

**October 12, 1999**  
**Vol. 173, No. 40**

**FOR THE RECORD**

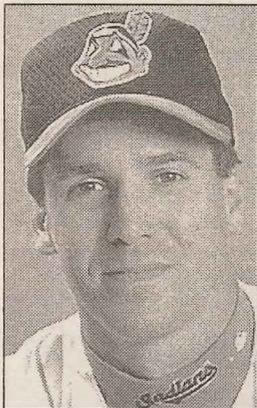
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**New CP formula among business items for KBC annual meeting**

COVINGTON—A proposed change to Kentucky Baptists' Cooperative Program distribution formula will be among the major business items during next month's Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting.

Other agenda items include election of a new convention president and the kick-off of a yearlong celebration of the Cooperative Program's 75th anniversary. The annual meeting will be held Nov. 16-17 at the Northern Kentucky Regional Convention Center in Covington.

The proposed CP distribution change will increase CP gifts channeled to Southern Baptist Convention causes by approximately 0.2 percent per year for the next three years. It will increase the SBC portion from a current total of 35.358 percent to 36 percent by 2002.

The plan is both practical and philosophical, according to KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey. The current formula is tied to increases and decreases in undesignated giving reported by churches on the Annual Church Profile coordinated by LifeWay Christian Resources. In an effort to streamline the ACP process, LifeWay officials have reduced the number of questions on the annual form. Among the changes, ACP will no longer track churches' undesignated gifts.

As a result, "information about undesignated receipts will no longer be available to us," Mackey explained. He also noted that the accuracy of ACP records is affected by the number of churches that participate.

□ See *New Cooperative* ..., page 3

**Louisville churches target gun violence**

By David Winfrey  
*News Director*

LOUISVILLE—Several Baptists in Louisville are leading a drive to distribute trigger locks to gun owners throughout Jefferson County.

The trigger-lock drive is one of three projects to emerge from a recent forum on gun violence sponsored by 14 congregations and spearheaded by Baptists.

Crescent Hill Baptist Church hosted the interfaith forum on gun violence Oct. 3. The 14 sponsors included five Baptist congregations in addition to the Kentuckiana Interfaith Community, the

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Louisville and a local synagogue.

"It was a true effort of a broad base of congregations," said Reba Cobb, executive director for Kentuckiana Interfaith Community and a member at Crescent Hill Baptist.



More than 300 people attended the event, including state legislators, local government leaders and U.S. Representative Anne Northup, Cobb added.

The meeting had three concrete results, Cobb said: the trigger-lock drive; a petition to local, state and national leaders; and a study to commission a

work of art from confiscated handguns.

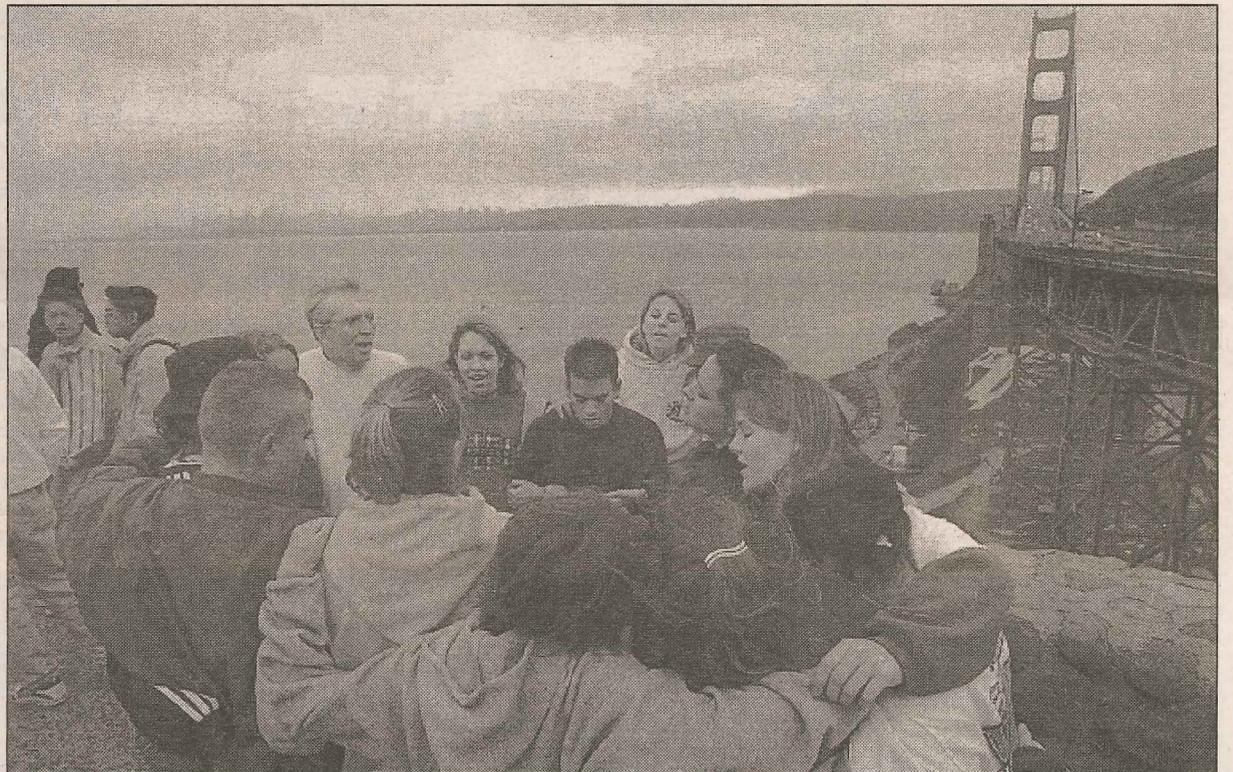
Crescent Hill Baptist and Highland Baptist churches were among the leaders in purchasing trigger locks, each putting up \$1,000. What was to be a symbolic gesture has grown into a substantial effort, Cobb said.

At the meeting, Jefferson County Commissioner Russ Maple pledged \$5,000 to buy more locks, and Louisville Alderwoman Tina Ward-Pugh pledged \$1,000, Cobb said.

Another \$1,000 was collected at the meeting, she said. Cobb said she expects at least \$10,000 to be raised for the effort.

Joe Phelps, pastor of Highland Baptist Church, said that would purchase more than 1,600 locks.

□ See *Louisville churches* ..., page 8



**GOLDEN GATE GATHERING** Students from Riverside, Calif., gather near the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco for the True Love Waits campaign, "Crossing Bridges with Purity." More than 1,500 students crossed the bridge holding posters filled with signed pledge cards from students promising to be sexually abstinent until marriage. *Story on page 10.* (BP photo by Morris Abernathy)

**Southern Baptists ship more than 36,000 blankets to Kosovo**



**WARM WISHES** Jean McDaniel helps pack donated blankets for their three-week trip to Kosovo. The "Blanket Kosovo With Love" project began in August and collected more than 36,000 new blankets. About 7,000 blankets were collected in Kentucky for the effort. (BP photo by Warren Johnson)

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptists collected and sent more than 36,000 blankets to Kosovo Sept. 30 in a ministry to share God's love with a war-scarred people facing a harsh winter.

"In my wildest imagination, I couldn't have imagined the response this big in such a short time," said Jean McDaniel, transportation freight specialist at the Southern Baptist International Mission Board.

The blankets were sealed in 12 40-foot containers and loaded onto a boat for the three-week trip ahead.

The "Blanket Kosovo With Love" project began in August as a response to thousands of ethnic Albanian refugees returning to Kosovo and facing a harsh winter climate similar to America's Colorado Rockies.

"It will start getting cold in October, and those affected by the war face a long winter with little protection from the

cold," said Jim Brown, the board's human needs consultant.

As many as 860,000 Kosovar Albanians fled the province of Yugoslavia in the spring. The vast majority returned to find their homes destroyed by Serbs or damaged by NATO bombs.

The blankets were each labeled "Zoti ju bekoft," or "God loves you" in Albanian, and "Southern Baptist in America's Love Gift to Kosovo" on brightly colored tags.

Kentucky Baptists collected approximately 7,000 blankets for the effort.

Because shipping costs are expected to total more than \$40,000, funds collected past the Sept. 15 cut-off date are welcomed, McDaniel said. Money also will be used to purchase new blankets on the field. Checks can be sent to International Mission Board, Hunger and Relief Fund Kosovo Blanket Project, Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230.

# BAPTISTS

## National CP gifts set 6th straight record

**Southern Baptists' record 1998-99 Cooperative Program receipts of \$168 million surpassed last year's record by more than \$8 million and exceeded the current budget by nearly \$13 million.**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—For the sixth consecutive year, the Southern Baptist Convention ended its fiscal year with record Cooperative Program gifts. The nearly \$168 million surpassed last year's record by more than \$8 million and the yearly budget by nearly \$13 million, according to Morris Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee.

For the SBC's fiscal year, Oct. 1 through Sept. 30, the \$167,996,385 total for 1998-99 is 5.27 percent above last year's record. The SBC's Cooperative Program allocation budget for the year of \$155,005,723 was surpassed by 8.38 percent.

"The Lord has been mighty good to Southern Baptists," Chapman said during his report to the SBC Executive Committee meeting in Nashville in September. "Southern Baptists have been faithful in giving their tithes and offerings."

The increase in total gifts for the sixth year in a row means the remaining \$3.1 million of the SBC's capital needs budget will be paid, finishing a

10-year capital needs budget a year ahead of schedule. All gifts over the regular budget have been distributed 50 percent to the capital needs budget and 50 percent according to the regular percentage of the allocation budget. Now that the capital needs budget has been completed, all gifts over the regular budget will be forwarded to convention agencies according to the regular CP funding formula.

"We have every reason to praise the Lord and to thank Southern Baptists across the country," Chapman said. "We have reason to commend state conventions for working with the SBC in forwarding as much as possible to the SBC for world missions, seminary education for our young ministers and a strong voice for religious liberty, ethics and morality in Washington and beyond."

Designated receipts also set another record, topping last year's total by \$1.14 million. The 1998-99 designated gifts total of \$151,737,197 also set a record for the sixth year in a row.

Adding the record Cooperative Pro-

gram and designated gifts for the year, Southern Baptists gave \$320 million.

The SBC's upcoming 75th anniversary celebration of the Cooperative Program—"Partners in the Harvest," with a goal of \$750 million in giving for all Baptist causes during the 2000-2001 fiscal year—can be reached, Chapman said, "with God's help and the cooperation of loyal Southern Baptist leaders everywhere" to "literally launch our witness into the next millennium."

The Cooperative Program is the unified funding plan begun in 1925 through which Baptists cooperate in support of missions and ministries. Three goals have been set for the anniversary celebration:

■ Baptize 1 million people in the year 2000.

■ Enlist a record number of Baptists for volunteer missions projects.

■ Give \$750 million in 2000-2001 through CP and special offerings for international, North American and state missions, which would require an additional \$60 million in CP gifts through local churches across the country.

## BJCPA marks leadership transition

ARLINGTON, Va. (ABP)—The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs marked its final board meeting of the millennium with a change in leadership of the 53-year-old religious-liberty coalition in Washington.

The Sept. 4-5 meeting marked both the official farewell for James Dunn, who retired Sept. 1 after 18 years as the agency's executive director, and the election of Dunn's successor, Brent Walker, who previously served as the BJCPA's general counsel.

During a retirement banquet, Dunn was honored by President Clinton and broadcast journalist Bill Moyers.

"Our country's a better place because of you," Clinton told Dunn. "Our religious liberties are more secure because of you."

Moyers said Dunn's tireless efforts and political savvy have made him one of the most influential Baptist voices of the past quarter century.

Since retiring, Dunn, 67, has assumed duties as president of the Baptist Joint Committee Endowment. He also is professor of Christianity and public policy at Wake Forest Divinity School in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Walker, 48, becomes the agency's fifth chief executive. He has worked for the BJCPA since 1989, first as associate general counsel and more recently as general counsel and associate executive director.

## North Carolina churches evaluate flood damage

KINSTON, N.C. (BP)—At least 25 churches and several agencies of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina have been damaged by floods in the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd, convention officials reported.

BSC officials said they have contacted more than 400 churches in the 13 associations affected by the flooding and are awaiting reports on the total number of churches needing aid.

Cleanup efforts are being coordinated for the next several weekends, said Richard Brunson, director of North Carolina Baptist Men.

Brunson said the efforts mark the beginning of a long process of aid to the affected areas. As church needs are known, specific teams will be targeted to assist in rebuilding those requesting aid.

BSC Executive Director Jim Royston said that as much as \$45,000 was received by the BSC for disaster relief in one day, and officials expect the total to reach the hundreds of thousands, most to be used to buy materials for reconstruction of homes and churches.

Brunson said a statewide collection of canned goods and cleaning supplies

was so successful that two warehouses were filled.

In other reports, several buildings at Kennedy Home, one of several campuses operated by the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, sustained extensive damage when Falling Creek near Kinston overflowed its banks as flooding brought by Hurricane Floyd swept through eastern North Carolina.

Kennedy Home was without power for six days. Robert Stump, BCH programs and services director, said officials hoped to move the children back to Kennedy Home this past week.

### BAPTIST BITS

■ **BWA commissions history book.** The Baptist World Alliance has commissioned the writing of a "Centennial History of the Baptist World Alliance" to mark the organization's 100th anniversary of its founding in 2005. Denton Lotz, BWA general secretary, announced that Richard Pierard, professor of history at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, will write the book. Historians from each of the six regional fellowships of the BWA will be asked to contribute to the book, Lotz said. Publication of the history will coincide with the BWA's Centennial Congress celebrations in July 2005.

■ **Indiana leaders oppose woman pastor.** Messengers to the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana will be asked to consider action against a congregation that called a woman as senior pastor last year. The proposal, drafted by the convention's executive committee, voices "strong conviction" that University Baptist Church of Bloomington "stands in violation of the principles of Scripture and outside the commonly held beliefs of Indiana Baptists in calling a woman to be senior pastor." Stopping short of removing the church from convention membership, the proposal

recommends that messengers from University Church no longer be seated and funds from the church no longer be accepted "until such time as the church repents of its current course and the convention votes to rescind this action." Annette Briggs, pastor of University Baptist since July 1998, declined to respond.

■ **Chapman links premillennialism, evangelism.** Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee President Morris Chapman said as a pastor he saw more people convert to Christianity once he began preaching "the premillennial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ." Chapman, speaking at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., said passages in the New Testament speak clearly about an imminent appearance of Jesus Christ in the sky to gather His followers, both the dead and the living, to take them to heaven, during which time those who remain on the earth will experience seven years of extreme hardship, referred to as the "Great Tribulation." He said when he began preaching a premillennial view as a pastor, "there were more baptisms than ever in the 100-year history of the church."

