

# WESTERN RECORDER

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## 22,903 make Atlanta convention Southern Baptists' largest ever

Jim Newton

Southern Baptists rolled through the Georgia World Congress Center like a huge convoy of Sherman tanks, overpowering almost every controversial issue they encountered with a counter-emphasis on commitment to Bold Mission Thrust, an effort to share the Christian message with the world by the year 2000.

The record 22,903 registered messengers to the 121st annual convention were part of the biggest crowd ever to attend.

Not only was it the biggest convention, it was one of the calmest in decades, many long time convention observers noted.

Messengers took a stand, however, on several issues in approving a recommendation on human rights and a series of resolutions condemning and opposing racism, political terrorism, pornography, child abuse, tuition tax credit legislation on Congress, extension of the time limit for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, legislation limiting religious groups' ability to lobby in Congress and use of alcohol.

A total of 22 resolutions was adopted. Others commended Anita Bryant for her stand on homosexuality, encouraged nuclear arms reduction, advocated support for world hunger efforts, urged Israel to respect the religious liberty of Christian missionaries, encouraged ministries to the mentally retarded and handicapped, reaffirmed the SBC's previous statements on abortion and beliefs in the Bible and urged emphasis on stronger Christian family life.

Although the messengers adopted the resolution commending Anita Bryant, they refused by a two-to-one margin to elect her as a vice president.

The convention reelected Jimmy R. Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex., to a second one-year term as president as expected.

In a surprise development, the messengers named Douglas Watterson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn., as first vice president in a 6807 to 3272 vote over Anita Bryant.

Bill Hinson, pastor of First Baptist Church, New Orleans, nominated Watterson, pointing out that the first vice president "is only a heartbeat away from the presidency" and that the position was not altogether an honorary one but a responsible office requiring involved denominational leadership.

Elected second vice president was William Self, pastor of Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Atlanta. Re-elected to office were three Nashville men, Porter Routh, treasurer; Martin Bradley, recording secretary; and Lee Porter, registration secretary.

In major business the convention adopted a record \$75 million Cooperative Program unified budget for 1978-79, voted to abbreviate 1981 convention business sessions to provide time for evangelistic efforts in Los Angeles, declined a request to take a public opinion poll of messengers on ordination of women, approved several wording changes in the convention's constitution, bylaws and procedures, authorized a study concerning establishment of a seventh theological seminary in the North and approved a new logo design symbolizing the convention with a cross and Bible.

During the three-day convention most of the time was spent encouraging Baptist support of the SBC Bold Mission Thrust program.

Each of the evening sessions was devoted to inspirational programs dramatizing the need for Southern Baptists to respond to the challenge of Bold

Mission Thrust and the effort to enlist 5000 Mission Service Corps volunteers to work alongside 5000 home and foreign missionaries by 1982.

Addresses by a plethora of speakers urged Baptists to devote their major energies to Bold Mission Thrust, to evangelism, missions, discipleship, prayer and commitment.

This common thread wove through the fabric of addresses by Allen; Jesse Fletcher, president of Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., who delivered the annual sermon; Sunday School Board president Grady C. Cothen of Nashville; and Home Mission Board executive director William G. Tanner of Atlanta.

Coretta Scott King, widow of the late Martin Luther King Jr., warned the messengers that in their rush "to bring the spiritual message of Christ . . . around the world, we must not forget we have to care about their physical and mental needs as well."

Mrs. King urged Baptists to work for the right to a job as a basic human right saying the issue of full employment is a moral issue rather than a political or social issue.

She also reminded Baptists of their lack of support her slain husband had received from white churches. Although King never spoke to the Southern Baptist Convention his widow was warmly received with a standing ovation symbolic of the progress Baptists have made in their pilgrimage for racial justice.

Following her address, Forrest C. Feezor, retired Texas Baptist leader now living in Shelby, N. C., led the messengers in a moving prayer service for spiritual awakening.

