial" and other books debunking evolution theory.

"I think we should teach the students a lot more about evolution than the science educators want them to know," he said.

Johnson described the Kansas decision as "a great victory for truth" no matter how it fares in legal battles that loom ahead.

The Kansas decision has gained Johnson increased exposure for his views that evolution—like creation—relies as much on belief in a theory as much as scientific proof.

The Kansas State School Board, on Aug. 11, adopted the nation's most anti-evolution science standards by voting to eliminate references to evolution theory on state assessment tests designed to measure student competency in science.

Speaking Aug. 16 on CNN's TalkBack Live, Johnson charged that public school students are being indoctrinated instead of educated about evolutionary theory.

"The problem is what we're getting is a philosophy that's claimed to be scientific fact," Johnson said. "This is indoctrination, not genuine science education."



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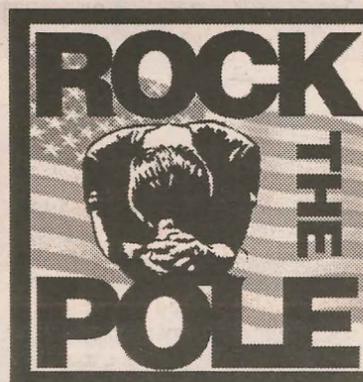
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NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Teen opts out of pre-game prayer.** A Santa Fe, Texas, high school student has chosen not to lead her classmates in prayer before football games because she fears she could be expelled. Stephanie Vega, 16, was elected by other students to deliver short messages "solemnizing" each of the school's home games. Superintendent Richard Ownby of Santa Fe's school district cautioned that students who led prayers at the opening game "would be disciplined as if they had cursed." The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled this year that student-led prayers were permitted at solemn occasions. But the court prohibited prayers before football games, saying they don't share the "singularly serious nature" of events like graduation.

■ **Graham associate dies.** George Wilson, executive vice president of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association from its founding in 1950 to his retirement 37 years later, died Aug. 24. He was 85 and lived in Minneapolis. "George Wilson has been one of my closest advisers for well over 40 years," Graham said in a statement, "and I owe him a debt of gratitude I can never repay. All of us are going to miss him terribly."

■ **Star of David decision reversed.** A Mississippi school board has reversed its controversial decision that barred a Jewish student from openly displaying a Star of David necklace. The Harrison County

School Board voted unanimously last week to exempt religious symbols from a policy that prohibits students from wearing items that could be considered gang symbols that might prompt violence. The parents of Ryan Green, an 11th grader, requested that school officials rethink the policy. The board originally said Green's necklace could only be worn inside his shirt while he was at school.

■ **Praying teacher sues for job.** The Rutherford Institute, a conservative civil liberties organization, has filed suit on behalf of Mildred Rosario, a former New York City public school teacher who was fired after praying with her class. The suit details how Rosario was asked by a student where a classmate was who had recently drowned. Rosario replied that the drowned student was "in heaven." When students then began asking more questions, Rosario gave students the option of using computers or workbooks or taking part in a conversation about religious matters.

■ **Judge stops voucher program.** A federal judge temporarily stopped Cleveland's four-year-old voucher program the day before public schools opened, ruling that the program has a primary effect of advancing religion. In an injunction issued Aug. 24, U.S. District Judge Solomon Oliver said opponents of the voucher program had a "very

substantial chance" of winning their argument that the U.S. Constitution forbids such aid to religious schools.

■ **Gideons' goal: 1 billion served.** Gideons International is celebrating its 100th anniversary with a goal of giving away a total of 1 billion Bibles by 2002. Founded in 1899, Gideons International is the oldest Christian business and professional men's association in the United States. In 100 years, the group says it has distributed 850 million copies of the Bible to hotels, prisons, military installations, hospitals, schools and airplanes. The group currently distributes Bibles in 172 countries at a rate of 45 million a year, according to the group's Web site.

■ **University gets Muslim chaplain.** In a further sign of Islam's growth in the United States, Georgetown University, the nation's oldest Roman Catholic university, has appointed its first Muslim chaplain. School officials said they believe Yahya Hendi is also the first Muslim chaplain at any major university in the nation.

■ **Gay books stay during library lawsuit.** Two controversial children's books promoting the homosexual lifestyle will remain in the children's section of the Wichita Falls Public Library as long as a city council resolution is tied up in federal court, a judge ruled Aug. 18. The

resolution had given citizens recourse to have the books moved to the adult section of the Texas city's library. First Baptist Church in Wichita Falls led a drive that ultimately convinced the city council to pass the resolution to move the two pro-homosexual books—"Heather Has Two Mommies" and "Daddy's Roommate."

■ **Bankers suggest Y2K sermon.** The American Bankers Association is distributing sample sermons to aid clergy in calming fears about potential Year 2000 computer problems. The foray by the financiers into the spiritual realm is prompted by their desire to debunk expectations that the so-called Y2K bug will wreak havoc by crippling the banking system. The sermon counters some religious and survivalist literature that predicts that the start of the year 2000 will bring an apocalypse.

■ **Policewoman fired over pants.** A veteran detective fired by the Mobile County Sheriff's Office for refusing to wear uniform pants says the dress code requirement violates her Christian religious beliefs. Lark Huber wore skirts while a plainclothes detective, but earlier this year was moved to a patrol position that her bosses said required a uniform that included pants. In Huber's case, wearing pants violates her belief that she should not resemble a man, said her pastor, Kathy Murphree of Mobile's independent Church of God in Jesus Christ.

Still on mission

By Robert Dunston

Last week I wrote about Robert Day, one of the founders of Mountain Outreach at Cumberland College. This week's column features the other founder, David Emmert.

Emmert came to Cumberland College in the fall of 1981. He began Mountain Outreach with Day the following year after seeing the great need in parts of our area.

Emmert dedicated much time to ministering through Mountain Outreach while at the same time keeping his grades high and working as a student-worker in our Church Relations Office, even representing Cumberland at some of the Baptist state conventions.