■ **VBS offers ocean odyssey.** God's faithfulness will be the focus of Southern Baptist vacation Bible school materials for 2000, using the theme, "The Fantastic Good News Ocean Odyssey: Diving into the Depths of God's Faithfulness." The 2000 VBS materials "will take boys and girls ... on an incredible excursion through an underwater world of wonders," according to the description of the theme. Bill Taylor, director of LifeWay Christian Resources' Sunday school group which produces VBS materials, said, "At a time when there is so much fear among children, this emphasis on God's love and care could not be more appropriate. We feel this will be the best VBS offering we've ever had."

■ **Midwestern course prompts debate.** A new one-day course on state Baptist conventions' history and governance at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., has become a point of controversy. Jim Hill, executive director of the Missouri Baptist Convention, withdrew as a speaker when he learned that Roger Moran, research director of the Missouri Baptist Laymen's Association, also was scheduled to speak. Moran is the leader of

a "Project 1000" campaign aimed at electing conservatives as convention leaders. Also scheduled to speak is Jay Scribner, expected to be the conservative candidate for state convention president next month. Interim president Michael Whitehead said efforts had been made to enlist moderate leaders as well. He said the class' only agenda is "to educate ministers about the Baptist way of doing business, and to encourage them to be active in their local associations and state conventions." Hill said he declined to speak because "I've tried to stay out of the political activity of the convention."

■ **Baptists Today editor resigns.** The executive editor of the moderate newspaper Baptists Today has resigned, according to a terse news release dated Oct. 6. Barely a year after accepting the job as editor, Bob Ballance, 41, has become interim pastor of Heritage Baptist Church in Cartersville, Ga., according to the press release. Baptists Today's board of directors has begun a search for his successor, it added. Oby Brown, a secular journalist who was hired last year as Baptists Today's managing editor, will serve as interim executive editor of the monthly publication.

## Terms aside, evolution still taught in state

LOUISVILLE—Kentucky schools still teach evolution, regardless of a recent controversy over language used to describe core content education requirements, according to a spokesman for the Kentucky Department of Education.

Controversy arose last week when a news report stated the word "evolution" was removed from the language of the state's core content document, which lists items students will be tested on at different stages of their education.

But Jim Parks, press secretary for the state Department of Education, said the word evolution has never been part of the final document. "The original document that was completed in '95 had this language in there for five years, and nobody questioned it," he said.

A recent review of the core content document's language went through three committees, Parks said, and the last committee recommended changing terms such as "changes over time" to "evolution."

Draft copies of the core content document that included the word evolution were in circulation for about a month before officials changed the wording to its original language, he said.

Sensitivity guidelines discourage using the term evolution in the document, but teachers will still teach about evolution in the schools, Parks said.

But the sensitivity guidelines are also designed to make sure tests do not force children to choose between their beliefs and getting a correct answer on a test, he added.

## Mackey urges Baptists to oppose gambling

Gov. Paul Patton has invited Kentucky citizens to express their opinions on the issue of expanded gambling in the state. Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Director Bill Mackey is taking the governor's invitation seriously.

In a mailing to 4,000 Kentucky Baptist leaders, Mackey is encouraging Kentucky Baptists to "write one or more letters to the governor and your state legislators."

"The task for us is really very simple," Mackey wrote in the letter to pastors, directors of missions, Woman's Missionary Union leaders and other Baptist leaders. "We must encourage hundreds of citizens to write personal letters to Kentucky legislators about this

issue and do it now."

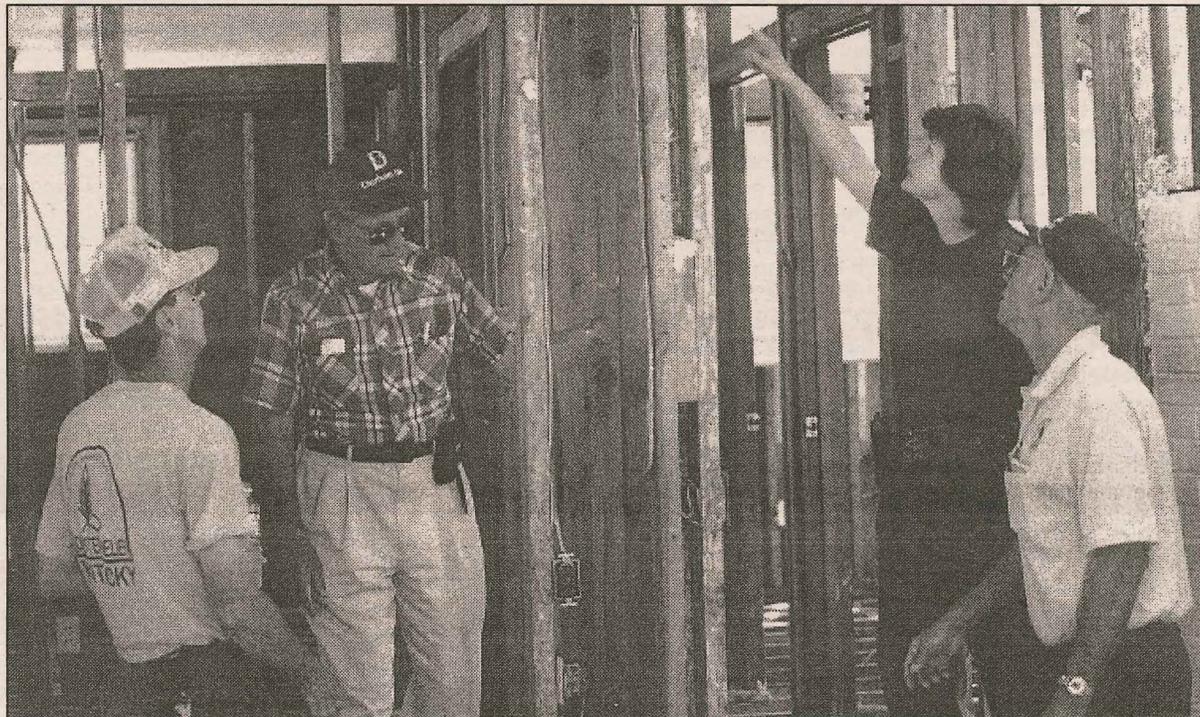
The packet of information, produced by the KBC Committee on Public Affairs, features a "Citizens Resource Kit" designed "to inform Kentuckians about the dangers of proposals to expand gambling in the Commonwealth by allowing electronic gambling devices at race-tracks and/or other locations."

The resource kit includes a brochure with information about how to contact state legislators. The kit also details how to organize a group of individuals to write to their legislators. It includes fact sheets highlighting "information about the tremendous costs that can be expected to be incurred if gambling is expanded in our state."

In a letter to Gov. Patton, Mackey urged the governor to "focus the energies of government on building an economy based on sound principles of creative and innovative industrial, educational and technological development instead of a get-rich-quick gambling mindset that destroys the work ethic that has built this nation."

Mackey told Patton he will "do everything possible to oppose the expansion of gambling which I believe to be sociologically destructive, demeaning of personhood and counterproductive for sound, long-term economic development."

For more information about anti-gambling efforts, call (502) 254-4731.



**DISASTER RELIEF** Kentucky disaster relief volunteers Bernard Randall (left) and Mike Klein (right) talk with Johnnie Wells and his daughter Carla, whose house was damaged by Hurricane Floyd. More than 160 Kentuckians have helped with feeding, chainsaw and mud-out work, but more volunteers are needed for at least the next two weeks, according to coordinators. For more information, call Kentucky Brotherhood at (502) 244-6489 or (888) 254-5720.

## BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ **Brenda Gray**, vice president for development and communications, is leaving Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children Nov. 1 to accept a similar job in North Carolina. Gray, who returns to her native state in the move, has worked with KBHC since 1991.

■ **Ken Winters**, former Campbellsville University president, was named president emeritus during the school's recent Heritage Day.

■ **Lewis Drummond** will be the speaker for Clear Creek Bible College's annual James C. Barry Lecture series, Oct. 13-14. Drummond is a professor at Samford University's Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham. For information, call (606) 337-3196.

■ **Correction:** Last week's Western Recorder incorrectly identified O.A. Collins' church membership. He is a member of Unity Baptist Church in Ashland.

## New Cooperative Program formula among business for KBC meeting

Continued from page 1

in the reporting process each year.

Seeking a different way to determine CP allocations "permits us to be proactive," Mackey said. With Kentucky Baptist CP gifts exceeding the annual budget for the past three years, the KBC Executive Board's business and finance committee "was willing to make some adjustments," he added.

"With the 75th anniversary of the Cooperative Program, it gives added incentive to churches to do more through the Cooperative Program for the support of missions in Kentucky and beyond," Mackey emphasized. He noted that even with the proposed changes, 64 percent of CP gifts will be used for Kentucky causes.

Acknowledging that some churches "have reservations about supporting the work of SBC entities," he said those congregations "still have the avenue of supporting work in Kentucky through designated giving."

KBC messengers also will vote on a proposed 2000-2001 CP budget of \$21 million, a 4 percent increase over the current budget. The proposal includes a \$1.3 million challenge bud-

get, the same as this year's challenge goal.

The KBC presidential election will be held Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 16. Terry Wilder, pastor of Burlington Baptist Church, is the only announced candidate for the position.

The new president will succeed Charles Barnes, a retired bank executive and member of Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville. Barnes will deliver the annual president's address during the convention's opening session on Tuesday morning.

The theme of the annual meeting is "Empowered to Serve." Featured speakers will include Mike Caudill, Jim Henry and Ken and Beth Perkins.

Caudill, pastor of First Baptist Church in Hindman, will preach the convention sermon Tuesday afternoon. Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church of Orlando, Fla., and a former SBC president, will preach during the Tuesday evening session. The Perkinses, missionaries-in-residence at Georgetown College, will speak during the meeting's closing session Wednesday morning.

Other convention activities will include a blood drive on Monday,

Nov. 15, the day before the annual meeting convenes. The project was approved last year by KBC messengers as a way to minister to the host community.

"I believe this would be a beautiful demonstration... of Kentucky Baptists modeling in a small way our Savior's example of giving our blood that others might live," said Robert Stephens, pastor of Victory Baptist Church in London, who proposed the idea.

The blood drive will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in ballrooms D and E of the convention center. Appointments may be made by calling Hoxworth Blood Center at (800) 830-1091. Walk-ins also are welcome.

The annual Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference also will be held on Monday, beginning at 10:25 a.m. Featured speakers include Gary Frost of Middleton, Ohio; Bobby Boyles of Oklahoma City; and Bill Stafford of Chattanooga, Tenn. Kentuckians on the program will be Joe Mobley of London and Richard Oldham of Bowling Green. L.C. Gray, pastor of Parrish Avenue Baptist Church in Radcliff, is pastors' conference president.

## KBC annual meeting agenda

### Monday, Nov. 15

KBC blood drive, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference, sessions begin at 10:25 a.m., 1:25 p.m. and 5:55 p.m.

### Tuesday morning, Nov. 16

President's address by Charles Barnes  
Introduction of motions and resolutions

### Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 16

Convention sermon by Mike Caudill  
Election of KBC president  
Cooperative Program 75th anniversary feature  
KBC Executive Board recommendations

### Tuesday evening, Nov. 16

Miscellaneous business  
Message by Jim Henry

### Wednesday morning, Nov. 17

Committee on Nominations report  
Resolutions Committee report  
Miscellaneous business  
Message by Ken and Beth Perkins

## WESTERN RECORDER

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

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## Trust SBC process

Concerning your editorial in the Sept. 28 issue of the Western Recorder, "Faith statement stands test of time," I would point out that SBC President Paige Patterson's appointment of a committee to study the Baptist Faith and Message statement was mandated by the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention. Patterson had no recourse but to appoint the committee.

Further, any recommendations by this committee will require approval by a majority of the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention. Your editorial seems to indicate a lack of confidence in the SBC president, the newly appointed committee, and eventually the vote of SBC messengers when this matter is brought before the convention for a vote. I have absolute faith in Adrian Rogers to see that this matter is handled properly, and I trust the majority of messengers to the SBC to do the right thing.

You noted that one Baptist's "clarifying and strengthening" may well be another Baptist's "muddying and weakening." This would be true about almost any vote taken at the Southern Baptist Convention, or for that matter, in any Baptist church business meeting. It is extremely difficult to get complete agreement on any issue.

We Southern Baptists can pray for this committee, and when their recommendations are voted on at the SBC, accept the will of the majority, or spend the next several months undercutting the committee's efforts to deal justly with this matter.

*Lawrence H. Langford  
Cincinnati, Ohio*

## Historic perspective?

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Al Mohler wonders if we

have learned anything (regarding inerrancy and infallibility of Scripture) in the last 20 years that should be reflected in our confession of faith (Sept. 28 issue of Western Recorder). What is so special about the last 20 years? It represents but one fleeting generation in the history of Christendom.

There have been 100 generations of Christians, the last 20 of which have included Baptists. Of these 20 Baptist generations, the last seven have included Southern Baptists. And of these seven generations of Southern Baptists, only the current generation (1979 to date) has seen Mohler and his crew expound a mean-spirited dogmatism. It takes a very short, and perhaps flawed, perspective to "appropriate" a special revelation in these latter days sufficient to counteract 99 previous generations of believers.

Future believers may view the current generation of SBC leaders as one of "misappropriation":

■ Misappropriation of anger (Mark Coppenger).

■ Misappropriation of institutional power (Paige Patterson).

■ Misappropriation of doctrine (Al Mohler).

Much of what current SBC leadership does is increasingly irrelevant to rank-and-file believers. That is because the axis of truth extends back beyond 20 years and includes men and women of diverse Christian experience.

*Gary L. Millsap  
Louisville*

## Defend children

Kudos to Bill Smithwick's defense of children. Boo to John Birkimer's Sept. 14 defense of the American Psychological Association's publication, "Assumed Properties of Child Sexual Abuse Using College Samples." This APA publication conforms to the

American Psychiatric Association's 1994 removal of pedophilia as a disorder from their diagnostic manual.

Unless stopped, the psychological APA will normalize pedophilia—for its "sexuality" training is grounded in the fraudulent Kinsey Reports (1948-1953). Kinsey is the basis for both APAs normalizing homosexuality. Now they'd normalize pedophilia on this basis: Kinsey is the first and only "scientist" to publish child sex experiments conducted by pedophiles. Kinsey said this "proved" children are sexual from birth.

Two of the APA authors are publicly pro-pedophile. Author Bruce Rind wrote a pro-pedophile piece for the Journal of Pedophilia—which advertises for NAMBLA, the North American Man-Boy Love Association. Ditto APA author Robert Bauserman who in a 1990 Journal of Homosexuality article sought "scientific objectivity" about man-boy sex.

Birkimer says the APA Web site says child "abuse" is wrong? Really? When children in pedophile experiments convulsed, screamed and fought "the partner," Kinseyans said that was pleasure, not "abuse." Similarly the APA authors feel a "willing (sexual) encounter" between an adult and a child should "be labeled simply 'adult-child sex,' a value-neutral term," instead of "abuse." Kinsey declared adult-child sexual encounters an aid to a "child's sexual development" and the APA is fast approaching Kinsey's view.