Earlier Harry N. Hollis Jr., of the SBC Christian Life Commission staff in Nashville, urged Baptists to use "pocketbook power" to protest violence, exploitation and "obscene" giveaway shows on television.

Listing a litany of evils of television programing Hollis also scored Christians' failure to become actively involved in positive efforts to counteract bad programing.

Earlier, the convention adopted a strongly-worded recommendation on human rights from the Christian Life Commission, urging Baptist churches to become "boldly involved in championing justice for the oppressed, providing food for the hungry, supporting changes in those laws and systems which abuse the poor while providing loopholes for the rich . . . and effecting change . . . to support basic human rights."

In a special offering for world hunger taken up during the convention the messengers contributed \$14,250. A resolution also urged Baptist observance of World Hunger Day, Aug. 2, 1978.

Although there was a minimum of debate during the convention compared to previous years most discussion centered on resolutions dealing with the role of women and women's rights.

Rejecting a resolutions committee statement which would have taken a stand neither favoring or opposing the Equal Rights Amendment, the messengers adopted instead a substitute resolution opposing extension of the ratification deadline for the ERA.

After lengthy debate the messengers refused to go beyond the 1977 and 1976 convention-adopted resolutions on abortion affirming the "sanctity of human life" and condemning abortion-on-demand.

As expected, the messengers adopted without debate a brief resolution commending singer Anita Bryant's stand on homosexuality. Miss Bryant had earlier received several rousing ovations by a standing-room crowd of more than 20,000 attending the Southern Baptist Pastor's Conference on the Sunday preceding the convention. Outside while she spoke more than 2000 protestors demonstrated against her gay rights position.

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

## WESTERN RECORDER

C. R. Daley Jr., Editor  
James H. Cox, Associate Editor  
Paul Whitler, Business Manager



C. R. Daley

# Daley Observations

## Baptist harmony and good judgment in Atlanta

The Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta last week was not a memorable one but was one to appreciate. It was not marked by sharp discussion of controversial issues but by smoothness and harmony. The messengers would not be sidetracked from getting Bold Mission Thrust aloft. Time after time they affirmed confidence in their leadership and in the agencies and institutions of the convention. It was an experience of affirmation.

This confirmation and sweet spirit of the messengers was especially commendable in light of the almost unbearable conditions of the meeting hall. Having a convention in the World Trade Center in Atlanta is like trying to have a prayer meeting in a tobacco warehouse in Kentucky. Messengers had to sit mostly in darkness on folding chairs set up on areas of flat floor. In many areas of the hall it was next to impossible to hear the speakers and without huge television screens little on the rostrum could be seen. Much of the high quality program was lost in the difficulty of transmission. Such adverse conditions were unfair to both those who spoke and sang and those who tried to hear.

Messengers were more expressive than ever on contemporary issues. A record number of resolutions was presented on a wide range of issues. The resolutions committee which has the most difficult task at a convention in refining and consolidating the many resolutions presented did a good job. The messengers showed their appreciation by sustaining the committee's language in most instances against zealots who are never satisfied with a balanced statement of convictions.

Messengers also gave a good account of their maturity and wisdom in not choosing Anita Bryant as a vice president of the convention. In spite of their agreement with her stand and their admiration for her courage, the majority of the messengers knew she was not qualified to serve as a convention officer. Miss Bryant was forthright in saying in a press conference she did not know enough about the workings of the convention nor did she have the time to be a working officer and would serve only on an honorary basis.

Upon being informed it was not merely an honorary office, Miss Bryant was unwise in agreeing to her nomination as first vice president. Her loss, however, was not a rejection of her nor her stand as evidenced in a resolution passed later commending her. Rather it was a protection of the integrity of the convention. It proved again Southern Baptists can be trusted to decide wisely when the chips are down.

President Jimmy Allen's address was outstanding and his presiding was firm but fair. It

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contributed toward keeping the convention on track and mostly on time.

Some of the most perceptive words heard in the convention came from Jesse Fletcher in his convention sermon. His call for Southern Baptists to grow in Christian discipleship offers the best hope for success in Bold Mission Thrust.