Emmert graduated cum laude in 1985 and received the T.E. Mahan Leadership Award. He left for Zambia where he served as a Southern Baptist missionary journeyman.

In 1987 he entered New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, graduating in 1989 with a master of divinity degree. Emmert then served as pastor of First Baptist Church in Lobelville, Tenn.

In 1992 Emmert left the United States to serve as theological education ministries director at the Baptist Mission of Ethiopia. Since 1996

he has served as strategy coordinator for Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

While at Cumberland, Emmert married Pamela Jean Schumeth. They have worked as a ministry team their entire married life. With their two young children, they continue to bring the gospel and love of Christ to the world.

Emmert is many miles away from the Mountain Outreach program he co-founded, but he continues to maintain an interest in its work. Through e-mail he also keeps us at Cumberland College informed regarding his ministry.

One of the great blessings of teaching at a Christian college is working with students as they serve and mature in their faith and watching them as they continue to follow God's leading in Christian ministry.

All Kentucky Baptists can be grateful to God for what He has done and is continuing to do through those who have acquired information, skills and a deeper faith at our Kentucky Baptist schools.

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

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



'Normalizing' incest

Sexual abuse and sexual perpetration are primary issues our staff tackle daily with the boys and girls in residential or foster care and with outpatient counseling clients across the state.

Left to repression, abuse will usually surface somewhere along life's way, creating a painful emotional knot to untie.

Because of the atrocity of this crime, mental health, law enforcement, clergy and educators have called for bold legal and moral sanctions against any perpetrator of this act against children. But that could all change.

I'm referring to a study published recently by the American Psychological Association: "A Meta-analytical Examination of Assumed Properties of Child Sexual Abuse Using College Samples" (Psychological Bulletin, Volume 124, pp. 22-53, 1998).

This study claims that the harm done by child-adult sexual contact is greatly exaggerated. The research claims that when the child is a willing participant in the act or the instigator of the act, the harm is minimal. It suggests the term "abuse" be removed from scientific literature unless actual harm is confirmed.

I feel the need to repeat some information I shared through this column last year.

Most of the cases defined as "sexual abuse" in our society today have a much uglier identity: incest.

One of every three girls and one of every seven boys are victims. If you are wondering if dropping the word "abuse" from a social work manual or a statute really matters, ask yourself, "Is incest something we as a society should normalize?"

According to David Lanier, a practicing clinical psychologist in Winchester, this is the beginning of a "stealth campaign" by the APA. Its goal is to normalize pedophilia just as similar "studies" began the normalization of homosexuality 20 years ago. The

result: A reasonable social boundary is eroding slowly right before our eyes.

Now is the time for us to advocate for children, families and a decent moral culture.

Bill Smithwick is 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

WORLD VIEW

■ **Chinese police** reportedly have arrested nearly 50 leaders of the Protestant "house church" movement. The arrests appear aimed at crushing the underground house church movement in central China, Christian monitors said. Because China requires registration of all religious groups, the house church movement is considered illegal by authorities and is largely underground.

■ **The number of** Christian people in the world will pass the 2 billion mark in the year 2000, according to religious statisticians David Barrett and Todd Johnson. Christians already number 1.99 billion, meaning that one third of the world's 6 billion people are Christians, the duo said. Muslims are the second-largest world religion, with 1.19 million adherents, followed by Hindus at 774 million.

Baptists arrive in Turkey to determine ministry needs

Continued from page 1
relief effort.

Until their work is complete, the most-needed resource is money to buy relief supplies, said Southern Baptist human needs specialist Jim Brown.

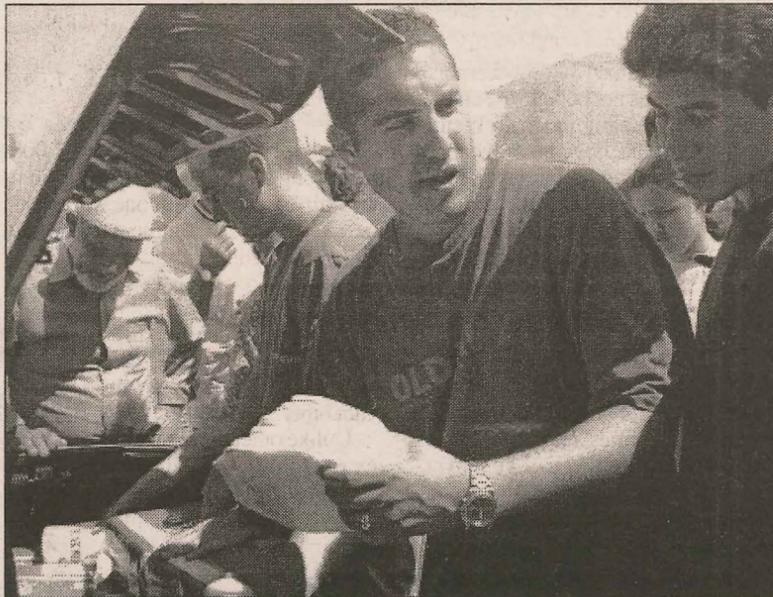
Throughout the areas surrounding Izmit and Golcuk, near the earthquake's epicenter, the destruction is rampant. Six-story buildings are reduced to rubble, with no single stone bigger than a coffee table. The smell of rotting corpses permeates much of the area, where thousands of people lie dead under tons of rock.

Even buildings that didn't collapse have been left so unstable that residents cannot go back inside. To minimize injuries from aftershocks, the government has banned people from re-entering their houses in some areas. This has left more than 200,000 people homeless, living in scattered tent communities that have popped up all over northwestern Turkey.

Three teams from Texas Baptist Men are expected to arrive in Turkey with mobile kitchens Aug. 31 with the hope of beginning to distribute meals two days later. Each mobile kitchen can prepare up to 10,000 meals a day.

Two days after the earthquake, Southern Baptists banded together with other evangelicals and began distributing food to the thousands of Turkish people forced into streets by the disaster. Group members said they lost count of the thousands of New Testaments given away.