Should Birkimer really study the matter he will find both APAs, like their higher authority on sexual matters, Kinsey, would have us accept pedophilia and repudiate our historical view of adult-child sex as just plain "harmful." Child advocates agree with APA child psychologist Wade Horn who said, "The more I delve into this, the more disturbing I find the APA's position on various issues."

*Judith A. Reisman, President,  
Institute for Media Education;  
Eunice Ray, President,  
RSVP America, Crestwood*

## PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

### First Baptist Church of Somerset—200 years

"First Baptist Church of Somerset is the finest church in the U.S.A. in terms of fellowship, education, stewardship and missions," according to Eldred Taylor, a former pastor of 25 years. Taylor might have some who will argue with him, but it certainly can't be denied that this church has a tremendous heritage and witness in all of these areas. The church recently celebrated its 200-year heritage of proclaiming the word and persevering in the work of the Lord.

In a message to the congregation, Taylor captured the history around six foundational stones: authority of the Bible, democratic congregational government, Baptist doctrine, Christian education, missions and stewardship. Taylor supported all of these from historical documents and actions by the church. The church has been led by pastors who have had strong commitments to missions. Children of several pastors became missionaries. Around 1915,

when the church developed a unified budget, 37 percent of undesignated receipts were given to missions, benevolence and Christian higher education.



Bill Mackey

First Baptist Church of Somerset remains among the top six churches in gifts through the Cooperative Program and very high in per capita gifts with about 25 percent of its undesignated receipts going to the Cooperative Program. This leadership has registered in Pulaski Baptist Association where churches have the highest percentage of gifts through the Cooperative Program among Kentucky associations at 15.9 percent.

The church has had long-tenured pastors and strong visionary leadership. Besides Taylor, Bob Browning served the church for 13 years. Lay leaders and church staff have served in significant roles with the Pulaski Association and Kentucky Baptist Convention.

John Killinger, a product of the church, was the concluding speaker for the weekend celebration. He said Christianity began as a movement. A movement is characterized by spirit, flexibility and energy but can be taken over by institutionalism.

In that case, heritage can become a burden. Concerns with institutional maintenance can dominate. Love, community and transformation must be kept alive. The challenge of every church is to help people experience the newness and immediacy of the presence of Christ, feel special because they belong to a loving community of faith and know the presence of Christ to make all things new.

Paul Chitwood began his ministry at the church Oct. 3. He described the celebration as a joyful time of thanksgiving for the church's rich history and a hopeful time of anticipation for a promising future.

May God help us all be characterized more as a Christian movement than as an institution. Congratulations to First Baptist, Somerset, on your 200th birthday!

*Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention*

## STEWARDSHIP

### Ways to help increase giving in your church

By Doug Strader

In the afternoon interest conferences of Kentucky Baptists' Super Saturday training events, we have been offering a workshop entitled "30 Ways to Increase Giving in Your Church." It has proved to be a popular conference with Super Saturday participants. I do not have space to list all the ways we discuss in that conference, but I will share a few:

■ Pastors, be proactive. Preach and teach tithing periodically.

■ Be creative during the offering time and make it worshipful. Consider taking the offering at the end of the worship service.

■ Talk about what increased giving can mean to the church and its mission and ministry.

■ Help members learn how to get out and stay out of debt, so they can give a tithe (10 percent) to the Lord's work through the church.

■ Invite a guest preacher who has done an outstanding job in his church to preach on stewardship.

■ Consider having your envelope service company mail your members their offering envelopes monthly, or at least quarterly.

■ Have an ongoing stewardship education program rather than a once-a-year approach.

■ Give an adequate compensation package to all employees. The right staff members will more than pay their way.

■ Do a giving potential study. (If all of our people tithed, how much would we receive weekly? How does that compare with what we now receive weekly?)

■ Send quarterly giving statements, along with a thank you note to all who have given in the past quarter.

■ Host an annual estate planning seminar. (Contact the Kentucky Baptist Foundation for assistance).

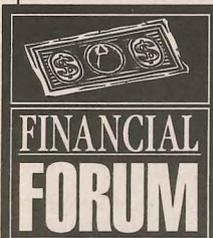
■ Open a charitable account in the church's name at a brokerage firm to receive gifts of appreciated stocks and investments.

■ Be positive when talking about financial matters. People do not give to a "sinking ship."

■ As a church, model good stewardship by giving generously to associational missions and the Cooperative Program.

Perhaps you can think of many more ways to increase the giving of your people. If you do, let me know so I can share them with other churches in our convention.

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



## Where can we turn in coping with elderly spouse's cancer?

**Q: My elderly wife has been diagnosed with potentially terminal cancer. This news has caused our family to be in a state of shock and we've been unable to agree on what to do. How can we deal with this situation?**

There are many roads of caring to help your wife, family and others deal with this distressing condition. I will assume that everyone has made the circumstance a serious matter of prayer and submission of the condition to the Lord. Also, I hope the context is one in which your family is Christian.

With these assumptions, you need to be aware that family members may have different expectations of the older cancer patient than they might have of a younger person with cancer. Continual and improved communication is essential. Family members might not be aware that it is just as essential for the older person to participate in planning and treatment as for a younger person.

Goals and outcome possibilities must be set with everyone's input. Education is an important function. Ask questions, get information and be informed. The physician will explain the effects and methods of treatment that are recommended. Pastoral counseling could be needed concerning the changes in your lives as a result of the cancer. Episodes of re-hospitalization may result in pressure on everyone, as well as give rise to financial and lifestyle problems. Locating resources requires support from various areas. Often your church, the hospital and organizations such as the American Cancer Society can be of assistance.

During all of this activity, it is easy to neglect the regular practice of maintaining one's faith and strength in the Lord by trying to be strong on your own. Just as the family finds ways to work together to cope with cancer treatment, they must keep together in the Lord. This is an important source of comfort and power to get through a crisis.

Times like these require unusual reliance on the Lord and fellow Christians. Do not try to go through the experience alone. Interdependence between family and the people of God is essential during difficult times.—*Jon Rainbow*

**Q: My 15-year-old daughter has very few friends. She is kind of shy, but she warms up once she gets to know people. It hurts me to see other teens out on weekends while she is home alone. What can we do?**

Many shy adolescents are misunderstood and thought to be conceited, stuck up or haughty. Being friendly invites friendliness. Work with your daughter to make an effort to speak to others. Her fears probably create a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Have her set a goal of speaking first to 20 fellow students each day. Let her keep a list of how many respond in a friendly manner. Those will become her target people to begin longer conversations. If she feels the need to do so, let her practice and role-play with you or another trusted adult.

If your daughter is not involved in at least two weekly clubs, teams or organizations, help her select some to join. Youth who work and play together naturally form friendships. As friendships develop, she can invite individuals to your home for parties or to spend the night. Invite some to attend church with your family.

Perhaps your teen will never be as social as you would like, but that can be OK as long as she is happy. If she wants to talk with someone else about her concerns, consider the school counselor, a youth minister or a family therapist. Support her, but be careful not to push her into your desires.—*Wade Rowatt*

*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.*



## Kentucky Baptists: 'Empowered to Serve'

When Kentucky Baptist messengers gather next month in Northern Kentucky, the focus of the 1999 annual meeting will be "Empowered to Serve." The idea is that the statewide gathering is a time to:

- Hear reports about what God already is accomplishing through Kentucky Baptists.

- Conduct business that will set the direction for state convention ministry in the coming year.

- Gain inspiration that will help individuals and congregations be "empowered to serve" in their local ministry settings and elsewhere.

Added to that, the state convention offers ample opportunity for informal fellowship, encouragement and idea-sharing among fellow Christians.

Of course, annual meetings also can be the setting for political maneuvering, advancing personal agendas or spreading idle gossip. The key to avoiding such snares is to keep our hearts and minds focused on the greater good. We must refuse to take part in actions that seek to tear down the fellowship of believers.

Hopefully, this year's meeting theme will provide a constant reminder of who we are and what we're about. Being "empowered to serve" echoes Christ's declaration to His apostles in Acts 1:8 that "you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses. ..."

Whatever else we seek to accomplish as Kentucky Baptists, may we all rely on God's Spirit to provide the power for us to be effective witnesses in everything we say and do—both during the annual meeting and beyond.

With that goal in mind, there are numerous reasons for interested, involved Kentucky Baptists to gather Nov. 16-17 at the Northern Kentucky Regional Convention Center in Covington.

One of the major agenda items will be a recommendation from convention leaders calling for a change in the state convention's Cooperative Program distribution formula. Why is that important? Because the Cooperative Program is Kentucky Baptists' primary funding plan for unified ministry efforts here in the state

and around the world.

Even amid two decades of political and philosophical shifts in Southern Baptist life on the national level, CP giving remains the giving channel of choice for the vast majority of Kentucky Baptist congregations. How those funds are allocated makes a direct impact on ministry funding on the state, national and international levels.

The proposal calls for slightly increasing the percentage of CP funds forwarded to the Southern Baptist Convention each of the next three years, moving the SBC portion from a current total of 35.358 percent to 36 percent by 2002. Coming on the eve of CP's 75th anniversary celebration, the plan allows the state convention to take the lead in setting a positive example for churches to follow in increasing giving beyond the local ministry field.

Other business scheduled for the annual meeting includes the election of a new state convention president. So far, only one candidate has publicly announced his plans to be

nominated. Terry Wilder, pastor of Burlington Baptist Church, said his goal is to "represent the center and the best of who Kentucky Baptists are." He added that he wants to "emphasize what we have in common and the best of our missions heritage."

There may or may not be other presidential candidates as the convention draws closer. Regardless of who runs or is elected, however, hopefully convention politics can be minimized and the new president can effectively serve all Kentucky Baptists.

Beyond Baptist business, there will be time for a variety of ministry updates and worship opportunities. From theme interpretations and agency reports to musical performances and keynote messages, convention participants will hear words of inspiration and challenge. Pre-convention options will range from the annual pastors' conference to a first-time blood drive.

Whether you participate in person or through prayer, make a commitment to be involved in this year's KBC annual meeting. Together, Kentucky Baptists can impact the world as we petition God to empower us for service.

**STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR**



Trennis Henderson

## Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

By Michael Watts

*"Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?" (1 Corinthians 1:20)*

One of my uncles was an amateur boxer in his younger days. He was a farmer who worked hard. When I was young, his home was one of my favorite places for a summer stay. One year as I was preparing to go off to Marine training, he asked me to go outside with him. As I did, he pulled out two sets of boxing gloves and told me to lace up. I considered it foolish to go up against him because I was no match for him, but I respected him and did as I was told.

We sparred for several rounds and then he mercifully called it to a halt. "Mike," he said, "you're going to a great challenge. Today you gave a good account of yourself. Remember that you can do it if you give it your best." I will never forget his wisdom, which had

seemed like foolishness to me.

The scriptures state that the message of Christ seemed as foolishness to the world in which it was preached. To the Jews, it was incredible that God's chosen one was hanged on a cross. The law said that one who was hanged was accursed of God. (Deuteronomy 21:23). They had never looked for a suffering Messiah, only one of power.

The Greeks could not comprehend God being involved in the affairs of man. The thought of the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among man was impossible. It would negate God's purity by the influence of humanity. It would change God from good to bad, instead of God changing man from bad to good.

Our world today also has trouble accepting the wisdom of God in our lives. Our perception of life is built on logic, feelings and concepts. Jesus' ways are built on the wisdom of God. He has a love that overcomes hatred, a humility that rises to greatness and a weakness that displays the most pow-

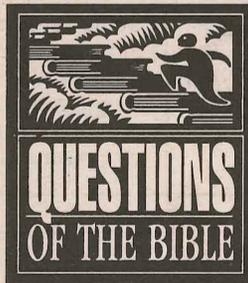
erful strength ever known. He gave of Himself at His best, and He is the victor over the dark domain. He died, yet He lives. He was beaten and bruised but became the healer of wounded lives.

Paul came to understand this when he met Jesus on the road to Damascus. He was faithful to that vision of faith. He was trained in the highest of theological institutions, but his best training came from being in the mind of Christ. Jesus gave him the wisdom of His Father.

We need to be able to face the world, and all of its dangers and trials, with the wisdom of God. The early disciples were reported to have turned the world upside down. Paul's captivity turned from a loss to a gain as God's Word took root in the world.

The church always grows as it places its faith in the wisdom of God, rather than the foolishness of the world. Our challenge is to be grounded in the foolishness of God, which declares that, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him would not perish but have everlasting life." To most of the world this is foolish, but to those who are saved it is the gift of God's love.

*Michael Watts is pastor of Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville*



# KENTUCKY

## KBC Executive Board Recommendations to Messengers to 1999 Kentucky Baptist Convention

Article VIII of the convention constitution calls for the Executive Board to publish in the Western Recorder its recommendations 30 days in advance of the annual meeting. The following recommendations are presented for consideration:

### Recommendation #1:

### 2000-2001 Cooperative Program Budget Goals and Percentage Distribution Between SBC/KBC Causes

(Approved by Business and Finance Committee September 10, 1999)

The annual Cooperative Program goals and percentage division between KBC and SBC causes is determined by the KBC in annual session.

1. That the 2000-2001 Cooperative Program Operating Budget goal be \$21,000,000, a 4% increase.
2. That the percentage for the division between KBC and SBC causes be:\*  
SBC = 35.6%, a .242% increase  
KBC = 64.4%, a .242% decrease

That this division be subject to the Executive Board's decision to apply the Financial Crisis Plan approved in 1990, which states:

"In case of a financial crisis, allocations be reduced proportionately to the SBC, Kentucky Baptist institutions of Christian Education and the Executive Board Staff and/or programs."

3. That the 2000-2001 Cooperative Program Challenge Budget goal remain the same as 1999-2000, \$1,300,000.
4. That 35.6% of any Challenge funds be distributed to SBC causes and 64.4% to KBC causes.

Business and Finance Committee, September 10, 1999

### Illustration

	Actual 1998-99 Receipts	Approved 1998-99 Budget	Approved 1999-2000 Budget	Proposed 2000-2001 Budget
Cooperative Program Goal				
A. Operating Budget	19,604,116	19,604,116	20,192,239	21,000,000
1. SBC Causes (a)	6,909,275 35.244%	6,909,275 35.244%	7,139,572 35.358%	7,476,000 35.6% (d)
2. KBC Causes (b)	12,694,841 64.756%	12,694,841 64.756%	13,052,667 64.642%	13,524,000 64.4% (d)
B. Bold Mission Challenge (c)	732,794	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,300,000
1. SBC Causes (a)	258,266 35.244%	458,172 35.244%	459,654 35.358%	462,800 35.6% (d)
2. KBC Causes (b)	474,528 64.756%	841,828 64.756%	840,346 64.642%	837,200 64.4% (d)
Total CP Goal	20,336,910	20,904,116	21,492,239	22,300,000

- (a) The distribution of these items is approved by the Southern Baptist Convention.  
 (b) The distribution of these items is approved by the Executive Board, Kentucky Baptist Convention.  
 (c) If Challenge Goal is attained, total CP through the SBC would equal 35.6%.  
 (d) Subject to Executive Board's decision to apply the Financial Crisis Plan approved in 1990.