The addresses of Coretta King and Elton Trueblood were frosting on the cake. The introduction of Mrs. King by the black Baptist mayor of Atlanta and a welcome to the messengers from the Baptist governor of Georgia were another feature of the magnificent hospitality of Baptists in Atlanta and Georgia. They did everything possible to make messengers enjoy the experience.

And messengers did. They returned home with sore feet and flat pocketbooks but with happy hearts.

## Convention impressions

James H. Cox, Associate Editor

**A full house:** There was little doubt even Sunday evening, some 40 hours before the convention ever got under way, that this year's meeting would top all previous attendance records. Seating capacity in the main hall was 19,400 and it was filled and overflowing when Anita Bryant addressed the pastors that evening. Early in the convention week the previous record of 18,637 set in Norfolk two years ago was shattered, and the figures kept climbing. Ultimately 23,000 may be recorded in attendance. There are probably several reasons why. Georgians had been denied the privilege of hosting a convention for 34 years. They came out in full support at every turn, and those nearby Carolinians, Floridians, Alabamians and Tennesseans came, too. The convention in New Orleans in 1967 and the one in Miami Beach in 1975 were the only ones in more than a decade to meet in this southeastern region. Furthermore, Atlanta is easily accessible from almost any point, being linked in every direction with interstate highways, airlines, bus and some rail service. Atlanta boasts numerous other attractions enticing to messengers and their families, including Six Flags Over Georgia, Stone Mountain, Atlanta Braves, Cyclorama, Underground Atlanta and more. Plus, it is directly in the path many messengers take from their homes to Walt Disney World and the Florida beaches. A reported check with Disney officials indicated more advance ticket sales for the weekend after the convention than in all the years that attraction has been in operation. You can be sure Baptists contributed their share. The presence of Anita Bryant, Coretta King, Ruth Bell Graham and Jimmy Carter almost assuredly accounted for some messengers' presence at the convention, also.

**Contrasts:** Facility problems were offset by the

gracious hospitality which is characteristic of the deep South. Atlantans went out of their way to be good hosts, smiling at the information booth and at the registration desks, always willing to offer helpful directions. Their voices and their faces said "welcome—we're glad you're here." Especially appreciated by thousands was their advance concentration on poor parking conditions. Reserved parking areas away from the convention hall and excellent charter bus schedules with well advertised times and routes were appreciated by all using this service. Buses were generally on time, air conditioned, comfortable, plentiful, and at reasonable fares making what could have been a bad experience a pleasant one. The convention hall itself has real problems which badly need correcting in order to keep attracting large conventions. Acoustics were deplorable, and even those sitting at the front of the hall missed much of what was said. There were only six escalators leading to and from the main arena, and at least two of those were usually operating in the opposite direction of the way most messengers wanted to go. This reporter spent 25 minutes waiting to go up an escalator at the close of one session. That experience was duplicated many times for thousands. Stairways to the lower floor and elevators for all but the handicapped did not exist. Rest rooms were also few and small and constantly overcrowded, and messengers complained justifiably. One termed the convention hall "an architect's nightmare." He had a point. Even here, though, there was a redeeming feature: several thousand messengers were fed at mealtime within the confines of the building at food stations of their choice—pizza, sandwiches, buffet salad bar, desserts and hot dogs. Such provisions were welcomed by many who used them and food was attractive, reasonable, plentiful and good.

**High cost of living:** Some messengers reportedly paid \$58 per night for single rooms, and doubles went higher in those hotels, although some stayed downtown for \$35-\$40 daily. Chopped steak in one downtown restaurant was \$8.45 and T-bones were absolutely prohibitive. Never have so many paid so much for so little, but that's definitely a trend. One plus factor reported in Atlanta papers: hotel and restaurant liquor sales for the week neared zero.