With the help of Southern Baptist hunger relief funds, the members of



IN JESUS' NAME About 40 Southern Baptists were among more than 80 Christians who banded together to deliver relief supplies to survivors of Turkey's Aug. 17 earthquake. Above, Ben Pando, a member of Emmanuel Evangelical Free Church in Burbank, Calif., helps distribute the supplies, which were bought with Southern Baptist disaster relief funds. Relief supplies included water, food, baby diapers, soap, other personal cleaning products and tents. (BP photo)

Hope International Church in Istanbul bought a water truck to help distribute clean drinking water in some of the cities hit hardest by the quake. Almost a week after one of the most devastating natural disasters in the country's history, most of those cities still have no water or electricity and there are few signs that will change soon.

Southern Baptists in Turkey also

have begun hand manufacturing six-person tents, reflecting a shift from meeting immediate needs to addressing long-range concerns. On Aug. 31, the group will put up 500 tents, one of the most-needed resources.

According to a Southern Baptist strategy coordinator focusing on the Turkish people, the disaster highlights a fatalistic streak in the Turkish culture. "I expected to find grieving people

just huddling around, and I didn't," said the strategy coordinator, whose name was not released for security reasons. "They were just sitting there. They weren't laughing, but they weren't crying either."

"I think it is from the faith of their culture that God is so high and we can't have a relationship with Him," the coordinator said. "He just decides and you don't get too worked up about it. Whatever God wills, happens."

The strategy coordinator said he already is seeing signs God is using the disaster for His own purposes. Turkish Christians have had opportunities to unite to minister and witness in the midst of the crisis, he said.

In addition to the International Mission Board, several other groups also are collecting money for relief work, including Baptist World Aid, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Samaritan's Purse.

Samaritan's Purse, the organization founded by evangelist Franklin Graham, is working in Turkey in cooperation with Operation Mercy, a partner based in that country, according to Paige Greene, promotions coordinator for Samaritan's Purse.

Operation Mercy is using the funds to buy food, medicine and clothing, she said. "They also are building a tent city and are asking us to help with that since we just built one in Albania."

A Samaritan's Purse assessment team is scheduled to arrive in Turkey this week, she added.

With additional reporting by News Director David Winfrey

'Take two aspirin ...'

We all joke about going to the doctor and being told, "Take two aspirin, drink lots of liquids and get plenty of rest." Every teacher can appreciate the overwhelming feeling that comes with the beginning of school each year. Needless to say, having boys and girls as young as 11 years old in a boarding school, away from home for the first time, can be a real challenge. Even students who have been here for years need a week or two to get settled back in. When they have been home all summer—staying up late watching videos or playing video games, getting up about noon, eating cold pizza and pop, then jumping back in bed—going back to school can be a real "bummer."

No matter how much we try to prepare ourselves emotionally for those first few days and weeks, nothing ever seems to make us adequately ready. When boys and girls get homesick—I mean really homesick—there is little we can do to convince them that they will not die, and that if they only will be patient they will get over their homesickness.

After the first 10 days of school, we are all holding our breath. This year has not been "normal," whatever "normal" is. Every day I have heard faculty and staff make positive comments about how well the first few days have gone. You must understand that I believe every year is the best ever, but some claim I am a little biased. (I wonder why?)

I initially noticed the difference when the students were being tested the first day of school. The students seemed to be more organized and ready for school to begin. Then came the afternoon of the first day, when every high school student must get his or her class schedule. Only teach-

ers and counselors can grasp the difficulty of having every high school student set up his or her schedule in one afternoon. This year the students seemed to do a better than normal job of scheduling.

All week, faculty and staff talked about how well the first days had gone. Some said the students were better behaved in class and that they were doing better at getting to class on time. We have classes in 11 different buildings across our campus.

Then on Sunday morning in church it began to hit home. One of our veteran teachers said something to the effect that if every week of school could be like this past week, she would teach the rest of her life. I overheard another teacher make a similar comment. The principal, normally biased like myself, said he felt the first week had gone much better than usual.

The house parents were making similar comments about the behavior in the dormitories. They reported that students were doing a better job of getting to bed on time and that there had been a lot less horseplay after "lights out." Fewer students seemed to be homesick, except for

one new girl who was sure she was dying from homesickness.

Then on Monday of the second week, it really hit home. I had noticed how well the students had behaved in chapel, and how orderly they had been entering and leaving the chapel. One of our middle school teachers had been asked to pray. In his prayer he said, "Lord, thank you for having such a wonderful first week of school." It's not just me! It really has been a good beginning!

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

Revival on the eastern shore

Note: This story is adapted from a July 15 article in the Religious Herald, Virginia Baptists' state paper, written by Richmond intern Annie Lewis.

As a young man, Don Roberts' dream job was to own an auto parts store. On his 30th birthday, Roberts realized God had other plans for his life when he felt called to the ministry.

Too shy to pray aloud in his home church, Roberts questioned the call, but eventually submitted to God's will and attended Clear Creek, graduating in 1968.

Roberts was pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Fluvanna County, Va., and in 1989 moved to Zion Baptist in Parksley. He brought to the church years of practice in listening for and responding to the will of God.

In 1995 evangelist Dewey Crockett led a revival that Roberts said "lit our congregation on fire."

Roberts proposed a Sunday night praise and worship service with lots of contemporary music, minimal preaching and someone else leading the service. About 30 people came regularly at first.

A Methodist pastor brought many of his members after a fire destroyed their building.

"I've never seen anything like this in 32 years of ministry," Roberts said. "We now run about 150 in the praise service; it is a genuine moving of the Spirit."

People of all denominations and races come from up to 60 miles away. More than 50 have joined the church in the past two years, mostly young adults with children. Offerings have increased 25 percent.

Missions is a vital aspect of the church and an "every member ministry" strategy involves at least half in ministries to a nursing home, jail, homeless shelter and shut-ins. Zion continues to hold a traditional Sunday morning service where attendance also has increased.