\*Subject to approval of recommendation by Executive Board to Convention in November.

### Recommendation #2:

### Cooperative Program Percentage Recommendation

(Approved by the Business and Finance Committee September 10, 1999)

#### BACKGROUND

The current plan for determining the Cooperative Program Percentage to SBC causes is based on the change each year in the total churches' Cooperative Program gifts, as a percentage of their Undesignated Cash Receipts. It has become increasingly difficult to 1) obtain reliable and complete data on undesignated receipts via the Annual Church Profile (ACP), and 2) communicate this plan clearly to most Kentucky Baptists. Within the last three years the Cooperative Program distribution to the Southern Baptist Convention has increased from 35% to 35.244% to 35.358% according to this plan. However, continuing with

this plan for fiscal year 2000-2001, the SBC distribution would have dropped to 34.488%. With Cooperative Program receipts experiencing healthy growth over the past three years, and in anticipation of the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Cooperative Program (which began in Kentucky in 1925) next year, the following recommendation is made.

#### RECOMMENDATION

First, that the Cooperative Program budget be increased 4% to \$21,000,000 for fiscal year 2000-2001. Secondly, that the percentage of Cooperative Program receipts in

Kentucky to be distributed to the Southern Baptist Convention be increased by +.242% to 35.6% for fiscal year 2000-2001. Subsequently, SBC's percentage be increased +.2% each of the following two fiscal years, reaching 35.8% in 2001-2002 and 36% in 2002-2003. Likewise, any excess Challenge Funds beyond the budget will be distributed to SBC on the same percentage basis, and the Challenge Fund Goal for 2000-2001 be set at \$1,300,000. If the Cooperative Program receipts fail to reach the annual budget for any given fiscal year, a workgroup of the Business and Finance Committee will be appointed at that time by its Chairperson to review this distribution percentage.

In addition, this plan is to be reviewed by the Business and Finance Committee every three years.

This recommendation provides a set percentage increase each year that is easily communicated to Kentucky Baptists for at least three years, and provides a positive example for churches to follow by increasing their percentage of giving through the Cooperative Program beginning with the 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Prepared by the Business and Finance Committee SBC CP Workgroup, July 13, 1999

(Paid Advertisement)

# Real Friendly

## Real Life magazine can help your church make a great first impression.

# MISSIONS

## Radio sends gospel ahead of missionaries

By Sue Sprenkle  
SBC International Mission Board

BONAIRE, Netherland Antilles (BP)—It took an entire day to get to the village in the mountains of Venezuela.

The missionary, scouting out areas to begin new work, was surprised to find an evangelical church already functioning and active in the community.

The missionary asked who told them about Christ and started a church. "No one. We learned from that," a villager replied, pointing to a radio.

Southern Baptist missionaries Bob and Joanna Bernhardt hear countless stories about how God has used Christian radio programs to break ground in remote areas or penetrate hearts that once were hardened.

"Radio has the reputation as being the most personal of the mass media," Bernhardt said. "Research has shown that radio is very good at sowing seeds in the hearts of nonbelievers and is an excellent teaching tool for believers."

The couple works in cooperation with Trans World Radio in Bonaire, Netherland Antilles, to bring Christian programming to the Caribbean region. The Caribbean Gospel Network emphasizes Caribbean gospel music and programs originating from the region.

This is the first Caribbean-wide full-

service radio network. It not only features local pastors and Bible instructors, but also a news segment targeted exclusively for the Caribbean.

"News programming is what is helping us to draw a non-Christian audience," Bernhardt said. "Most Christian stations can't afford the high cost of a news service, so we are a good solution." The news service airs regional and national news and has a Christian editorial perspective.

Traditionally, many Caribbean radio stations are inundated with news and programming from North America that do not address issues in the Caribbean. The Caribbean Gospel Network allows people of the region to hear their own music for the first time. Bernhardt said culturally relevant and biblically sound programming is the best way to reach the 6.2 million English-speaking people in the Caribbean.

Gerry Seale, general secretary for the Evangelical Association of the Caribbean, said he is pleased with CGN's commitment to bring Bible training to the region.

"We can now be connected to the finest Caribbean Bible teachers and hear our own people, with our own idioms, share with us from our experience the principles of God's word," Seale said. "We can now worship God from with-

in our culture, not having to put on the culture of someone else."

Stations currently connecting to Caribbean Gospel Network are located in Belize, Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, Jamaica, Haiti, St. Martin, St. Kitts, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, the Grenadines, Grenada, Trinidad and Bonaire.

Taking the gospel to the region requires a combined effort. Bernhardt said many seeds may be planted by the CGN programs, but one main ingredient to success is following up with people who have contacted the network.

One of the best examples of how the Southern Baptist International Mission Board and Trans World Radio are working together happened in Aruba, where a prisoner listened to CGN and was convicted of his sin. The follow-up department in Bonaire contacted an IMB missionary in Aruba to visit the man.

"The prisoner has now professed faith in Christ as a result of this team effort," Bernhardt said.

"In Venezuela, the same things are happening. Missionaries have told me that believers saved via listening to our Spanish-language broadcasts established churches," he said. "It's amazing what God is accomplishing through a small Christian radio network."

## IMB seeking volunteers to lead crusades throughout Asia

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Baptists in East Asia are calling for volunteers from Southern Baptist churches across the United States to help spread revival in their homelands.

Teams are being sought from Korea, Japan and Taiwan, according to Dub and Doris Jackson, International Mission Board crusade coordinators in Asia.

The Jacksons are asking for church teams of eight to 10 people, including a preacher, for the following locations and dates:

- Five teams to Taiwan, Nov. 3-15, 1999.
- 20 teams to Japan, June 21 - July 3, 2000.
- 100 teams to South Korea, Oct. 25 - Nov. 6, 2000.

An additional Taiwan trip is slated for the spring of 2001.

"The door is open," Jackson said. "The people have invited you to come and God has commanded us, 'Go, and I will go with you.'"

In response, the Jacksons have requested Korean teams to come to the United States in hopes of sparking revival.

"We told them it was our belief that no country in the world was in more need of revival than our own America," Jackson said. "We asked them to pray for us and to consider bringing at least 1,000 praying Korean Christians to the U.S. to help us experience nationwide revival."

For more information, call the Jacksons at (915) 677-2500; fax (915) 698-4000; e-mail, 110657.330@compuserve.com.

## We Can't Wait To Tell You About The Kids!

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children has some stories to tell about the children and families you support through the Thanksgiving Offering!  
We want to say "thank you" to your church.



### The KBHC Speakers Bureau:

- has 50 speakers available for all venues in every region of Kentucky
- can provide materials to help you promote KBHC ministries in your church
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**Call 1-800-456-1386 and schedule your speaker today!**

**Speakers Bureau members include:**



**Bill Smithwick**, President of KBHC since 1997, former executive director of Virginia Baptist Children's Home and Family Services



**Brenda Gray**, master storyteller! Vice president for Development and Communications, child advocate for more than 20 years



**Buckley Carlin**, a life changed by KBHC! Former resident and director of Glen Dale Children's Home, currently Assistant to the President



**John Kruschwitz**, Special Representative to KBHC President, past president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, professor at Boyce Bible College



**Curtis Warf**, Special Representative, past chairman of KBHC's Board of Directors, past president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention



**T.A. Prickett**, Special Representative to KBHC President, pastor for 34 years, past vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention



**C. Wyman Copass**, Special Representative to the President, pastor for 41 years, trustee of Campbellsville University, has led 150 revivals in 16 states

## Specialists: Many churches don't take crime seriously

### Security checklist

Security specialists David Henderman and Jeff Fryrear recommend that churches survey their grounds and procedures regarding several issues, including:

■ **Lighting.** Churches need adequate lighting, both inside and out, Henderman said. "Lighting is the number one deterrent to criminal activity."

■ **Access control.** Older buildings with multiple additions are especially vulnerable, Fryrear noted. Henderman agreed: "We have been into many churches that leave their doors open and allow people to roam the halls at any hour. This is a disaster waiting to happen." Access control will vary depending on the church building's location, he added. Decisions should be based on usage, times of day, the surrounding area, various prevalent crimes and demographic factors.

■ **Key distribution.** Fryrear suggested that churches restrict access even for members who have keys. For example, can someone with a key to the fellowship hall or gym also get into the church office?

■ **Member education.** Appropriate safety tips should be implemented church-wide, Henderman said. "Security is the responsibility of all, not just the pastor. There are ways to implement many security-related policies and procedures without abrasion. People will act very positively to programs, policies and procedures in which they have a personal interest and may have helped to implement."

■ **Alarm system.** Some, though not all, churches may benefit from having an alarm system, Henderman said.

■ **Screen workers.** Both employees and volunteers should undergo routine background checks, Henderman said. Fryrear can be contacted at (502) 852-6987. Henderman can be contacted at (770) 931-3101.

LOUISVILLE—Most churches fail to recognize they are as vulnerable to crime as any public building, according to a Kentucky crime-prevention specialist.

"Churches are terribly vulnerable, not because they're churches but because of their security posture," said Jeff Fryrear, director of the National Crime Prevention Institute in Louisville.

"The fact of the matter is that in most church environments we are not as security conscious as we ought to be," said Fryrear, who worked for the Louisville Police-Department 23 years before heading the institute.

No church can be a walled fortress and still be welcoming to strangers, Fryrear noted. "Anybody can come in, and we want them to be able to come in," he said. "If anyone is willing to victimize us, it just makes it that much easier."

Still, churches must recognize they are in a material world where crime occurs, he said. "There's no inherent protection in saying, 'But we're a church.'"

That doesn't mean churches are under siege or must take drastic measures, he added. "But we need to have a baseline recognition of the fact of crime, and we need to take the appropriate measures depending on the setting and location of the church."

Fryrear compares churches to stores, which welcome unknown peo-

ple every day yet still have security plans to protect property, employees and other customers. "They take specific measures of crime control and loss prevention that we, frankly, ignore in churches."

Many churches are paying more attention to security issues after recent high-profile shootings in Fort Worth, Texas.

For David Henderman, that is both "a relief and a bit of a bitersweet topic."

"I am so glad that churches are

beginning to take a look at their security," said Henderman, who directs OSI Network, a security company dealing with a variety of security issues.

Henderman is a member of First Baptist Church, Snellville, Ga., which first looked into developing its own security procedures after receiving a bomb threat a few years ago.

"Planning ahead, the proactive approach to security, is always the best approach," said Henderman, formerly a member of the Atlanta police department. "Waiting to become reactionary to incidents is disaster waiting to happen."

OSI and the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board are planning to produce a video, seminar and book on security issues for churches and other ministries. "Until recent days, there has just not been the interest," Henderman said. "I hope this is the start of some very positive things to come."

Henderman advises all churches, small and large, to compile a security survey, outlining all known security issues, addressing possible solutions and detailing a plan for the future.

Fryrear added that many churches have policemen as members who would be willing to do a security survey of the grounds and money-handling procedures.

Taking a cue from retail stores, he also suggested that deacons and other greeters be trained to politely but consciously talk to every unfamiliar person.

"We're not very quick to challenge people who are in our building because of our open nature and that can cause problems," he said. "I think it's a fair question to ask someone, ... 'Can I help you find something?'"

Most visitors would be glad to talk to someone, and anyone up to mischief might think twice, Fryrear said.

Compiled from reporting by News Director David Winfrey and a Baptist Press story by Debbie Moore



### Louisville churches launch gun lock project

Continued from page 1

"If there's a lock on a gun, police indicate it doesn't take that long to get it off," he said. "But if in a moment of rage someone picks up a gun, at least they'll have to remove the lock and take a moment to think about what they're about to do."

While hardened criminals might not be interested in the locks, Phelps said, the effort could prevent accidents or shootings by children.

Cobb said a committee will determine how best to distribute the locks throughout Jefferson County.

"If it saves the life of one child, we think it's worth everything that we've done because there are so many accidental deaths with handguns."

The petition urges action in 13 gun-related issues, from encouraging other congregations to distribute trigger locks to calling for a national ban on purchasing or owning assault weapons.

Cobb said the group doesn't want to be seen as anti-guns, but encouraging responsible behavior.

She acknowledged that opinions about gun-control issues differ in urban and rural areas. "There is a difference, but if we could sit around a table and talk about it, I think we could come to an agreement."

"We think that's OK that people have guns," she added. "But the assault weapons are what we're talking about."

T. Vaughn Walker, pastor of First Gethsemane Baptist Church and a speaker at the forum, said owners should be willing to register their guns as part of being responsible for their weapons.

"I think right-minded people won't mind this, because we're not taking guns away, we're saying, 'Who has them?'" he said.

"I have a dog named Lady; as an owner of that dog I accept a certain level of responsibility," Walker said. "It would seem reasonable to me that we would require that of someone who owns a gun."

The group also wants to collect confiscated and turned-in guns for a sculpture representing the biblical image of turning swords into plowshares. "We want to display that in a public place in Louisville," Cobb said.

Phelps said he was excited that a coalition of religious groups is working together to address a major issue in their community.

"I'm always energized any time our faith calls us into action and our actions make a difference in this world," he said. "I would love to see Kentucky Baptists take on the issue of handgun violence as one of our major initiatives ... just as we've done with casino gambling, alcohol abuse and the other moral issues like that."

Walker, a professor of black church studies at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, said he was impressed by the diversity of faith, race and political backgrounds represented at the forum.

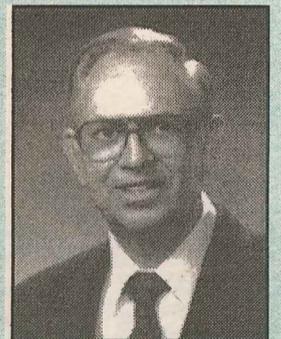
He said church involvement in such issues as gun violence is consistent with Jesus' model of caring for a person's physical and spiritual needs.

"That's not liberal or conservative, that's biblical," he said. "I'm concerned about saving souls, but I'm also concerned about saving people."

## PRAYER CONFERENCE

### T.W. Hunt returns to Kentucky

Dr. T.W. Hunt, nationally recognized prayer leader and author of *The Mind of Christ*, *Disciple's PrayerLife*, *The Doctrine of Prayer*, and compiler of *Church Prayer Ministry Manual*, will be in Kentucky ...



November 5-6, 1999  
Highview Baptist Church  
7711 Fegenbush Lane, Louisville, Ky.