**Unsung heroes:** Our candidates for the unsung heroes and heroines of this convention (and of previous conventions) are admittedly biased because we have personally observed their work. They are not seen by most messengers but without them there would be no Western Recorder convention issue or service to 200 or more other papers, wire services and TV and radio stations. They are the men and women of the press room's production staff. They put in exceedingly long hours (sometimes not leaving the building for 16 hours at a stretch). They type, reproduce and distribute several thousand documents and news release sheets during the week. And amazingly, they always seem to do it with a smile. An illustration is typical: one morning at 12:30 a.m. I left the convention hall with Bob O'Brien, press room manager, and several others. Bob was weighted down with stacks of mailings destined for the post office and ultimately to Baptist readers. It was raining steadily and we were drenched. We walked several blocks, then departed in opposite directions for our respective cars. Not until the following day did I discover Bob's car had been towed away. He and his family and friends had to hail cabs to their hotels. By 7 a.m. he was back on the job at a breakfast meeting. He retrieved his car later that day at a cost of \$46. But he never complained. It would have been out of character for him, or for his staff in a similar situation. That attitude is typical of those tireless, dedicated servants Nashville sends to help us. Without question, they are some of the most prominent contenders for the title of behind the scene SBC heroes and heroines.

**A dull meeting?:** Veterans of this convention claimed this one to be dry and void of controversy, particularly quiet after Anita Bryant left town the morning before the convention actually opened. While the crowds were large, the divisive issues of some other years simply didn't materialize. First-timers who had come anticipating some Baptist blood-letting must have been curiously surprised by the serenity of it all.

# Religion and politics mix, says Jimmy Carter

by James H. Cox

"You can't divorce religious beliefs from public office, just as you can't impose your religious beliefs on others," a smiling Jimmy Carter told several thousand persons attending the National Conference of Baptist Men in Atlanta.

"I have never detected nor experienced any conflict between God's will and my political duty," he continued. "When I violate one, I violate the other."

Carter, stopping in Atlanta enroute to Panama, said he was pleased to read that morning in the New York Times that Southern Baptists passed a resolution on human rights. He termed the measure against oppression and social injustice "absolutely beautiful."

"But passage of a resolution is not enough," he said, adding that people must also work harder against people who victimize and deprive others.

He focused attention on Southern Baptists' Bold Mission Thrust, stating that he knew the effort "is fraught with the possibility of failure and embarrassment." However, he encouraged Baptists to try.

"What are the goals of a person? Of a denomination? Of a country?" he questioned. "They are the same. A desire for peace, the need for humility and a commitment to human rights. These are what make a

person and a nation great."

Carter spoke in the 16,500-seat Omni coliseum Friday morning, the day following the close of the Southern Baptist Convention. Attendance, however, was significantly less than half of what the auditorium held.

The SBC Brotherhood Commission, which sponsored the event, had attempted to sell tickets at \$12.50 each to 19 simultaneous breakfasts all over the city. It had advertised that persons must buy a breakfast ticket to attend the Omni session afterward.

When it became apparent Tuesday night that things were not going well (only 2000 tickets had been sold), the commission staff held an emergency meeting. It decided to open the Omni event to all persons of all persuasions who wished to attend. Four hecklers decided to accept and denounced U. S. and Soviet "war moves" in Palestine, Africa and Panama during Carter's speech. They were removed from the arena.

The \$25,000 tab for the Omni meeting will be absorbed by the Brotherhood Commission.

Carter had obviously been advised about the problems encountered in generating a crowd for his address: "I understand Glendon McCullough was

trying to finance the Cooperative Program," he joked in a reference to the Brotherhood Commission's executive director attempting to build an audience.

"It might have been different if Anita Bryant had been here," the smiling President exclaimed. He had read earlier in the week that Miss Bryant had drawn more than 20,000 persons to her appearance before the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference.

Before the President spoke two personalities from opposite musical persuasions performed. Grand Ole Opry star Teddy Wilburn (of the Wilburn Brothers) sang "Pass Me Not O Gentle Saviour" and "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross." The President's lips moved silently, keeping time with the music.