"I am nearing retirement, but I am having too much fun to retire," exclaimed Roberts. "I've been dreaming about this for years. These are the best years of my ministry."

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



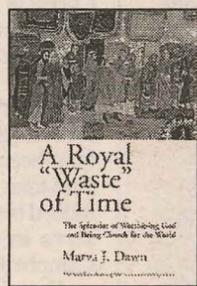
Bill Whittaker

BOOKS

A Royal "Waste" of Time: The Splendor of Worshipping God and Being Church for the World. Marva Dawn. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1999. 377 pages. \$18. ♦♦♦♦♦ (out of five)

As a sequel to "Reaching Out without Dumbing Down," Marva Dawn returns to a topic she loves: discussion of the place of worship in the life of the church.

To her credit she has listened to the critics of her last book, of which I am not one, and has either explained further, clarified, modified or restated her position on worship. The driving force behind Dawn is her conviction that worship should be filled with the splendor of God. In order to see this enacted in the church, she does not accept either traditional or contemporary worship styles without equal evaluation. After discussing reasons why



congregations make bad decisions about worship, Dawn offers some excellent criteria to be considered in planning worship for a particular setting.

Dawn contends worship that reflects its "royal," or God-focused, dimension leads to the faithful formation of the church and its witness and mission to the world. She acknowledges that this is an extremely difficult task in our society but it is absolutely necessary. While worship that concentrates only on God might seem like a "waste of time," it is, in reality, the only way the church can be empowered to truly be the church. Nine scripture-based sermons divide the book and, along with questions for discussion, move the reader deeper into reflection.

Any person serious about leading a church to worship will find this book challenging and inspiring. *Wayne Hager*

Unholy Madness: The Church's Surrender to Psychiatry. Seth Farber. InterVarsity Press, 1999. 162 pages. \$12.99 ♦♦♦♦♦

Though a trained psychotherapist, Seth Farber does not believe the church should be too enamored with mental health professionals. After 16 years as a practicing therapist, Farber became disillusioned with psychiatry's ability to act as a redemptive force in society. In fact, he became convinced that psychiatry is a competing faith system, built on a distorted view of human nature.

Farber argues that the notions of mental health and mental illness are harmful categories. He joins Thomas Szasz and R.D. Laing in arguing that mental illness is a meaningless terminology. While the brain may be diseased, e.g. Alzheimer's, stroke, cancer, etc., the mind

is not subject to disease per se.

In addition, he contends that most models of mental health assume the social order in which we live is normative. Those whom we term as mentally ill are people who have difficulty coping with or adjusting to the normative social order. The goal of most psychotherapy, including Christian psychotherapy, is to help people adjust to and function within the bounds of socially accepted behavior. From a Christian standpoint, Farber finds this model totally unacceptable. He reminds the reader that the social order was corrupted by sin. The goal of the Christian life is not conformity to the world, but transformation into the kingdom of God.

Farber challenges the church to reclaim its rightful place as a redemptive force in the world.

While initially tempted to dismiss Farber as a reactionary, I found his ar-

gument coherent and challenging. *Jim Holladay*

A Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew. Craig S. Keener. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1999. 1,040 pages. \$60. ♦♦♦♦♦

Yes, the book is more than 1,000 pages long and costs a hefty \$60, but it is worth every cent. Anyone who picks up a copy of "A Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew" will be impressed both by the breadth and depth of Craig Keener's investigation into the history of scholarship surrounding the Gospel, as well as the commentary's readability.

Unlike other commentaries on Matthew's Gospel, Keener's work not only seeks to provide insight into the "social-historical contexts of Matthew and his traditions," Keener believes this

approach is essential for modern, Western Christians, who are largely separated from the lifestyle and mindset of Eastern Mediterranean culture in our day, not to mention 2000 years ago.

His approach offers a freshness to reading the Gospel that preachers and teachers will find exciting. For example his review of the birth narratives sheds new light on Matthew's reason for including them. Keener contends that the birth narrative provides an outline of the Gospel, with most of the major themes being portrayed through Mary, Joseph, the Magi, Herod, etc. His insights will change my advent preaching this year.

I also found his discussion of the Great Commission fresh and stimulating. Commenting on the last phrase of the Commission, he writes, "If many Christians today have lost a sense of Jesus' presence ... it may be because

they have lost sight of the mission ... given them."

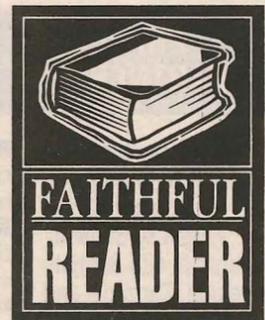
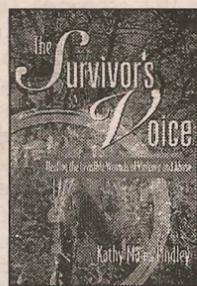
Craig Keener is professor of New Testament at Eastern Seminary in Pennsylvania. *Jim Holladay*

The Survivor's Voice: Healing the Invisible Wounds of Violence and Abuse. Kathy Manis Findley. Smyth & Helwys, 1999. 114 pages. \$12. ♦♦♦♦♦

This book is not a dispassionate clinical study of violence and abuse. Rather, Findley uses her own personal experience of abuse and violence in a most effective retelling of her own and other people's stories of abuse and violence.

Findley first gives us a survey of the world of abuse by relaying statistics and the reality of abuse and violence. In a brief chapter she effectively shows the pervasiveness of abuse and the suffering which ensues. But the most effective part of the book begins with the "voice" chapters. In these eight chapters, Findley relates accounts of family violence and abuse from Hebrew Scriptures and the modern voices of Findley and those to whom she has ministered. She skillfully blends the voices in order to challenge the reader to a new awareness of family abuse and violence.