#### Topics:

- ◆ An Overview of Bible Prayer
- ◆ Confession and Worship
- ◆ The Bases of Prayer Requests
- ◆ Principles of Asking

#### Schedule:

Friday ..... 6:30 p.m. .... Registration  
7-9:30 p.m. .... Session 1

Saturday ..... 8:30 a.m. .... Continental Breakfast  
9-11 a.m. .... Session 2

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## Churches urged to get involved to curb youth violence

By David Winfrey  
News Director

LOUISVILLE—After-school programs, tutoring and adolescent counseling are among the steps churches can take to curb teen violence, according to the leader of several community dialogues on the subject.

"Youth need adult mentors other than their parents who are willing to get interested in their world," said Wade Rowatt, director of the St. Matthews Pastoral Counseling Center in Louisville.

Rowatt is one of three leaders for a series of nine regional meetings on "Keeping Kids Safe in School," sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship.

Organizer John Lepper said attendance at some meetings hasn't been as high as he had hoped, but those who attend are exchanging good information.

"We are facilitating a conversation

between school officials, church leaders and safety officers," said Lepper, coordinator of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship.

Rowatt agreed. "The big thing that has come out of these workshops is the community leaders have left sharing ideas with each other and committing to work together with each other."

Panel members for the sessions have included police officers, school board members, teenagers, parents, pastors and school guidance counselors, Rowatt said.

A key theme for churches has been finding more ways to interact with youth who feel alienated, he said. "The kids on the edge are the ones that we're missing, and the edge is getting bigger," he said.

"We need to expand our programming to include those angry, margin-

alized kids who are going to be a little different than the average church kids," he said.

Many of the students involved in recent high-profile acts of violence were marginalized, Rowatt added.

"It seems like a key ingredient in school violence is the perpetrator felt such deep shame that, in their twisted way of thinking, they justified striking out against those they felt were responsible for the shame," Rowatt said. "It's a revenge motive."

Rowatt acknowledged that churches won't find it easy befriending students on the edge. "Everyone wants the captain of the ball team," he said.

"One church said, 'We don't know what to do with these forgotten kids who feel so badly about themselves if they do show up in church,'" he added. "They don't want to sit in a circle and read Scripture, but they do want someone with whom they can talk about their problems."

Still, many church leaders want to find ways of reaching out to troubled youth, he said. "I'm finding a high level of interest," he said. "The churches

are willing to open up and help and do things like after-school programs, tutoring, recreation, peer counselors."

Other ideas have included increasing the church's youth budget for mission trips and other youth activities and subsidizing the expenses of teens who can't afford to go on group activities.

Churches also can provide counseling for teens through such group as the pastoral counseling center or Cornerstone Counseling, the program sponsored by Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, Rowatt added. "I know of at least three cases where we've been instrumental in preventing acts of violence."

Lepper said he is encouraging schools to follow up on the ideas that the dialogues have sparked.

Thus far, six regional meetings have been held, with three more scheduled for Crestwood, Richmond and Harrodsburg, Lepper said. Some schools have asked for extra meetings, he added.

"Financially we're not able to do that, so we might pair some churches with some schools to get that done. We just want to facilitate a dialogue really."

For more information, call Lepper at (502) 721-6060.

**"Youth need adult mentors other than their parents who are willing to get interested in their world."**

Wade Rowatt, director of the St. Matthews Pastoral Counseling Center in Louisville

### Churches and VIOLENCE

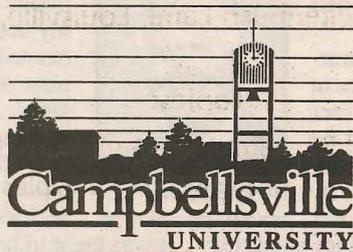


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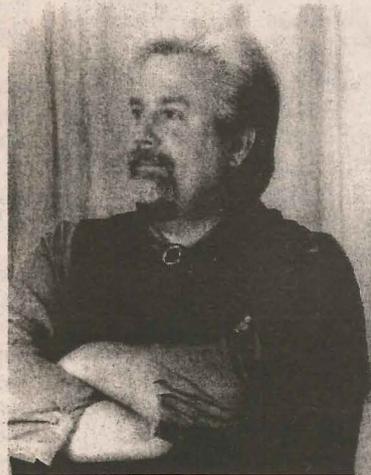
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## Millennials bring their own influences to Christianity

### True Love Waits visits San Francisco

By Terri Lackey  
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

SAN FRANCISCO (BP)—Cold hands, warm hearts could have been the motto of 1,500 teens who crossed the mile-long Golden Gate Bridge Oct. 2 symbolizing their desire to head into the 21st century committed to sexual purity.

Nippy temperatures, whipping winds and early hours did not cool the spirits of teenagers who took part in the latest national True Love Waits campaign, "Crossing Bridges with Purity."

"Starting at the north end of San Francisco's famed bridge, the kids carried 100,000 pledge cards bearing signatures of teens throughout the nation who have committed to remain sexually pure until marriage.

True Love Waits is coordinated by LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Maura Velasco, a youth group member of Castlewood Baptist Church in Vallejo, Calif., compared walking across the bridge to being a Christian.

"It's cold out here and we're getting tired, but this is what we do when we face the world. These people are driving by us, and they don't know what we're here for. When we go out into the world, most of them don't understand what we are standing for. That's just all a part of our stand to be Christian."



**GOLDEN MOMENT** David Lyons (left) and Brian Posey, both of Walnut, Calif., were among the 1,500 teens to participate in the True Love Waits demonstration at San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge. (BP photo by Morris Abernathy)

Organizers held a rally at First Baptist Church of San Francisco the evening before the public demonstration on the bridge and at a nearby marina greenway. At the rally, True Love Waits co-coordinator Richard Ross of LifeWay said the campaign had gathered enough cards over the last year to stretch the length of the Golden Gate Bridge five times.

True Love Waits is a worldwide campaign designed to challenge teenagers to make a promise to God to abstain from sex until they enter a biblical marriage relationship.

LifeWay launched it in April 1993. In 1994, more than 211,000 True Love Waits cards covered the National Mall in Washington, D.C., and in 1996, more than 350,000 cards were stacked to the roof of the Georgia Dome in Atlanta. National True Love Waits leaders estimate more than 1 million teens have signed cards pledging sexual abstinence until marriage.

On Oct. 2, teenagers carried stacks of signed pledge cards across the bridge from 7 to 9 a.m. From 9 to 11 a.m., 415 youth walked across the bridge in 15-second increments carrying cards mounted on large poster boards.

The most impressive part of the demonstration was the mile-long teen display that took place on the marina green near the bridge, said Daryl Watts, director of the California Southern Baptist Convention's youth ministries department.

Wrapping around the periphery of the mile-long park, about 100 youth groups from nine states lined up, shoulder to shoulder, holding up the large posters with the pledge cards attached.

Watts said the national display served three purposes. "First, to encourage kids who have already made True Love Waits commitments that they are not standing alone. Second, to present a visual representation for kids who have not yet signed True Love Waits cards and to encourage them to make that commitment. And third, to send a message through the media to policy-makers that abstinence-based education is a viable option."

By Kevin Eckstrom  
Religion News Service

STUART, Fla. (RNS)—They came before the sun was up, some of them with their hair still damp from showers. About 25 of them formed a circle around Martin County High School's flagpole and joined hands, bowed their heads and started to pray. By the time they were done 30 minutes later, their ranks had grown by more than 100.

They prayed for safety from a culture of violence that has claimed victims of their generation in places like Paducah, Ky.; Littleton, Colo.; and Fort Worth, Texas. They prayed for their teachers, school officials and friends. More than anything, they prayed to be a generation on fire for God.

Youth leaders and scholars say the millions of teenagers who gathered recently for "See You at the Pole" events across the country are part of a generation unlike any before them. They are more optimistic about the future and more vocal about their faith. Raised on computers, they are savvy consumers of information.

Like their predecessors of Generation X, they remain suspicious of institutions but are not as quick to dismiss them when they disagree. While many Gen Xers yearned for authentic relationships, these teens yearn to be part of something larger than themselves. In short, they don't want to go it alone.

Youth leaders say teen spirituality seems to be more genuine, more heartfelt than 10 or 15 years ago. And what is more genuine is more likely to last, they say.

"It's more real," said Robert Bradshaw, 34, the youth pastor of First Baptist Church in Jensen Beach, Fla., who joined the praying teens at Martin County High School. "They're not playing church like my generation did."

Millennials say they are ready to take on the world. So is the world ready for the millennials?

If nothing else, their sheer size is impressive. There are about 70 million Americans younger than 18. They are almost as numerous as their parent's baby-boom generation, which makes up about 29 percent of the U.S. population. Millennials are just shy of that, at 26 percent.

Millennials are the people who are checking out your videos, bagging your groceries and filling the airwaves with the Backstreet Boys and 'N Sync.

They are a generation raised on and with computers at home and in school. Nearly half—47 percent—of teenagers use a computer to surf the Internet regularly. The technological saturation has had a profound impact on this generation, experts say. They have been exposed to more information, and have more access to it, than any other generation by the time they reach adulthood.

One of the most important effects of the technology culture is the way millennials process information and make choices. The Internet offers any number of choices. Don't like what you see? Click a button and move on. And it's affecting the way they

approach spirituality. Sister Jude Ruggeri, director of youth and young adult ministry for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Palm Beach, Fla., said it can be a challenge to ask teens to invest time and energy in an ongoing spiritual evolution.

"They literally are used to instant responses," Ruggeri said. "And we live in a throwaway society. If it's broke, we don't fix it. We get rid of it. We're trying to teach them to change that. They need long-term commitments."

There is also a more philosophical, hard-to-document change in culture that has influenced the way millennials see the world, and how they approach their faith.

It's called "postmodernism," a philosophical shift in the second half of the 20th century. At its core, postmodernism is a rejection of rationalistic scientific reason. Faith, with postmodernism, has become more experiential, more personal and harder to explain in traditional terms.

Faith is no longer what the church says it is—for many, it's whatever they feel it is.

Generation X was really the first group to embrace a postmodern mindset in matters of faith. But millennials have come of age in a faith culture dominated by postmodernism.

Faith and spirituality are served up in a "spiritual marketplace" with a little bit of this, a little bit of that. What may not have been acceptable for their parents is kosher for millennials, in part because who's to say what's right

or wrong?

"They are being raised in a time where there's much more spiritual influence everywhere," said Mark Oestreich, the general editor for the Teen Devotional Bible, recently released by Zondervan Publishing House.

"They're not just more open to new things, but their assumptions assume a spiritual marketplace."

Part of what defines millennials is not what they are but rather what they aren't. Oestreich said it's common for each generation to be a reaction to the one that came before. Millennials are as much a rejection of Generation X cynicism and baby-boom individualism as they are anything else.

"They want to be part of something larger, they want to leave a mark," Oestreich said. "They believe they can make a difference. Xers don't believe they can make a difference because they were told for so long that they couldn't."

In addition, millennials are less likely to reject an institution or a tradition they may not entirely agree with. Youth leaders say teenagers are looking for stability and security, and are finding it in institutions and organizations that have not really changed.

They're also delving into traditional practices rejected by many of their parents and members of Generation X. Religious leaders say they're finding teens are becoming more conservative and instead of looking outside for meaning, they are trying to find it within the institutions they already know.

### Reaching youth around the world in camping

As I travel around the state, I continually profess and express my belief that Christian camping is one of the most effective evangelistic opportunities we have. Statistics I have given in the past support this premise. However, it is only recently that I have begun to be aware of the opportunities around the world.

Our oldest daughter, Angie, is now a missionary in a little town on the island of Mindanao in the Philippines. We are thankful for her faithfulness and sensitivity to God's call upon her life and are excited about her ministry.

Shortly after Angie arrived in the Philippines in July, one of our career missionaries met her at the airport and began to talk with her. Naturally, he asked Angie about her family. As she told him about our camp and conference ministry, the missionary excitedly told Angie that he had been praying for and wanting to set up a partnership with someone in the States regarding youth camping! So we have been in e-mail contact and prayerfully considering, albeit on a very preliminary basis, how we could partner together in the years ahead.

Then a few days ago I was speaking at one of our associational meetings and ran into a pastor with a long

missions connection in Trinidad. Pastor C.C. Brasher of Briensburg Church and others have long been working down there. At the Southern Baptist Convention last year, I met one of our missionaries from Trinidad, who also expressed a tremendous need for help and support for their camp ministries there. As I mentioned this to C.C. last week, he

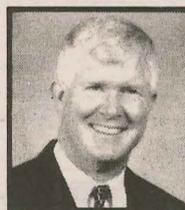
introduced me to Pastor Nelson Richardson of First Baptist Church of San Fernando, Trinidad! I had no idea Richardson was at the meeting, but God had placed these thoughts on my heart. We all became excited about the timeliness of our meeting together. As I gave my talk at the associational meeting, Richardson could hardly contain himself with joy. Praise the Lord!

It was great to be a part of such an exciting encounter.

The world is growing smaller, and the opportunities to reach a generation of youth through camping are growing all over the world. Pray for us as we seek God's perspective on how we can best use our blessings here in Kentucky and around the world.

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

#### KENTUCKY BAPTIST ASSEMBLIES



Rusty Ellison

## Religious Freedom Act continues to stir controversy

By Ira Rifkin  
Religion News Service

HARTFORD, Conn. (RNS)—Balancing U.S. foreign policy interests became trickier with passage of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998.

The measure requires U.S. leaders to factor how they can promote religious liberty abroad into their decisions on security, trade and other issues.

Complicating the equation further was the act's mandate that nations deemed derelict in their treatment of religious believers— allies and enemies alike—become subject to a menu of U.S. responses likely to upset protocol-minded diplomats.

The possible responses range from private notes of concern to broad economic sanctions, although the act also allows the White House to take no action by invoking national security considerations.

Three core questions were at the heart of the long debate that preceded passage of IRFA:

What constitutes religious persecution; what right does the United States have to insert itself into other nations' domestic affairs; and does U.S. action help or hurt those suffering because of their beliefs?

One year later, the same questions continue to divide those concerned with IRFA, about two dozen of whom met recently to discuss the act's worthiness.

The conference, organized by Trinity College's Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life, was mostly off-the-record. But some of the State Department officials, congressional aides, academic and think tank representatives, human rights activists and others agreed to be quoted by name.

For the congressional aides, who were responsible for writing most of the act, IRFA is an important tool for protecting what they believe may well be

the most fundamental of all human rights, the right to live in accordance with one's deepest religious beliefs.

Protect religious expression and you've given form to such broader freedoms as the right to free speech and assembly, they argued. Allow people to worship as they see fit and you've assured the spread of American-style democracy.

IRFA is imperfect and it won't change overnight the way offending nations tightly control religious expression. But that doesn't mean incremental change is impossible, the aides said.

State Department officials, whose job it is to make IRFA work, agreed. To them, IRFA is a noble effort rooted in a bedrock American ideal that seeks to prod recalcitrant foreign governments into complying with international standards for religious freedom they have agreed to, but honor mostly in the breach.