Wilburn was followed by Metropolitan Opera star Irene Jordan who sang "He Leadeth Me" and "My Country, 'Tis of Thee." She then joined Wilburn in leading the entire audience to sing "Blest Be the Tie That Binds."

Following the President's address the audience sang "Amazing Grace," announced as "one of the President's favorite hymns." Before the singing concluded Carter, his wife, Rosalynn, and the presidential party were whisked from the stage and out a side door. A motorcade returned them to Dobbins Air Force Base and the waiting Air Force One.

## BPRA gives HMB exhibit 'best of show' honors

The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's display in the SBC exhibit hall won "best of show" in judging by a panel of professionals outside Southern Baptist ranks.

Exhibit awards were presented by the Baptist Public Relations Association during the convention. The announcement of winners of the annual competition is a highlight of BPRA's convention week breakfast meeting.

Individual exhibit winners are:

Category A, exhibits valued from \$1-\$500—Baylor University, first place; Louisiana College and Baptist College at Charleston, tied for second

Category B, exhibits valued from \$501-\$1000—North Central States, first place; Grand Canyon Col-

lege, second place

Category C, exhibits valued from \$1001-\$2000—Brotherhood Commission, first place; Foreign Mission Board, second place

Category D, exhibits valued from \$2001 up—Home Mission Board, first place; Annuity Board and Baptist Sunday School Board's Office of Communications, tied for second place.

## Seven Kentuckians named to strategic SBC posts

Seven Kentuckians were elected by the Southern Baptist Convention to trusteeships on various boards as follows:

Home Mission Board—T. L. McSwain, pastor, Hurstbourne Church, Louisville;

Baptist Sunday School Board—Ted Sisk, pastor, Immanuel Church, Lexington;

Southern Seminary—J. Cleve Iler III, layman, Louisville;

American Seminary Commission—Joe P. Williams, pastor, Baptist Tabernacle, Louisville;

Christian Life Commission—Billy G. Hurt, pastor, First Church, Frankfort;

Historical Commission—Leo T. Crismon, layman, Louisville;

Stewardship Commission—Eugene M. Fleming, pastor, First Church, Franklin.

Williams and Fleming were elected for the first time, the other five being reelected to new terms.

In addition, Larry Huff, Louisville layman, was designated chairman of the denominational calendar committee, his first time to serve.

## Convention wrap-up

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The convention also refused to go beyond its Statement on the Baptist Faith and Message adopted in 1963, even though in brief debate several messengers wanted the convention to assert "the infallible, inerrant, verbally-inspired Word of God" in addition to the present doctrinal belief statement.

A resolution on racism urged Baptists "to purge ourselves and our society of all forms of racism," mentioning specifically severe unemployment among young blacks, employment and housing discrimination and "new expressions of racism" which have blunted progress in race relations.

A resolution on multilateral arms control urged a shift of funds from nuclear weapons systems to basic human needs, such as education, medicine and relief from hunger.

Another resolution opposed legislation pending in Congress that would tighten lobbying controls on religious groups which seek to influence legislation, contending that such legislation is a potential threat to religious freedom.

Similar opposition was expressed toward legislation on tuition tax credits for pupils attending private schools. The resolution claimed such legislation was possibly unconstitutional and urged President Carter to veto any tax credit bill passed by Congress.

The messengers selected William Hinson, pastor of First Baptist Church, New Orleans, to preach the convention sermon in 1979. Randall Lolley, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., is the alternate.



Newly-elected officers of the Southern Baptist Convention pose with their wives following a session of the annual meeting in Atlanta. They are (l-r) Doug Watterson, first vice president, and his wife Jan; Jimmy Allen, president, and his wife Wanda; and Carolyn Self with her husband Bill, second vice president.

## Women's vote "No," seminary study "Yes"

Messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention declined to vote on a motion calling for a yes or no opinion poll concerning the ordination of women to the ministry.

