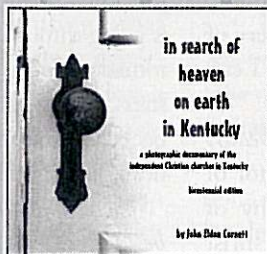


BUZZ

Searching for Heaven

BY JENNIFER TAYLOR

It's tempting to reference the "picture worth a thousand words" cliché when discussing **John Cornett's new book**, but it's not necessary—the book *In Search of Heaven on Earth in Kentucky* includes not only beautiful pictures of **Kentucky's independent Christian churches**, but also an article on the history of the Restoration Movement in Kentucky.



Cornett began building a database of the Kentucky churches and taking black-and-white pictures as a hobby. After he retired in 2001 he pursued the dream full-time, traveling more than **20,000 miles** and snapping shots of almost **500 churches**.

"Kentucky has made such contributions to our movement," Cornett says. "The Cane Ridge Revival, *The Last Will and Testament of the Springfield Presbytery*, Southeast Christian Church. I wanted to honor that."

www.users.mis.net/~jcornett/insearch.htm

"My parents taught me to dream," says **Rick Harper**. "So, the purpose of **Georgia Tech's Christian Campus Fellowship** is to change the world!"

A graduate of University of Georgia and Emmanuel School of Religion, Harper became the leader of CCF at Georgia Tech in 1987. He started with four students, and now 600 to 800 stu-

dents actively participate in the ministry.

The numbers are one thing; the impact is another. CCF focuses on building leaders among its students and providing them with places to serve—in Georgia and beyond. "In 1997 I realized our kids needed to experience service in other countries," Harper says. Soon after, **Naomi Kouns at Christian Missionary Fellowship** approached him with the idea of starting a

campus ministry in Mexico City, and a partnership—**Globalscope**—was born.

Ministries are starting or are already thriving in Chile, Thailand, Spain, Mexico, and Brazil. Campus ministers commit to leading the overseas ventures for two to four years, while students from Georgia Tech and other schools study and serve there for a semester.

Through their involvement in Georgia Tech's CCF program or Globalscope, more than 75 students now serve as full-time ministers, and hundreds more have a global worldview and evangelistic faith.

"Parents chew me out all the time," Harper laughs. "They tell me their Georgia Tech kids now want to go into missions."

www.gtccf.org

www.cmfi.org/globalyouth.html

Mission Indy creates service opportunities in Indianapolis, but its real purpose is creating servants. "We teach specific skills to groups from all over the Midwest, things like painting a house," says **Executive Director Ron Greiner**. "But more importantly, we help cultivate an attitude of service they can take back to their community."

In 1996, **Ron and Darren Hansen**,

then ministering to youth at **Chapel Rock Christian Church, Indianapolis**, led a mission trip to Caracas, Venezuela. "Everyone on the trip committed to coming back and making a difference. We wanted to create concrete opportunities for that to happen."

Initial relationships with groups in inner-city Indy led to others, and today Mission Indy has partnered with 15 to 20 other organizations and churches in the area.

Mission Indy also served as the "cheerleader" for the **Indy Urban Initiative**, facilitating cooperation among many of the churches and service groups in the city. From September 2003 to April 2004, the groups built a house for a needy family.

"Mission Indy exists to help Christians serve so the church can really be the church, and share each other's burdens," Greiner says. "If we equip you to serve others, we've done our job."

www.missionindy.com

ON THE web

You can find this whole issue of **CHRISTIAN STANDARD** at our Web site: www.christianstandard.com. In fact, each issue since March 2, 2003, is now available for you at our site. Look for extra features, too. For example, our weekly Sunday school lesson treatment now resides there.

This week's treatment of the International Sunday School Lesson (for October 31) is written by Steven Clark Goad, senior minister with Blythe (California) Church of Christ. The lesson, entitled "Creating a Renewed Trust" is taken from Psalm 73.

Do you know of a church breaking new ground or leading innovative ministry? Send a brief description and contact info to buzz@standardpub.com.

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