I was most affected by Findley's own story. It would be easy to tell this story and end it with utter hopelessness. The amazing aspect of her story is that after 30 years of struggle she holds out hope for those who experience such abuse and violence. Her book ends with an amazing eulogy to her father, who was her abuser. While facing reality and its terror, she holds out the hope that there is a road to healing in which the victim can, through faith in God, find the will to live again. *Wayne Hager*



By Wayne Hager, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Mt. Airy, N.C., and Jim Holladay, pastor of Clifton Baptist Church in Louisville. Holladay and Hager welcome feedback or suggestions for book reviews. Contact them via e-mail at: docholladay@juno.com or jwhager@surry.net

Missionary donates book royalties to aid Campbellsville scholarships

LOUISVILLE—For more than 30 years, Southern Baptist missionaries Jim and Betty McKinley worked in predominantly Muslim Bangladesh, suffering through natural disasters and civil war alongside their Bengali neighbors.

Their experiences had a lasting effect on their lives. It was difficult at the time to talk of the death and suffering they witnessed.

But years later, Jim McKinley began to share with friends back home in Kentucky. This led to the publication of three books, with all royalties designated for strategic missions needs in Bangladesh.

His first book, "Death to Life: Bangladesh," published in 1978, tells of life in the midst of a country's fight for independence.

The book opens with a scene of his daughter screaming that planes are coming. Three McKinley children were in the fields where Pakistani pilots sprayed bullets, killing many of their Bengali neighbors and friends.

"There were several times ... when I feared for our lives," McKinley said. "Through the grace of God, our lives were spared and we were

able to minister to our friends and neighbors."

The retired Southern Baptist missionary, now living in Louisville, said the ongoing donations from book royalties are just one way of giving thanks to God.

"Our time as missionaries was such a holy time," he said. "We just could not have profited from our experiences as missionaries."

Through the donations, two major projects have been completed in Bangladesh, a church building and a conference center.

Proceeds from a new fourth book, "Missionary Stories II," will benefit a scholarship fund at Campbellsville University for children of international missionaries.

McKinley, a native of Clinton County, graduated from Campbellsville University when it was Campbellsville College. He also graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. Prior to missionary appointment in 1958, he served as pastor of Central Grove Baptist Church in Clinton County and Mount Moriah Baptist Church in Mount Eden. The McKinleys retired from the mission field in 1992.

Clear Creek's president pens book for new pastors

By Pat Cole
Staff Writer

PINEVILLE—Gleaning insights from his experience as a pastor and professor, Bill Whittaker has written a book for novice preachers.

"Preparing to Preach: A Practical Guide for Beginning Preachers" takes new preachers through the steps of sermon preparation. The 212-page volume is published by Providence House Publishers in Franklin, Tenn.

The book helps preachers find, study and understand a biblical text, said Whittaker, president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in Pineville. It also guides them in assembling sermon material, finding illustrations and making life applications, he said.

Whittaker illustrates the book with material from his own sermons. He also quotes many well-known preachers from the Baptist tradition and other denominations. "I think students need to be exposed to many perspectives," he said. "Other preachers in other Christian bodies have something to offer us."

The book is a text for introductory preaching classes at Clear Creek. This semester, as he does frequently, Whittaker is taking time from his administrative duties to teach a preaching class.

While serving as a pastor, Whittaker made preaching the first priority of his church duties, he said. Yet he noted that pastoral responsibilities, such as visitation and caring for those in need, go alongside preaching. "Very few pastors can just be the preacher," he said. "The most effective preaching is coupled with" pastoral tasks.

Asked about other priorities related to sermon preparation, Whittaker named three:

■ Believe in the Bible's authority.

Lack of confidence in Scripture's authority hinders effective preaching, he said.

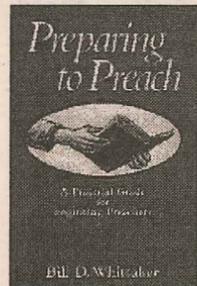
■ Do your own work first. Preachers should "start with the text and see what God is saying to you," Whittaker said. "Work with the text yourself before you consult commentaries."

■ Observe the world around you.

Whittaker emphasized that sermons should be contemporary, relevant and true to the text.

Although intended for new preachers, Whittaker said the book could serve as an individual study for more experienced preachers. Each unit ends with a "Reaction and Response" exercise intended to help sharpen skills.

"Preparing to Preach" is available from Whittaker's office by sending \$18.95 plus \$1.50 for shipping to The President's Office, Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, 300 Clear Creek Road, Pineville, KY 40977.



PEOPLE

PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for these people and projects, which are part of Kentucky Baptists' partnership with Baptists in Poland, Tanzania and New England:

■ Missionaries Doug and Marcie Shaw in Poland offer thanks for these answers to prayer: 60 people from Tarnow Baptist Church who witnessed in the streets of Rzeszow Aug. 21 and the 18 people who attended the Rzeszow church's first Sunday fellowship Aug. 22; Jurék, who recently became a Christian, and has asked to be baptized.

■ Missionary Vivian Boyle gives thanks for the results of the evangelistic efforts of Kentucky Baptists in Tanzania in June. She reports two "spirit-filled" prayer days in Tukuyu since then.

■ A prayer and fasting day scheduled for Sept. 18 in Tukuyu, Tanzania.

■ Church planters Robby Pitt in Burlington, Vt.; William Galloway in Waterville, Maine; Robert Krumrey in Amherst, Mass., and Larry Dailey in Salem, N.H.

■ Southeastern New England Baptist Association in Connecticut and Rhode Island in its search for a director of missions.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Shirley Wooton

■ CLOVERPORT—Cloverport Church called David Renfroe as pastor. He began his ministry Aug. 29.

■ HAZARD—First Church recently hosted a reception for minister of music Ronald Sholar and his wife, Gloria, pianist, to celebrate their 19 years of ministry.

■ HENDERSON—Immanuel Temple celebrated its 85th anniversary Aug. 19. Steve Thompson, Kentucky Baptist Convention associate to the executive director, was the speaker. A homecoming sing was held with former music ministers. Joseph Tricquet is pastor.

■ LOUISA—Cornerstone Counseling and Christian Appalachian Project are offering "Active Christian Parenting" Sept. 5, 9:45 a.m. at First Church and Sept. 9, 7:15 p.m. at Louisa United Methodist Church. For information, call (606) 638-0568.