Dotson M. Nelson Jr., pastor of Mountain Brook Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala., called for the tabling after about 20 minutes of discussion.

"I question whether the Southern Baptist Convention should take an opinion poll since it might not be understood in the churches."

Nelson's tabling motion was overwhelmingly adopted, first by hand vote and then again when president Jimmy Allen asked the messengers to stand to show their partiality.

Mrs. Richard Sappington, First Baptist Church in Houmont, Tex., near Houston, presented the motion and said such a poll would be very useful to all denominational agencies and churches in planning for Bold Mission Thrust.

Seeking support for her proposal, Mrs. Sappington pulled a quotation by president Allen from a recent news release in which he called for more involvement of women in Southern Baptist life.

Mrs. Boots Shaver, First Baptist Church, Herndon, Va., expressed support of the poll but was ruled out of order when she spoke at length about the Great Commission—the biblical admonition for all persons to do evangelistic work.

The messengers approved a motion by Jack Gritz, representing Trinity Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, that the Executive Committee of the convention study the feasibility of establishing a seventh Southern Baptist theological seminary in the northern part of the country.

Gritz, editor of the Oklahoma Baptist Messenger, said the study is needed because: the six existing seminaries are crowded; Southern Baptists have grown into a national denomination; and "the Holy Spirit is calling thousands of young people" to service in the northern part of the country.

## Not all work and no play

One well-dressed woman rode down the crowded escalators in the Georgia World Congress Center leading to the Southern Baptist Convention floor. Breathless with excitement and anticipation, she asked the nearest usher, "When does it start?"

The usher smiled, the convention had begun but you couldn't tell it by peering into the auditorium.

"This must be your first convention," the usher said.

But knowing a first-time conventioner was easy. If the woman had been a veteran of many Southern Baptist Conventions she would have realized that messengers often mill in the aisles, chat with friends or have a reunion right in the seats no matter what is happening on stage.

Some messengers never get inside the hall. And those who do often do not know what is happening, what vote is being taken . . . even when a prayer is being offered.

But messengers chatting in the hall defend their inattention.

"When I see some folks I've not seen in a long time, I will greet them. The fellowship is often as important as anything else," said a Florida pastor who has attended about 15 conventions.

Others complained about the sound system. Many messengers will move from aisle to aisle looking for a row that has good sound reproduction.

A youth director's wife from Kentucky attending her first convention reported the air conditioning in the hall seemed like "a second sound system."

One press representative covering the events said, "I've covered the Democratic and Republican national conventions and this one is worse than those (for people milling around and talking)."

## Pastors applaud Anita

If entertainer and anti-gay rights activist Anita Bryant harbored any doubts about support from her fellow Southern Baptists, those doubts were emphatically erased Sunday night by wave after wave of thundering applause.

As 2000 gay rights supporters demonstrated outside the Georgia World Congress Center Miss Bryant staged her own demonstration inside an estimated 20,000 attending the opening night of the two-day Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference.

Gripping a microphone in one hand and her well-worn red Bible in the other she received a standing ovation from the packed house as she entered the auditorium singing "I'll be a friend to Jesus as long as I live."

Her next lengthy round of applause came when she told her audience, "I believe with all my heart that the people outside should not be picketing Anita Bryant. They should be picketing the ministers of this nation for telling it like it is."

She made frequent allusions to the anti-gay rights battle she has waged during the past year, saying, "The Christian life is not an easy one, but the Lord never promised it would be easy."

"Many times," she said, "I have been at the end of my rope and I have asked, 'Why me?' I don't have the qualifications, the education, the intellect. I don't know how to express myself."

"I'm not a minister," she told the ministers' conference. "I'm a woman, a woman with a mother's heart."

Claud in a full-length white dress that accented both her Bible and flaming red hair, Miss Bryant interspersed her Christian testimony with several favorite sacred and patriotic songs.

Closing with an enthusiastic rendering of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," she waved to the crowd as the audience voiced a final "Amen" with another standing ovation.