"The right to freedom of religion undergirds the very origin and existence of the United States," IRFA states unequivocally. "From its birth to this day, the United States has prized this legacy of religious freedom and honored this heritage by standing for religious freedom and offering refuge to those suffering religious persecution."

To others, however, those words reflect more the American myth than its reality, and they point to religious intolerance directed at early Mormons, American Indians and black slaves who brought with them to this nation Islam and tribal beliefs.

For these critics, IRFA is a misguided act of U.S. political hubris made worse by insensitivity toward complex foreign cultural mores and superficial analysis of long-running conflicts involving race, class, economics, ethnicity, history and—but only in part—religious differences.

As IRFA continues to divide those concerned with the issue, it also has the State Department walking on eggs.

In early September, the agency released a 1,100-page report detailing how 194 nations and territories have performed in regard to religious liberty. It was the department's first such report. Under IRFA, the "Report on International Religious Freedom" will become an annual affair.

In conjunction with release of the report, the department is supposed to release a separate list of "countries of particular concern"—those whose records on the issue are most egregious.

Such nations, theoretically, will be subjected to the harshest U.S. response, although the president may invoke the national security waiver.

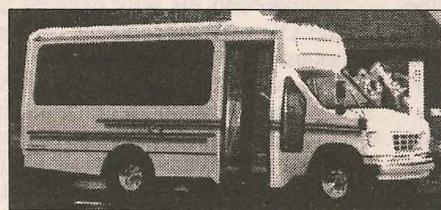
But no such list was produced with the first report, and State Department officials in Hartford would say only they hoped one soon will be forthcoming.

"This is new territory," said one State Department official, and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is proceeding cautiously on the matter. Merely fingering a nation as being of particular concern will cause a diplomatic brouhaha, the official noted.

### NATIONAL NOTES

■ **U.S. House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas,** was awarded the Distinguished Christian Statesman award from the D. James Kennedy Center for Christian Statesmanship. When accepting the award Oct. 6, Armey commented on the recent remarks by Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura criticizing organized religion. "We must speak up for our faith," Armey said. "Quietly, firmly, assertively and with love we must require that our faith and the practice of our faith be respected."

■ **Relatives of students** killed in the April shooting at Columbine High School have sued the Jefferson County School District in Colorado, claiming they were not allowed to use religious themes in a display of memorial tiles in the school's hallways. The Rutherford Institute, a conservative civil liberties organization representing the relatives, said that before the new school year began, the high school in Littleton, Colo., invited parents and other relatives of the victims to decorate tiles that line the school's hallways to remember those who died. When the parents arrived at the school, they were told they could not include religious messages on the tiles.



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### Keener ministers to children

By Robert Dunston

Carrie Keener, daughter of Steve and Carol Keener of Lake City, Tenn., spent her summer working with Cumberland College's Appalachian Ministries program. Keener described her summer as "the busiest eight weeks of my life."

During the summer, Keener and her team members led vacation Bible schools for children in the Cumberland College area, held a day camp at Laurel Lake, painted a church and took a group of children to Cedarmore for a week.

Each week began on Sunday morning with team members going to the local church where that week's vacation Bible school would be held. At the church they would invite the attending children to come and bring their friends. Sunday afternoon they would go into the community, knock on doors and invite children to the vacation Bible school. On Sunday evening the youth group that was helping that week with the program would arrive, and team members would prepare them for their week of ministry.

Mondays through Fridays were always different. They might have a vacation Bible school in the morning or a day camp. One week a morning

and evening vacation Bible school were offered in two separate locations. Typically Keener and her team members spent the afternoons with the visiting youth group and led them in a time of worship, reflection and preparation each evening.

Keener fondly remembers the group of children they took to Cedarmore for a week. The team members

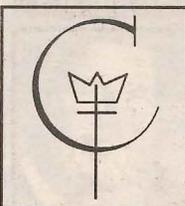
met with this group weekly during the summer, spending time in Bible study and in fun activities such as a cookout and a water balloon fight. The quality and quantity time they spent with this group enabled them to minister more to them than to the other groups.

Keener learned a lot about sacrifice this summer, especially the sacrificing one does to be fully focused on God. She continues to work this semester with Appalachian Ministries, ministering to many of the same children she worked with during the summer.

Keener serves as an excellent role model for the children with whom she works and her own peers. We are grateful for her dedication to serving Christ.

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

CUMBERLAND  
COLLEGE



### Everyone needs a family

Other than the grace of God through Jesus, what is the greatest need of any child? Every child needs a family.

Family—a father and mother, possibly with siblings—is the way God intended for each of us to grow and develop. Do kids reared in the child welfare "system" develop into productive adults? Yes, many do. However, most will tell you they would have preferred to be with a family.

The tragedy of our day is that so many children have no family and so many couples have no children. No, there are not enough healthy infants to go around for all the childless couples across our state and nation, so many are adopting overseas. But, did you know there is a lost group of children anxiously waiting to be part of a family?

We refer to this group of family-less kids as "special needs" children. Their specialness is multifaceted.

Immediately we think of special needs children as those with disabilities either physical or emotional, and some are. However, the term also applies to children who are older, biracial or part of a sibling group. Yet all of them

want and need to belong to a family.

The federal government, beginning with the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980, the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 and the President's Adoption 2002 Initiative, is moving to address the plight of these kids. One of the many mandates is the authorization of incentive payments to the states to promote adoption. Also included from the federal government is expanded health care coverage for all children with special needs.

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children provides pregnancy counseling and adoption services, including special needs adoptions.

We can help put parents and children together so kids do not have to grow up without the foundation of life, a family. If you, or someone you know, is interested in our adoption services, give us a call. It could make all the difference in the world to a child.

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

## Lexington native says injuries provided time with God

**"I've never considered myself a prideful person, but there was a lot more there than I realized."**

*Cleveland Indians third baseman Travis Fryman*

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

CLEVELAND (BP)—As the Cleveland Indians entered the post-season this month, team leader, third baseman and Lexington native Travis Fryman was trying to redeem a subpar performance during last fall's playoffs.

Injuries threatened to keep Fryman off the post-season lineup, but he isn't too mournful, saying that God redeemed the time he's spent on the disabled list.

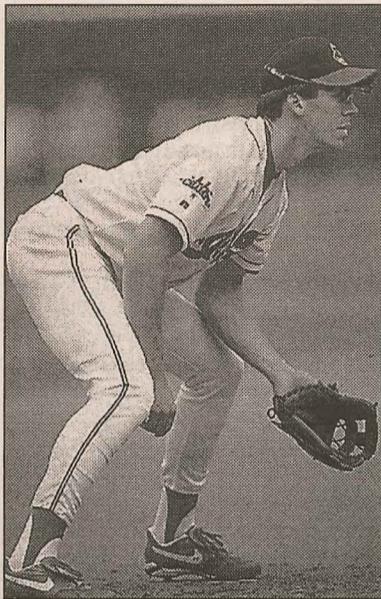
Injuries struck twice this season. First, Fryman suffered back spasms; soon after he tore a ligament in his right knee. Although reactivated Sept. 2, he has struggled at the plate and missed several late-season games.

Still, Fryman said he doesn't see the two-month layoff that followed his knee injury as a setback.

For one reason, he and his wife, Kathy, had the unexpected pleasure of spending time together in the middle of summer. He also had more time to play with their children, ages 3 and 1.

Most importantly, however, Fryman said his rehabilitation period became the spiritual highlight of his Christian walk, which he renewed about four years ago.

"I've gotten a lot of great time in the Word of God, prayer and encouragement from other believers," Fryman said.



**FOUR TIME ALL-STAR** Travis Fryman, a graduate of Tate High School in Lexington, said his two-month layoff after a knee injury provided time to get closer to God.

The graduate of Tate High School in Lexington now lives in Florida. In 1995, Fryman was baptized at Olive Baptist Church in Pensacola, Fla.

"I've had a lot of time to stop and examine my own spiritual life," he said. "I've never considered myself a prideful person, but there was a lot more there than I realized."

He said he especially appreciates the cards, notes and phone calls

from fellow members at Olive Baptist. Enrolled in a Sunday school class for young married men, he stays in touch during the season with several members and pastor Ted Traylor.

"Another staff member and I pray for him nightly," Traylor said. "We get up on the Indians' Internet site and see how he did, and spend a little time praying for him."

Fryman said his pastor helped him gain a better understanding of God's grace during his comeback.

"He made this comment, 'When grace is understood, humility is the result,'" Fryman said. "I think that's the case. Through this circumstance, God's revealed some pride. I'm getting a better understanding of grace and the result can only be increased humility."

His initial humbling began five years ago. A star baseball player in Pensacola who was the Detroit Tigers' first-round draft pick in 1987, it took only three years to reach the majors. He posted a .297 batting average after getting called up that season, with his career mark hovering near .275.

By 1994, he felt he had everything in the world that could make him happy: a great job, fantastic salary and a beautiful wife. Yet, he recalled, he probably was one of the unhappiest people around.

Fryman said he recognized the reason. At the age of 7 he had accepted Jesus as his Savior at a backyard Bible

study. But when he got into his teens and then moved on to the major leagues, he left God behind.

He said he believes he received God's Spirit as a child, which meant the Holy Spirit convicted him of wrongdoing. At that point he faced a crucial choice.

"My whole adult life I had played that tug of war between submitting my will to God and Travis doing what he wanted to do," he said.

"That's a bad place to be for a Christian. It boiled down to a crossroads. I either had to submit my life to the authority of God or turn and go my own way," he added.

He had extra time to consider that question when the '94 season ended early because of a player strike.

He discussed the issue with Kathy, who had become a Christian only 18 months earlier. Her conversion resulted through the influence of Cathy Tanana, wife of former major league pitcher Frank Tanana.

Fryman and his wife decided to attend Olive Baptist, where he had previously attended.

The two plan to return to Pensacola after the season and become active at Olive Baptist.

The two already are talking to Traylor about how they can better serve in the church.

"It's a time for us to get back to the fellowship of other believers, be encouraged and grow in our Christian life," Fryman said, "the same reason all believers should be in a church."

### A very important day

Saturday, Sept. 25, was a very important day for our school. We call it "Family Day" because it is the one day we set aside each year for our students' parents to meet the faculty and staff.

Even though more than 60 percent of our students are from Kentucky, many others come from as far away as California. It is not always easy for our parents to meet those who are caring for their children.

While a boarding school has much to offer students, it is important for parents, teachers and support staff to communicate. Family Day meets that need. Family Day also is the first day of our fall break. During the nine-day break, every student must go home or stay with family members or friends. While this break gives students time to be with their families, it also gives our faculty and support staff a much-needed change of pace. Many of our staff work 10 or 12 hours a day, and often work six days a week. Caring for several hundred students day and night can be challenging and is also very taxing emotionally, spiritually and physically.

Since this is a required break, most parents come to our campus to pick up their children. Since they have to be here anyway, it is an ideal time for them to meet with teachers and house parents. Parents started arriving about 9 a.m. on Family Day. We had a soccer game, a cross country meet and a volleyball game that day. We wanted parents to see their children participate, which is not always easy because of the distance they would have to drive to see other games. Our younger children also performed, and the marching band and choir played and sang in front of the chapel.

Parents went from building to building to meet with the teachers who work with their children. A campus map was provided to help them locate the buildings and rooms they were looking for. Many parents are surprised to discover the distance between one building and another, or the time it takes to get from one classroom to another. I think they mostly are surprised to discover the students have only five minutes to get from point A to point B. Five minutes between classes in most high schools

might seem excessive, but our students have classes in 11 different buildings all over campus.

Most parents are pleased to see the progress their child has made, and most would say their child has made more progress than expected. We are especially excited about the progress reports that went out at the middle of the first quarter. We had fewer failed classes than at any other time we can remember. We are now in the final week of the first quarter, and exams are just days away. We then will be able to see just how well our students have done academically.

After a visit with the teachers, most parents want to visit with the house parents to see how their child is doing in the dorms. Learning to share space, sharing cleaning responsibilities and learning to be considerate of the other roommates can be a challenge. Any student who does not learn these lessons about dorm living is not going to be happy. Students are glad to get a good report so they can get on the road home and get a "Big Mac" on the way.

W.F. Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, P.O. Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972. [www.oneidaschool.org](http://www.oneidaschool.org)

#### THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

### Tentmakers in the Northwest

Visits with alumni brought an extra blessing on our vacation.

On the way to Alaska, we stopped in Seattle and met Scott and Becky Bridwell, Kaylea, age 7, and Levi, 3. The Bridwells are Southern Baptists in Mission Service Corps workers in Yakima County, Wash., about a three-hour drive from Seattle.

Bridwell is pastor of Grace Baptist Church. The work started in the '70s, but closed because of financial problems. Four years is the longest any pastor has stayed. Some people already have asked Scott, "How long will you be here?"

Scott works as a secretary for an escrow company and likens himself to the apostle Paul, who made tents to meet his financial need.

"I work for good people, up-front and professional. It is encouraging because they are interested in our work with the church," Scott said. "People out here work hard, and their leisure time is precious."

"Many yuppies work in technology," he continued. "We encounter a lot of New Age mysticism. A pastor can't come out here and look for Southerners to

grow a church; we're looking for new people."

The sunny Yakima valley is the Palm Springs of Washington. As we ate a snack of Mt. Rainier cherries, Scott described the fruit and vegetable farms where many migrants work. A Hispanic mission meets at the church, and the attendance of five to 15 people is mainly migrant workers.

The fastest-growing church in the Northwest is Korean, but Scott is grateful for the growth Grace church has experienced. Eight people attended when they arrived in 1998; attendance now averages 20, with a high of 30.

Fourteen Southern Baptist churches reach out in Washington's largest county. Pray for

the mechanic who works on the Bridwells' car. "He's a hard man to reach," Scott acknowledged. "I am encouraged by what he recently told me: 'I wish you wouldn't come around; I can't sleep for 2-3 nights after you've been here.'"

"He's after you've been here," Bridwell said, "and I'm going to be faithful to share Christ."

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

#### CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

# BOOKS

**Tongues of Angels, Tongues of Men: A Book of Sermons.** John Thornton & Katharine Washburn. Doubleday, 1999. 798 pages. \$30. ♦♦♦♦♦ (out of five)

The subtitle of this book is almost a bare-boned understatement. John Thornton and Katharine Washburn have given us much more than another book of sermons. Rather, it is a volume that will serve the reader on a variety of levels.

On one level it serves as a history of preaching. Both the general introduction and the preambles to each sermon offer fascinating insights into the way preaching has changed to meet the challenges of each era of the Christian church.

On another level, the book provides a broad overview of the craft of preaching.

While observing that for contemporary American Christians, the "fundamentalist style of preaching" has become the norm, the collection of sermons demonstrates that effective preachers have used a wide variety of oratorical styles and techniques. For example, John Donne's sermon, though written prosaically, reads like the best of his poetry.

The authors further challenge both the preacher and the listener to beware of the kind of preaching prevalent in most evangelical circles, in which the sermon is the liturgy of worship. "The peculiarly American search for religious freedom (has) produced the colorful figure of the Preacher, but...it may have discarded the Church."