■ LOUISVILLE—The combined choirs of 11 southwest Louisville

churches will perform "The Family of God", a musical featuring the songs of Bill and Gloria Gaither, Sept. 19 at 6 p.m. at Iroquois Amphitheater. Admission is free. Choirs are from Auburndale, Beechland, Cloverleaf, Fairdale First, Hazelwood, Lee's Lane, New Heights, Ormsby Heights, Rockford Lane, Shively Heights and Valley View churches. The choirs will be directed by Bill Pauley, minister of music at Beechland Church. For information, call (502) 447-6867 or (502) 935-1313.

Hurstbourne Church called Jon Bishop as pastor. Bishop previously served as pastor of Bethlehem Church, also in Louisville.

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children will host a free orientation about adoption Sept. 9. For information, call (800) 928-5242 before noon Sept. 8. Training begins Sept. 16.

■ OWENSBORO—South Hampton Church licensed Ricky Payne Jr. to

the gospel ministry Aug. 22. William Roberts is pastor.

■ PINEVILLE—Clear Creek Bible College announced the following new staff members: Jim Ditty Sr., professor of college relations; Fred Cummings, assistant professor of Bible; and Roy Lucas, associate professor of Bible. Bill Whittaker is president of Clear Creek Bible College.

■ PRINCETON—Northside Church will celebrate 50 years of ministry with reunion and revival services Sept. 3-5 at 10:30 on Sunday and 7 p.m. nightly. Speakers will include David Royalty, David Wilkerson and Doug Anderson. Thomas Tackett is pastor.

What's going on?

Send your happenings to Shirley Wooton for Mountains to the Mississippi. Mail: Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253. Fax: (502) 244-6474. E-mail: shirley_wooton@kybaptist.org.

CLASSIFIED ADS

SEEKING: Part-time worship leader for Allen First Baptist Church to lead the choir congregation in active praise and worship. Send resumé to: Worship Leader, First Baptist Church, PO Box 541, Allen, KY 41601.

SEEKING: Full-time associate minister. Primary duties are youth and music; additional duties included. Resumés must be received by Sept. 18. Send to Pete Kendrick, 175 Robin Drive, Stanford, KY 40484, or fax: (606) 854-0507.

SEEKING: Director of recreation and family ministry at a fast-growing contemporary church with developing recreation ministry and the nation's largest Upward Basketball league in 1999. A heart for evangelism is a must. Send resumé to: Bellevue Baptist Church, 519 W Byers Ave., Owensboro, KY 42303, Attn: Dr. Greg Fauls.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Goodlettsville, Tenn., is seeking a full-time minister of youth. The church is located in a rapidly growing community 15 miles north of downtown Nashville. Approximately 100-120 youth attend Sunday school weekly. If God has placed someone upon your heart who is a possible candidate, please call (615) 859-1346, fax (615) 859-1039 or e-mail fbc@nashville.com to give your recommendation. Resumés will be accepted until Oct. 15, 1999.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music/youth for First Baptist Church, Earlington, Ky. Send resumé to: Search Committee, First Baptist Church, PO Box 155, Earlington, KY 42410.

SEEKING: Fern Creek Baptist Church is seeking a part-time minister of youth and children, and a part-time bookkeeper. Send resumés to: Search Committee, Fern Creek Baptist Church, PO Box 91146, Louisville, KY 40291.

SEEKING: Organist. Resumé to: Music Committee, Lynn Acres Baptist Church, 5007 Southside Drive, Louisville, KY 40214.

SEEKING: Rural church in central Kentucky is seeking a full-time pastor. If you feel directed by the Lord to reply, please send a resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, New Clover Creek Baptist Church, Route 3 Box 65, Hardinsburg, KY 40143. For further information about the church, please contact our Web site at www.newclovercreek.org.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Goodlettsville, Tenn., is seeking a full-time minister of music. The church is located in a rapidly growing community 15 miles north of downtown Nashville. Approximately 750-800 attend worship weekly. If God has placed someone upon your heart who is a possible candidate or you are a candidate, please call (615) 859-1346, fax (615) 859-1039 or e-mail fbc@nashville.com to give your recommendation. Resumés will be accepted until Oct. 1, 1999.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music and senior adults. Send resumé to: Minister of Music Search Committee, Burlington Baptist Church, PO Box 48, Burlington, KY 41005. (606) 586-6529.

SEEKING: Fern Creek Baptist Child Development Center is looking for a teacher for the three-year-old preschool program. Hours are 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Requirements: College degree preferred, high school diploma required; experience working with preschool children a plus; love for children; ability to be flexible. Benefits: Competitive hourly wage; paid holidays; free tuition for children; state-certified training provided; pleasant, positive work environment; possibility of additional hours, if desired. It is the goal of this child development center to provide the community of Fern Creek with a quality program at a reasonable cost to families. The center is certified by the Kentucky Cabinet of Human Resources. Interested people should contact Debbie Grobandt, (502) 239-0316, or send resumé to: Fern Creek Baptist Child Development Center, PO Box 91146, Louisville, KY 40291.

SEEKING: Minister to children; 15 hours/week. Please send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Woodland Baptist Church, 809 N Pope Lick Road, Louisville, KY 40243.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music to lead worship services, adult and children's choirs. Send resumé to: South Elkhorn Baptist Church, 4867 Versailles Road, Lexington, KY 40510.

SEEKING: Keyboardist for Sunday morning and evening worship services and Wednesday evening prayer service and choir rehearsal. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Parkway Baptist Church, 1915 N Broadway, Lexington, KY 40505.

SEEKING: Orville Baptist Church, Henry County, is seeking a bivocational pastor. Seminary students considered. Send resumé with references to: Robbie O'Brien, 6929 Gest Road, Pleasureville, KY 40057.