## Hungry Baptists aid drive

Bold Mission Thrust has already put its hand on the shoulder of many Southern Baptists, some of whom told their stories to convention messengers.

Two lay leaders of the convention, Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, and Glendon McCullough, executive director of the Brotherhood Commission, were anchor persons for five live interviews and video-taped presentations on moving Baptists out of the pew.

Many of the more than 22,000 messengers viewed the program with hungry stomachs. They skipped supper, wore a button identifying their concern for the world's hungry people and gave the cost of their missed meal to six world hunger programs.

Two executives of the SBC Foreign Mission Board sketched the Southern Baptist posture in response to the world situation. Winston Crawley, director of the board's overseas division, detailed opening doors for Baptist influence. Keith Parks, director of the board's mission support division, told the convention that a serious implementation of Bold Mission Thrust would be costly, especially in human resources.

Crawley and Parks were filling in for their ailing boss, Baker James Cauthen, who was confined by shingles.

## 10 cities may host SBC

Only 10 cities in the United States meet requirements to host the Southern Baptist Convention.

"Actually, we list 13 cities, but it is questionable if three of those cities really meet the standards," said Tim Hedquist, convention manager for the SBC Executive Committee.

The list of acceptable cities surfaced during a discussion by the Executive Committee of the site of the 1983 SBC. Pittsburgh was selected after Hedquist revealed the list of acceptable cities and told committee members that Pittsburgh is on the elite list.

Other cities which meet the criteria are Houston, Dallas, Kansas City, St. Louis, New Orleans, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Chicago and New York City.

The three which are questionable are Portland, Ore., and San Francisco, because of limited facilities, and Miami, which reportedly may approve casino gambling, thus eliminating it as a meeting site, Hedquist said.

The guidelines are that a city must have a meeting hall which seats at least 16,500; have 6,500 motel/hotel rooms, half of which must be within a "reasonable" distance, and have an exhibit hall which is separated from the meeting hall both to sight and sound.

## Human rights applauded

The Christian Life Commission urged messengers to do more than provide a cup of cold water in Jesus' name for the world's oppressed.

Expressing grave concern about the widespread denial of human rights at the hands of the country's "allies as well as its political adversaries," the commission's declaration specifically asked Baptists to deal in a "forthright and corrective way" with social structures which abuse and violate human rights.

After brief discussion, messengers approved the declaration.

Rights, the declaration said, included "family life, property, work and equal pay for equal work. They also included food, shelter, health care and education, and freedom of thought, speech, assembly, religion, movement and participation in government."

## Messengers ok \$75 million

The largest budget in the history of the Southern Baptist Convention—\$75 million—was passed on a voice vote with no audible dissent.

In addition to approving the record budget messengers also routinely approved a plethora of bylaws modifications which contain only clarification changes.

The only dissent came as messengers voted on Pittsburgh as the site of the 1983 convention. Presiding officer Olan Rannels ruled the aye votes carried the motion despite shouted opposition.

Messengers accepted New Orleans as the site of the 1982 convention without murmur.

The 1978-79 Cooperative Program Budget, which funds Southern Baptist work at home and abroad, compares with \$63,400,000 budget for 1977-78.

The document includes a \$62 million basic operating budget; capital needs of \$2 million and a challenge budget of \$11 million.

## 2000 picket Anita Bryant outside pastors' meeting

A noisy but orderly crowd of about 2000 gay rights supporters marched and demonstrated outside the Georgia World Congress Center while singer Anita Bryant spoke to some 20,000 Southern Baptists inside.

"Never before has the national gathering of the Southern Baptist Convention been so greeted as they have been tonight," said Linda Regnier, a representative of the Atlanta Gay Rights Alliance in a brief speech to the demonstrators.

As the demonstrators yelled, whistled and chanted, Miss Regnier observed, "I hope the walls are shaken by all this outside tonight."

Adjacent to the 2000 gay rights demonstrators about a dozen placard-carrying Christians staged a counter demonstration, singing hymns, quoting scriptures and passing out tracts to demonstrators.