Finally, Thornton and Washburn advocate the devotional use of books of sermons. They encourage the slow and careful reading of sermons, so that the "sacred text" can be experienced and the soul cured. Toward that end, they

offer *Tongues of Angels, Tongues of Men*. It is a welcome offering. *Jim Holladay*

**Letter to a Man in the Fire: Does God Exist and Does He Care?** Reynolds Price. Scribner, 1999. 108 pages. \$20. ♦♦♦♦♦

Whew! When I finished Reynolds Price's epistle to a young man dying of cancer, I found myself mentally, emotionally and spiritually exhausted.

After reading Price's "A Whole New Life," which recounts his battle with spinal cancer, Jim Fox writes to Price, asking help with his struggle with God's existence and compassion. "I want to believe in a God who cares," he states, "because I may meet him sooner than I had expected. I think I am at

the point where I can accept the existence of a God, ... but I can't yet believe He cares about us."

Price's response to Fox's search is at times maddening, exhilarating, troubling, hopeful and challenging, but at all times brutally honest. Price writes as one man, who has stared into the face of death and lives to tell about it, to another man currently staring into an abyss. Without qualification, he affirms the existence of God. But to the question of whether God cares, Price responds, "yes, but not in the way we normally define care."

He confesses to having trouble with the notion of fatherhood as a primary definition of God's relationship to us—he finds no significant biblical witness for the primacy of that metaphor. He dismisses as sentimentality the theology of a God who suffers. He affirms that, despite the difficulties posed by the incongruities of human suffering and deliverance, God is our only choice, and

that "God loves His creation, whatever His kind of love means for you and me."

I am not sure how comforting I would have found Price's response had I been in Fox's shoes; but then I have never stared death in the face personally. However, for those of us seeking to minister to those in the throes of life-threatening illness, Price offers a believer's challenge to many of our traditional words of comfort. *Jim Holladay*

**Becoming the Parent Your Teenager Needs: Inspirations for Daily Encouragement.** Rodney Cage. Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1999. 215 pages. \$9.99. ♦♦♦♦♦

As a parent of a 12-year-old, I think I have found a book that will help me get through the next few years. Cage's book of 90 inspirations appear to me to be right on target. In these pages you will not find platitudes but realistic assessments of the joys and stresses of parenting a teenager.

Each inspiration includes a Bible passage followed by Cage's word of encouragement. The encouragement often takes the form of providing an exercise to foster parental self-examination, as well as providing some sound guidelines for interacting with your teenager.

I suspect that the subtitle is meant for the parent. As I read the devotions, however, I could not help but think that if a parent takes Cage's encouragement to heart, it will be the teenager who winds up being the most encouraged.

The only problem with the book is that Cage packs so much into each of the 90 inspirations that one really needs to take double or triple the time to absorb the material. Therefore, this 90-day devotional guide for being a parent of a teenager. *Wayne Hager*

**Thrice Born: The Rhetorical Comeback of Jimmy Swaggart.** Michael Giuliano. Mercer University Press, 1999. 152 pages. \$29.95. ♦♦♦♦♦

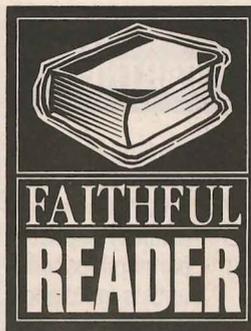
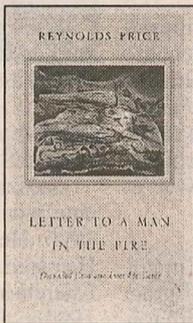
In February of 1998 Jimmy Swaggart was caught with a prostitute in New Orleans. What followed was a series of events that led to Swaggart's banishment from his ministry for three months. But Swaggart was to return and even build a good portion of his empire once again.

While the facts of the story are told in Giuliano's book, the focus is not a retelling of the story but an examination of the how Swaggart used rhetoric in such a way as to deflect all the fault away from himself even as he said he

was taking all the blame. Giuliano analyzes Swaggart's sermons, letters and magazine articles to show how he used stories and doctrinal arguments to convince his listeners that all he had been through would lead to an even better Jimmy Swaggart and he could be forgiven and trusted.

To those outside the Pentecostal world, it seemed unbelievable that Swaggart could stage a comeback. Giuliano shows how Swaggart was a master of his and his followers' world view and used it in ways that were unseen by outsiders. Swaggart's story, of course, does not end with his comeback. He has fallen far from his comeback due to his repeated associations with prostitutes and now labors in near obscurity as far as the televangelism world is concerned. The events after his comeback, however, do not diminish the remarkable comeback he did stage.

Giuliano's book is a fascinating work and also a warning to those of other religious world views who do, or may, find themselves being the victims of a master of rhetoric. *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

## Book explores 'Red-Hot & Righteous' Salvation Army

By Kevin Eckstrom  
Religion News Service

NEW YORK (RNS)—When the Salvation Army first set foot in New York City in 1880, it attracted little more than a cold shoulder from established churches, an inquisitive glance from the city's press, and amused curiosity from the general public.

Now, 119 years later, the Salvation Army is the nation's top-grossing charitable organization, outpacing both the American Red Cross and the United Jewish Appeal.

That history is the subject of a book chronicling the growth of the Army in New York City between 1880 and 1950. "Red-Hot and Righteous" is a detailed and readable account of the group's rise to charitable and cultural prominence.

Written by Diane Winston, a former newspaper religion writer and now a research fellow at New York University, the book explores the Salvation Army's deliberate strategy to "sell" itself and its mission by adopting elements of commercial culture to spread its gospel of physical and spiritual healing.

It was a marketing strategy that took Salvationists into saloons and poor neighborhoods where they hoped to establish "the Cathedral of the Open Air," a reference to the notion that all parts of

urban America could be made holy, no matter how sinful.

The group employed unorthodox techniques for reaching the masses, from changing the lyrics of bar songs to include religious lyrics to conducting loud, almost garish, musical parades that attracted widespread attention. Publicity posters were made to look like ads for a carnival or street fair.

"In its early years the Army's strength was its ability to be a part of street life; its success was predicated on attracting crowds who confused it with a circus, variety show or minstrelsy," Winston writes.

Within four years, the Salvation Army had grown to 5,000 converts, 500 officers and 100 "corps" stations. The Army's rapid growth and eccentric recruitment techniques worried many in established churches, who said the Salvation Army had become nothing more than a gospelized variety show.

Well-bred members of New York's high society also lamented that "the flamboyant improprieties of the Salvationists subverted civil order and mocked genteel decorum, the bulwarks of Victorian society," Winston writes.

The Army had its share of internal struggles. At one point, a leadership clash led to an American secessionist movement. Officers were accused of misusing funds, seducing young wom-

en and making a mockery of religion.

Salvationists soon regrouped and proceeded to make a noticeable impact in a city with virtually no social services network.

Salvationists often were the only people who ventured into poor neighborhoods to comfort the afflicted. Their reputation for selfless charity work helped calm the fears of much of the establishment.

The Army matured, as well. Its message was toned down, and its marketing strategy eventually led to widespread acceptance. Winston said the Army had mastered advertising techniques well before corporate America.

The Army was one of America's first successful "urban religions" that thrived amid a host of other religious traditions and movements, Winston says.

One of the things that fascinates Winston is the Army's ability to sell itself while preaching an evangelical Christian message. The Army's capacity to be evangelical and charitable, without offending nonbelievers, is still one of its trademarks, Winston said.

"While balancing the two is the goal of most Christian groups, very few know how to do it," Winston said. "The Army may recognize that they have two different identities, but much of the public does not."

## Show picks millennium's top 10

NEW YORK (RNS)—The Crusades, Martin Luther and anti-Semitism are among the top religious stories of the millennium, according to a television show about faith.

"Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly" kicked off its third television season by citing the top 10 religion stories of the millennium. The list, compiled in consultation with scholars and advisers, highlighted these top stories of the past 1,000 years, in chronological order:

- The Great Schism of 1054 dividing Christianity into the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox branches.

- The Crusades, 1095-1291.

- Muslim expansion and conquest of India (1190-1200) and the reign of Islamic empires in the Middle East and parts of Europe.

- Printing on movable type of the Gutenberg Bible in 1455.

- Church patronage of the arts and universities.

- Martin Luther's posting of the 95 theses to the church door in Wittenberg in 1517, beginning the Reformation.

- Colonialism and the Christian missionary period, responsible for the spread of Christian faith to North and South America, Africa and Asia.

- In 1620, English Puritans settle in Plymouth, Mass., the first of many immigrants seeking religious freedom. Religious freedom becomes the cornerstone of American democracy.

- The ideas of 19th-century thinkers including Darwin, Marx, Nietzsche and Freud, challenging traditional belief.

- The ongoing anti-Semitism and persecution of Jews culminating in the Holocaust and the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948.

# PEOPLE

## PRAYER PARTNERS

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

■ Follow-up to a recent trip made by missionaries to regions south of Kigoma, Tanzania, to look for new ministry possibilities.

■ Kanani, a Tanzanian nurse at Kigoma Baptist Hospital, who works with AIDS patients.

■ The ministry of Tanzanian evangelist Louis Joseph. In a recent crusade he led in Tanzania, more than 350 people accepted Christ as Savior. Pray for Joseph as he returns to help disciple the new Christians.

■ Bill Combs and the congregation of Cornerstone Community Church in Salem, Mass.

■ The ministry of Nuevo Nacimiento Baptist Church in Torrington, Conn. Its pastor, Edgar Trinidad, arrived from Puerto Rico in late August.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Shirley Wooton

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—South Campbellsville Church called **Ted Taylor** as pastor, **James Durham** as associate pastor and **Jeff Todd** as minister to students. Durham also will continue as minister of music.

■ **HODGENVILLE**—Ovesen Heights Church called **Richard Carver** as pastor beginning Nov. 7. Carver was pastor of Louisville Temple. Retired pastor **Gene Waggoner** was interim pastor.

■ **LEBANON**—Muldraugh Hill Church will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the church being at its current location. Revival services will begin Oct. 20-24. Speakers will be former pastors. A potluck lunch will follow morning worship with a celebration service at 2 p.m. **Vic Stansbury** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Cedar Creek Church has divided pastoral duties among three part-time positions. The church called **Tim Beougher** as senior teaching pastor, **Bill Rogers** as associate minister for pastoral care and **Brad**

**Waggoner** as associate minister for administration.

The music ministries of Farndale Church and Crestwood Church will present a joint musical "God for Us" Oct. 16, 10:45 a.m. at Crestwood Church and 6 p.m. at Farndale Church.

Fern Creek Church will host its 45th anniversary homecoming Oct. 24. Worship service at 10:45 a.m., dinner at 12:15 p.m. and a choir concert at 2 p.m. For information, call (502) 239-0316. **Linda Barnes** is pastor.

■ **MAGNOLIA**—Magnolia Church will host a celebration of golden memories and new beginnings Oct. 22-24. For information, call (270) 324-3535.

■ **MARION**—Deer Creek Church called **Brad Hall** as pastor.

■ **MURRAY**—Memorial Church will host homecoming services Oct. 17. **T.A. Thacker**, pastor emeritus, will be the speaker. Thacker will be recognized for 50 years of ministry. For information, call (502) 753-3182. **James**

Simmons is pastor.

■ **PROVIDENCE**—First Church called **Alan McCutchen** as pastor, beginning Nov. 7. McCutchen was pastor of Donaldson Church.

Shady Grove called **David Frisby** as pastor.

■ **RICHMOND**—Red House Church will host revival services Oct. 17-20. The evangelist will be **Hershael York**. **Gary Maynard** will direct music. For information, call (606) 624-1557. **Larry Sizemore** is pastor.

■ **RUSSELL SPRINGS**—Liberty Church will host its 139th homecoming Oct. 17. The evangelist will be former pastor **Roy Helm**. The church has just completed a \$75,000 facilities renovation program. For information, call (270) 866-2580. The pastor is **Chris Holloway**.

### 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.

## Salazars appointed for Hispanic work

LAGRANGE—Luis and Ruth Salazar recently were appointed by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board to serve as missionaries in LaGrange.



Ruth & Luis Salazar

Salazar will work as a catalytic missionary, creating and implementing outreach ministries to Hispanics. He is a graduate of

the Hispanic Baptist Theological Seminary in San Antonio, Texas.

Salazar was pastor of a Baptist church in Quito, Ecuador, from 1982 to 1990. He was assistant pastor of the Hispanic Department of First Baptist Church in San Antonio, Texas, from 1990 to 1994. From 1994 to 1999, he was involved in planting Hispanic churches in Wyoming.

Mrs. Salazar is a graduate of Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne, Wyo. The couple has five children.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Calvary Baptist Church of Clinton, Iowa. Send resumé to: PSC, Calvary Baptist Church, 1619 2nd Ave. S, Clinton, IA 52732.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music for worship services and choir, Providence Baptist Church, Frankfort, Ky. Please send responses and resúmes to: Hugh Bowman, Music Search Committee Chairman, 40 Forly Court, Frankfort, KY 40601. (502) 695-2968.

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

**SEEKING:** Pastor for Sparta Baptist Church, Sparta, Ky. Initial part-time position with full-time potential. Send resumé to Denise Humphries, Rt 1, Box 201A, Glencoe, KY 41046. (606) 643-5331 or Pat Fuson, (606) 643-3616.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of students (K-12). Send resumé to: Westside Baptist Church, 207 Robertson Road South, Murray, KY 42071, Attn: Martin Severns.

**SEEKING:** Calvary Baptist Church of Tuscaloosa, Ala., is currently seeking a minister of preschool/children to lead a fully developed children's ministry. Calvary is located adjacent to the University of Alabama. Seminary degree is preferred. Experience is preferred. Please send resumé to: Preschool/Children Search Committee, Calvary Baptist Church, 1121 Paul W. Bryant Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401. (205) 758-0495 for more information.

**SEEKING:** Deer Park Baptist, a member of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, is seeking a full-time pastor. Send resúmes to 1733 Bardstown Road, Louisville, KY 40205.

**SEEKING:** Full-time children/youth minister opportunity with Poplar Corner Baptist Church in Brownsville, Tenn. If interested, please fax inquiries to (901) 772-7055, or mail to PO Box 376, Brownsville, TN 38012.

**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:** Part-time minister of music for Pleasureville Baptist Church (40 miles east of Louisville). Keyboard skills; gifted in leading blended/contemporary-style worship. Lead praise band/team in evening worship; have oversight of other ministry needs in church averaging 110. Salary/benefits negotiable. Music degree not required. Call Rev. Jim Lowe at (502) 878-4127 for interview.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church of Allen is seeking a minister to serve as associate pastor in a full-time position with gifts to develop and implement a strategy to evangelize and disciple youth and young adults. Regular preaching opportunities will be given, as well as responsibilities in overall church administration and ministry. Any person desiring to know more may contact Bro. Arnold Turner directly at (606) 886-0415, or send a resumé to: Search Committee, PO Box 541, Allen, KY 41601.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of youth/education. Send resumé to: First Baptist Church, PO Box 395, Vandalia, IL 62471.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Caneyville Baptist Church. Please send resumé to: Eddie A. Majors, 210 Rabbit Flat Road, Caneyville, KY 42721.