SEEKING: Williamstown Baptist Church, Williamstown, Ky., is seeking applicants for the position of full-time senior pastor. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, c/o Kenneth Kenner, 313 Sunset Drive, Williamstown, KY 41097.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of youth and children. Please send resumé to: Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, PO Box 239, LaCenter, KY 42056.

SEEKING: Historic Fee Fee Baptist Church is seeking God's person to serve as minister of education with the additional responsibility of developing ministries to singles in this suburban St. Louis, Mo., community. Prior singles ministry considered a plus. Fee Fee is a strong traditional Southern Baptist church averaging over 500 in Sunday school. Forward resumé or referrals to: Minister of Education and Singles Search Committee, Fee Fee Baptist Church, 11330 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO 63044. Fax: (314) 739-1302.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for Maple Grove Baptist Church. Please send resumé to: Search Committee, Maple Grove Baptist Church, 5911 E. Manslick Road, Louisville, KY 40219.

Campbellsville's Fryrear dies

CAMPBELLSVILLE—Dave Fryrear, director of athletics at Campbellsville University since 1996, died Aug. 15 as a result of injuries from a boating accident on Green River Lake. He was 63.

Campbellsville President Mike Carter said Fryrear "was the consummate gentleman who led by his Christian faith and leadership. We will all miss him very much."

Former Campbellsville President Ken Winters praised Fryrear as a dedicated leader for the school's athletic program. "He has long been recognized as a strong Christian educator, and we have indeed been fortunate to have him serve in a vital role model for Campbellsville University."

Fryrear is survived by his wife, Debbie, a son, a daughter and four grandchildren.

PEOPLE

America's favorite cowgirl affirms God's faithfulness

By Kevin Eckstrom
Religion News Service

ORLANDO, Fla. (RNS)—It was a decision Dale Evans knew would affect her career, but to her, the answer was obvious.

She and her husband, cowboy legend Roy Rogers, were hosting an hour-long variety show for ABC at the 1962 World's Fair in Seattle. Evans was scheduled to close the show by singing "How Great Thou Art," an old gospel hymn.

A studio executive called, telling Evans to take the word "Christ" out of the fourth verse. Evans refused and sang the hymn in its entirety. Several weeks later, the couple's contract for the variety show series was not renewed.

"What is that?" asked Evans, 86, during a recent interview in connection with her newest memoir, "Rainbows on a Hard Trail."

"That's nothing compared to what Christ did for us," she answered. "Palm-try. I mean, you either mean business with the Lord or you don't, and I had to fish or cut bait, so I fished."

Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, America's favorite cowboy and cowgirl couple, probably will be remembered as much for their professional achievements as they will for their public and unapologetic evangelical Christian faith. Their lives were as unblemished as the characters they played in a lifetime of Westerns, where the good guy always won.

But their private lives were racked with pain, both physical and emotional.

The couple lost three of their nine children, and a 1996 stroke left Evans confined to a wheelchair four years after a heart attack nearly killed her. That public faith and private pain is recounted in "Rainbows on a Hard Trail," co-written with author Norman Rohrer.

Evans now journeys into the sunset of her life alone, after her husband's death in July 1998 at 86. It has been, she said, a hard and lonely time.

She has taken comfort in her faith, and the church she has attended for 33 years, Church of the Valley Presbyterian near her home in Victorville, Calif. She said God, who has brought her this far, will lead her home.

"I couldn't have done it without the Lord, and I've been very conscious of His presence," she said. "He promised He would never forget us nor forsake us, and He hasn't forsaken me."

It wasn't the first time Evans' faith was challenged. The couple's first daughter, Robin, was born with Down's syndrome in 1950 and died two years later. In 1964, their adopted daughter, Debbie, was killed in a church bus accident on her way to a summer mission trip. Just three years later, their adopted son, Sandy, died of alcohol poisoning while serving in the U.S. Army in Germany.

Such a string of tragedies, coupled with a demanding career in the public spotlight, would have been enough to

test anyone's faith. Evans writes that she emerged stronger for her trials.

"God is good in His benefits," she writes. "I know, for He has cushioned the hardest moments of my life and given me strength to go on. However hard the way has been, I am at peace. Forgetting that which is behind, I press forward to the mark of the high calling in Jesus Christ. I know I can trust Him."

Born Frances Octavia Smith in Uvalde, Texas, in 1912, Evans worked at several small jobs before landing a job playing the piano and singing on a local radio show in Memphis, Tenn. She worked her way through Louisville and Chicago before moving on to the bright lights of Hollywood in the 1940s.

Within her first year there she appeared in six movies, and went on to star in 26 movies for the Roy Rogers Western Musical Series. The couple married in 1947.

Life in Hollywood was more than glitz and glamour for Roy and Dale and their large brood. Evans said they struggled to find a balance between their Christian values and Hollywood celebrity, and that she hopes she's better remembered for her faith than her stardom.

"That's more important to me than all the rest," she said.

She also bemoans the changes in Hollywood since the couple's heyday in the 1950s. Life has become more "overt," she says, with gratuitous sex and violence all too common in mov-



ies and television. What's more, Evans worries about the influence of the Internet on America's children.

"I'm disappointed when I see all the killing on the screen, and overt sex," she said. "I don't like the Internet, and what's free for (children) to log on to. They're not ready for it. I don't think you ever get ready for it."

For all their public adoration and their private pain, Evans says she and her husband learned in their 50 years of marriage that nothing is more important than their faith in God. With that, Evans said, nothing else really matters.

"God is bigger than any disability," she writes. "Love Him, appreciate His blessings, and trust Him for the rest of the journey. He puts the rainbow at the end of the hardest trail."

"GOD IS GOOD" Dale Evans, shown here before the death of her husband, Roy Rogers, credits God for blessing her along life's trail, even when it wasn't happy. "I couldn't have done it without the Lord." (RNS photo)

Pastor: Sabbaticals can help small-church leaders renew too

EARTH, Texas (BP)—While study leaves are not uncommon for professors and large church pastors, it is unusual for a church with fewer than 100 people in Sunday school to give its preacher time off for rest, refreshment and renewal.