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth minister. Send resumé to: Stamping Ground Baptist Church, PO Box 67, Stamping Ground, KY 40379.

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

**SEEKING:** Staff leadership for the areas of music, youth and education. Those interested in one area or a combination should send resumé by Nov. 1 to: Search Team, Central Baptist Church, PO Box 66, Eureka, MO 63025.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister to children. Primary responsibility to grades 1-6. Send resumé to: Search Committee, Glen's Creek Baptist Church, PO Box 543, Versailles, KY 40383. (606) 873-4097.

**SEEKING:** The School of Christian Studies at Ouachita Baptist University announces an opening for a tenure-track faculty position available fall of 2000 in the department of Christian ministries. Must have an Ed.D or Ph.D. with an emphasis on Christian education. Related teaching fields in survey of the Bible, interpreting the Bible, evangelism and church growth, pastoral ministry, youth ministry or Christian counseling preferred. Practical experience in a Baptist church necessary. Required commitment to both scholarship and teaching/discipling undergraduates. Rank open. Send letter of application and curriculum vita to Dr. Terry Carter, chair of the department of Christian ministries, Ouachita Baptist University, PO Box 3683, Arkadelphia, AR 71998-0001.

**SEEKING:** Part-time music director and pianist for Southside Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. Please submit resumé to: Southside Baptist Church, c/o J.T. Haynes, 221 Sugar Mill Drive, Bowling Green, KY 42104.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister to youth and children. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Yorktown Baptist Church, 7300 National Turnpike, Louisville, KY 40214.

**SEEKING:** Dry Ridge Baptist Church is seeking a part-time minister of music. This position would consist of 10 to 15 hours per week. Dry Ridge is a growing church in a growing area. If interested you may send your resumé to: Rev. Willie Ailstock, Dry Ridge Baptist Church, PO Box 14, Dry Ridge, KY 41035.

**SEEKING:** People with secretarial experience and computer application skills to accept temporary work assignments for work at KBC building, Middletown. Contact: Administrative Services Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Louisville, Ky. Phone: (502) 244-6468.

**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.

**SEEKING:** Valley Station Baptist is seeking a part-time minister of youth. Please call Karen Henderson, (502) 937-4360.

**SEEKING:** Mexico Baptist Church is seeking a part-time minister of youth. Good potential for growth in youth department. Send resumé or contact: Rodney Groff, 175 Mexico Road, Marion, KY 42064. (270) 965-9026.

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth minister. New Harvest Baptist Church, 815 N Main St., Caneyville, Ky. Please send resumé to PO Box 118, Caneyville, KY 40701, or call (270) 897-4020.

**SEEKING:** Farndale Baptist Church at 5610 US Highway 127 South, Frankfort, Ky., is seeking a part-time children and youth minister. If you feel God calling you to this area to work with children, send resumé to: Ms. Bryan, 530 Alfa Drive, Frankfort, KY 40601.

**BRIDAL:** Wedding veils \$32.95. Send SASE for brochure. KenDell, PO Box 102, Simpsonville, KY 40067.

## Christian activists target international sex trade

By Ira Rifkin  
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—In straightforward graphic detail, the two young women told their stories of sexual slavery and degradation to a Capitol Hill audience that listened in stunned silence.

One was from Nepal, the other Mexico. Both were kidnapped and sold to brothels; one in India, the other in Texas.

"We were at their mercy," the Mexican woman, wearing dark glasses and a black shawl to hide her identity, said of those who kept her and others captive in Houston. Her interpreter dabbed at her eyes with a tissue as she translated from Spanish to English.

The two women, both eventually freed by police, spoke last month at a forum designed to spotlight an issue that has emerged as one of this year's prime legislative issues for Washington's religious activists—stopping the international sex trade in women and children.

As with last year's battle over religious freedom abroad, the question of possible U.S. sanctions against nations deemed unwilling to combat the sex trade has prompted White House concerns and divided religious activists.

Richard Cizik, Washington director of the National Association of Evangelicals, said the issue's sexual content is also making some religious leaders squirm. About 100 Washington-area leaders were invited to the forum, but not one came, he said.

"Quite frankly, I don't think many pastors want to put the words sex and child in the same sentence. But we can't hide from the issue," Cizik said.

According to the United Nations, about 2 million people—the vast majority of them women and children, both boys and girls—are forced into the international sex trade each year.

The State Department has estimated about 50,000 people are brought into the United States annually, most of them unsuspecting girls and young women from Russia and other Soviet republics, Asia and Latin America.

"The numbers may soon be on par with the African slave trade of the 1700s," said Laura Lederer, director of the Protection Project at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Competing bills have been introduced in the Senate and House reflecting opposing religious and political views on the issue, particularly the sanctions question.

In the House, a bill introduced by Reps. Christopher Smith, R-N.J., and Marcy Kaptur, D-Ohio, has garnered the support of a coalition of mostly conservative religious activists and social policy specialists. Most of the coalition members also worked for passage of the 1998 International Religious Freedom Act, which made religious persecution abroad a U.S. foreign policy concern.

They see the sexual trafficking measure as a continuation of a larger moral crusade.

The Smith-Kaptur bill provides for up to life in prison for those convicted in the United States of sexual trafficking, establishes a State Department office to report annually to Congress on what other nations are doing about the problem, provides \$20 million for victim assistance and protection over two years, and a similar amount to train police in foreign nations to better root out sexual traffickers.

The measure would prohibit non-humanitarian U.S. financial aid to countries identified as not trying hard enough to stop the trade, with the president having the power to waive the provision.

A Senate proposal introduced by Sen. Paul Wellstone, D-Minn., contains a more narrow sanctions threat, confining it to depriving assistance to police agencies in offending nations on the assumption sexual trafficking exists only with law enforcement complicity. But the Wellstone bill expands the definition of trafficking to include individuals not sexually abused but kept in economic bondage—such as the recent high-profile cases of Chinese and Latin American immigrants kept as indentured workers in New York and elsewhere in the United States.

At a House International Relations subcommittee hearing on the bill last month, Assistant Secretary of State Harold Koh said the Clinton administration opposed the Smith-Kaptur measure, in large part because its sanctions provisions targeted governments "even when private traffickers bear major responsibility for the problem."

The National Council of Churches, which represents more than 30 mainline Protestant and Orthodox denominations, backs the administration's view.

"Sanctions, even when they can be waived, is the wrong place to start," said Jay Lintner, an NCC Washington representative.

Lintner said that because poverty often spurs the sex trade, any action that threatens to cut aid, and presumably increase poverty, is "mean-spirited" and counterproductive.

Koh also argued for the Wellstone bill's expanded view of the trafficking problem, saying all forms of trafficking violate international human rights standards.

But Michael Horowitz, a former Reagan administration policy adviser and a driving force behind both the religious persecution act and the Smith bill, said broadening the definition of trafficking was designed to undercut the chances of congressional action on the issue.

"The White House doesn't want anything passed that could complicate their relationships with foreign governments," said Horowitz, currently with the Hudson Institute in Washington.

"They know you can't apply the same standards to economic trafficking, which can involve free will on the part of those being moved across borders, with the sex trade, which is just commercial rape. Mixing apples and oranges guarantees congressional stalemate," he said.

## Baptist leader: Europe needs reconciliation effort

By Wendy Ryan  
Baptist World Alliance

HAMBURG, Germany (BP)—A European "truth and reconciliation commission," like the one in South Africa, could help citizens forgive one another after centuries-old animosities, according to a European Baptist Federation official.

David Coffey, general secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, told the EBF Council that the Balkan wars of the 1990s were, in large measure, based on generations-old hatreds.

"This decade commenced in such hope for peace," Coffey said during the EBF Council's Sept. 23-26 meeting in Hamburg, Germany. "But it closed with the revelation that the poisoned cup of ethnic cleansing had still not been drained to the dregs."

While visible barriers like the Berlin Wall have come down, "invisible walls still exist in the heart, walls of fear, hatred and enmity," Coffey said in his final address as president of the EBF Council.

European Baptists should be prepared to work in partnership with other churches to "create opportunities for whole communities to tell the truth concerning ancient animosities and prepare the ground for the possibility of reconciliation," Coffey said. "If we are really courageous, we should begin this process within our EBF family."

Coffey called on Baptists to continue working for freedom at a time when human rights and religious liberty continues to be threatened. "This is such a precious part of our heritage as Baptists. We must continue to maintain a vigilant watching and responding role," he said.

Concerning Russia, Coffey said the West found it much easier to oppose communism, and now in the new Europe, Western governments are less interested in protecting the rights of religious minorities and are more concerned for the dramatic economic collapse in Russia. "We are holding our breath for this mighty nation as it teeters on the brink of another catastrophe," he said.

Concerning the state of religious faith in Europe, Coffey used a term from the Herald Tribune describing Europe as "the most godless quarter on earth."

Citing three signs of the poor spiritual state of Europe, Coffey listed the declining numbers of believers in churches; folk religionists who live their faith superficially; and a large number of baptized believers in Baptist and evangelical communities who leave the church within five to 10 years of their baptism.

Coffey called on Baptists to bear witness in the public square to the good news of Jesus Christ. "We will fail in our duty as Great Commission Christians if we grow ghetto churches which may be strong numerically but weak in their understanding of the world in which they live and ineffectual in reaching the peoples of this spiritually needy Europe," he said.

There is good news in many parts of Europe, Coffey noted. "Imaginative and creative mission and evangelism is taking place; believing communities are discovering the truth of being sent out to witness as lambs among wolves, and they are proving that God's power is magnificently displayed through weakness and vulnerability."

### WORLD VIEW

■ **Christians mark "Feast of Tabernacles."** Christians from Kosovo and Indonesia as well as from as far away as Fiji and Micronesia gathered in Jerusalem Sept. 24 with pilgrims from Europe and the United States to launch the annual "Feast of the Tabernacles." The event, sponsored by Jerusalem's International Christian Embassy, drew thousands of participants from 100 countries. The nine-day "feast" stresses the biblical expectation that one day all the people groups of the world will worship in Jerusalem.

■ **State Department persecution claims rejected.** India and Afghanistan have rejected a U.S. State Department report criticizing them for persecuting members of minority faiths. The report, released last month, was the department's first annual review of international religious freedom covering 194 nations and territories. The report said Christians and Muslims in India have been victims of violence linked to the ruling Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party. In Afghanistan, the Taliban movement, the fundamentalist Sunni Muslim group that controls about 90 percent of the nation, was accused of persecuting minority Shi'ite Muslims.

■ **40 evangelicals arrested in Turkey.** Forty members of an evangelical Protestant church were reported arrested in Turkey last month for allegedly holding an unauthorized prayer service. Predominantly Muslim Turkey is officially a secular nation that bans all proselytizing and foreign missionaries. Turkish law also prohibits opening a place of worship or delivering religious speeches without state approval. Two of those

arrested were Americans. Two British citizens and an Australian also were arrested, according to initial reports. The arrests occurred in the port city of Izmir.

■ **"Doomsday" sect leader sentenced to death.** A leader of the Japanese Aum Shinri Kyo sect, found guilty of participating in the 1995 nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway system which killed 12 people, has been sentenced to death. The Tokyo District Court handed down the death-by-hanging verdict Sept. 30 on Masato Yokoyama, 35, according to sources quoted by Associated Press. Yokoyama was one of a squad of five Aum members who released the nerve gas sarin in subway trains as they converged on Tokyo's central government district during the morning rush hour. Some observers have suggested that the group is on the rise again, amassing funds and holding seminars around the country.

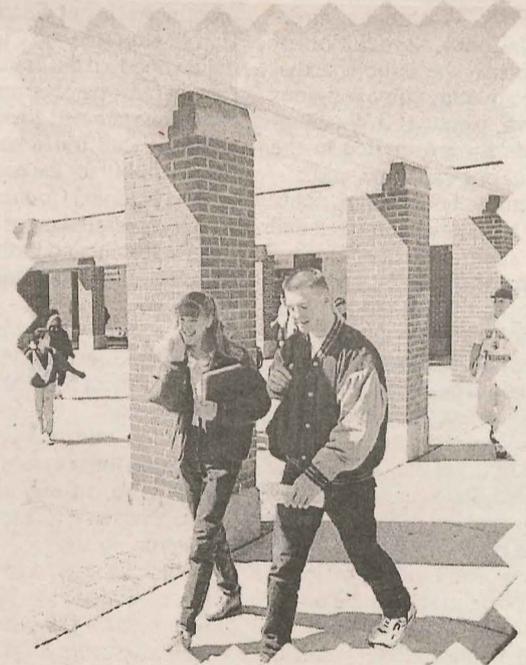
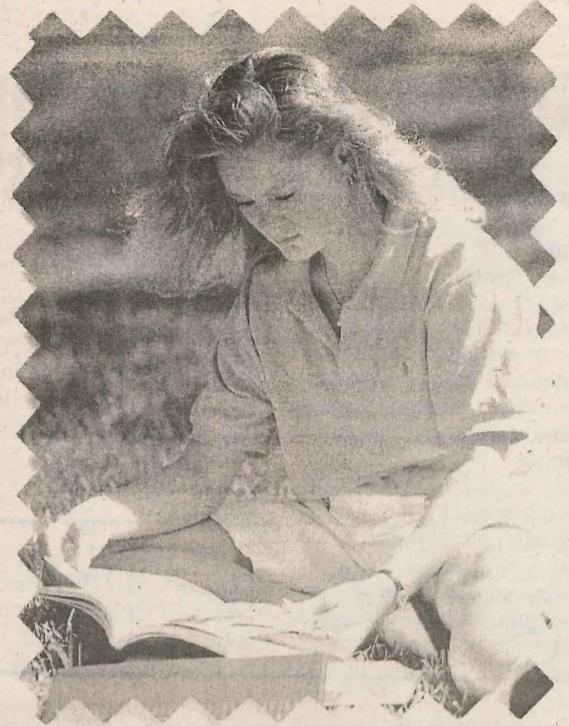
■ **Religions to discuss future role.** Evangelical leaders will be among the representatives of about 20 of the world's religions meeting this month at the Vatican to discuss closer collaboration to further justice and peace in the next millennium. At least 235 clergy and laity from 48 countries will attend the Inter-Religious Assembly called for Oct. 24-29. The goal of the assembly is to agree on a joint declaration on the role of religion in the next millennium. "There are some major problems and challenges in the world which, for their solution, require the cooperation of all believers," said Cardinal Francis Arinze, president of the Pontifical Council for Inter-Religious Dialogue. "Foremost among these are questions related to justice and peace."

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