But First Baptist Church of Earth, Texas, gave Pastor Bobby Broyles a month off to seek a new freshness in his ministry.

Broyles, who has been pastor at Earth eight years, said the idea for a sabbatical arose after he had extended conversations with another church about becoming their pastor.

Those discussions with the other church ended after both he and his wife felt God was not in the move. "I knew God was leading (to stay), but I also knew that I could not stay without some kind of renewed vision."

When Broyles approached the deacons, he proposed taking off for three weeks, but they told him to take a whole month in the summer of 1998.

Some of the members misunderstood, however, Broyles said, and thought the pastor was telling them they were not good enough for him. "That was not the case at all. It worked the other way. I was so stale that I wanted them to have someone who could take them to new places."

He mapped out a plan to use the sabbatical effectively.

The first week and a half, he vacationed with his wife and two children.

Then he spent a few days attending a specialized church leadership training program.

Broyles also made a marathon trip across Texas, visiting nine churches and 10 people.

"With only two exceptions, these were people who were longtime friends who had good solid ministries," Broyles said. He talked with the people about philosophy, the mechanics of doing church and ministry, worship, evangelism, discipleship, Sunday school and leadership.

"I also talked about sermon preparation. My sermons had gotten stale. There was not a freshness to my presentation. I wanted worship to be a meaningful experience," Broyles said.

Broyles asked what his counselors were reading and had read. He spent time thinking about "all of the little things" about ministry which were making him "intolerant."

Upon returning to the pulpit, he shortened his sermons. "I used more illustrations," he said. "It was harder work and took more preparation, but the people responded."

Broyles said he highly recommends the sabbatical opportunity he had last year, but cautioned that he could not have done it after being there two years or five years. It took time to earn the trust of the people enough to be given the time away.

Family celebrates 50th anniversary with mission trip

By Bruce Sims
Woman's Missionary Union

TRUSSVILLE, Ala. (BP)—Some people celebrate their 50th anniversary with a cruise or a party. But Lou and Phil Neel's family had something else in mind.

The couple's wedding anniversary became a celebration of Christ's love for others when their family gathered on the Alabama Gulf Coast to help summer missionaries.

"Mom and Dad are not the kind you usually associate with teas and anniversary parties," said their oldest daughter, Cindy Huguley of Pinson, Ala. "So we decided to get the family together and go on a missions trip."

Since the Neels' church, Deerfoot Baptist in Trussville, Ala., and missions work always have been important to the couple, Huguley figured a missions trip involving the entire family would be a great way to honor their parents' 50 years of marriage.

For advice on where to go or what to do, Huguley called Woman's Missionary Union. Delane Tew, WMU's Volunteer Connection coordinator, linked them with summer missionaries conducting day camps, beach ministries and evening programs.

Volunteer Connection is a network that identifies needs and resources, both nationally and internationally, and matches them with qualified volunteers willing to serve.

Huguley contacted Charlene Buttram, Baldwin Baptist Association's interim director of missions. The two set late July for the project.

"We had been praying for someone to come at

that time," Buttram recalled. "So their willingness to spend four days of helping out was an answer to prayer. Normally, we have a youth or some group scheduled, but at this particular time we didn't have anyone."

Family members helped summer missionaries canvass the Gulf State Park campground, inviting children to the day camps, which were held each weekday morning at the park's pavilion.

The anniversary couple, who also live in Pinson, Ala., arrived the next day, followed by brothers Mike and Rick and another sister, Mary.

Everyone in Alabama who has ever seen a cartoon caricature of "Aubie," Auburn's mascot, has seen an example of Phil Neel's work.

"I developed the 'Aubie' character many years ago, while working as a cartoonist for The Birmingham Post-Herald," he said. "I've always tried to use my artistic talent for the Lord, whether it's by entertaining children with sketches of 'Aubie' or 'Big Al,' the elephant mascot of the University of Alabama."

Huguley said the children who attended the Gulf Coast programs were fascinated by her father's cartooning ability. Many asked him to draw something on their paper plates.

But the Neels said it was the entire family's involvement in the missions activities that made the trip special.

To see their kids and grandkids stand in front of a crowd and tell about what God meant to them was one of the best presents a couple could ever receive, they said.

For more information about Volunteer Connection call Delane Tew of WMU at (205) 991-4097; or e-mail, volconnection@wmu.org.

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The Foundation's full range of services begins with you.
Included in the Foundation's services are:

Consulting

The Foundation can help you develop an estate stewardship plan for you, your family and Baptist causes you support. There is no cost or obligation for these consultations.

Attorney Referrals

While Foundation representatives can help you plan estate stewardship, legal documents may require the services of an attorney. The Foundation can provide you a list of Christian attorneys and other financial planning professionals and work with them to accomplish your goals.

Gifts

If you want to include a gift arrangement to a Baptist cause, you may name the Foundation to receive the gift and distribute it according to your wishes. The Foundation can also serve as trustee if your plans include a trust arrangement.

Trustee Services

Charitable trust agreements make lifetime payments to donors or their family members. Upon death, the agreements benefit Baptist ministries of their choice. The Foundation can serve as trustee of charitable trusts. As trustee, the Foundation will manage the trust, invest funds, distribute earnings, account for financial activity and provide tax statements.

The Foundation can serve as trustee or successor trustee in these situations. It will manage the trust, invest funds, distribute

earnings, account for financial activity and provide tax statements.

Education

The Foundation is available to educate individuals, churches, associations and Baptist organizations. Through seminars and counseling, the Foundation can help you understand estate stewardship. The Foundation assists churches and associations as a technical and legal resource for development strategies and tax counseling on gifts.

Endowment Management

Many churches and Baptist organizations have had endowments left to them by members. The Foundation can assist your group with endowment management, investing the principal, distributing earnings and accounting for financial activity.

If you would like more information on how the Foundation can serve you, please contact:

Barry G. Allen, President

or

Laurie W. Valentine, Trust Counsel



10605 Shelbyville Road
Louisville KY 40223
(502) 244-6466