The two demonstrating groups exchanged shouts and heckling yells but no confrontations took place.

The gay rights demonstrators marched together in orderly ranks carrying placards and chanting as they walked: "Hey, he; ho, ho; Anita Bryant's got to go." They also chanted as they marched, "Gay rights now."

Most carried placards and banners. Some of them said: "Judge not that you be not judged;" "Love is never wrong, bigotry is never right;" "Jesus does not discriminate;" "Anita Bryant, bigot of the year;" "Stop religious fascism;" "Boycott Florida Oranges;" "Oral is Moral;" "Christ taught love, not hate;" "Bryant Buffalos Baptists for Bucks."

James Moody, who served as master of ceremonies for the rally, stirred the crowd by saying, "We don't intend to sit still while our rights are being chipped away by groups of misinformed individuals who may be sincere, but are off the track."

Saying that homosexuals are guaranteed basic human rights by the Constitution, Moody declared, "The Constitution of the United States, and not the Bible, is the law of this country."

The crowd of demonstrators was a diverse group. There were only a few white shirts and ties among the group. Most were dressed in jeans and were under 30 years of age.

## Messengers focus on ERA, abortion, gays

Women's issues dominated a spirited discussion of resolutions at the 121st SBC annual meeting.

The convention adopted resolutions opposing extension of the ratification deadline for the Equal Rights Amendment, reaffirmed its previous stance on abortion and commended Anita Bryant's opposition to homosexual rights.

In other actions, messengers declined to go beyond the convention's 1963 statement on the authority of the Bible, expressed opposition to pending tuition tax credit legislation in Congress, asked the state of Israel to respect the religious liberty of Christian missionaries and condemned political terrorism, racism, pornography and alcoholic beverages.

On ERA the convention adopted a substitute resolution presented by Charles Stanley, pastor of Atlanta's First Baptist Church, calling for rejection in Congress of proposed legislation to extend the Mar. 22, 1979 deadline for ratification. When Congress passed ERA six years ago, it gave the states seven years to ratify the controversial proposal.

While nothing in the federal Constitution mandates a specified period for the ratification process, Congress has traditionally allowed seven years for three-fourths of the states to ratify. To date, only 35 state legislatures have given approval to ERA, leaving it three short of ratification with only nine months remaining before the deadline.

In its action on abortion the messengers refused to go beyond its 1976 and 1977 actions affirming the "sanctity of human life" and condemning abortion-on-demand. The convention turned back a determined effort by two messengers from St. Louis, Mo., to endorse the drive for a constitutional amendment to ban abortions.

The SBC position on abortion acknowledges the "limited role" of government in regulating abortion and "support(s) the right of expectant mothers to the full range of medical services and personal counseling" in decisions relating to abortion.

## Lindsell named BFMF head

Harold Lindsell, editor emeritus of Christianity Today, has been elected president of the Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship.

Lindsell, who retired May 1 from the editorship of the evangelical magazine, succeeds LaVerne Butler, pastor of Ninth and O Baptist Church, Louisville, who was president of the conservative organization for three years.

"I have lent my name to them (BFMF) because I am very much afraid of what will happen to the Southern Baptist Convention down the road.

"I think the convention has got to face the question of what constitutes a true Baptist. . . . Southern Baptists have not faced this honestly.

"Every Baptist has the freedom to come to the Bible and understand it as he sees fit. But does a man have the right to be a Unitarian and still remain a Baptist? Does he have the right to say Jesus Christ is not God, like (Robert) Alley said at the University of Richmond and still stay there?"

He alluded to a dip in baptisms in the SBC, as churches recorded the lowest number of conversions since 1949, but said he "is not prepared at this point" to say the reason is a departure from biblical orthodoxy.

"But I think if you'll check, the churches where new converts are being baptized are theologically orthodox . . . conservative."

## Mrs. King asks equality

The right to a job is a basic human right, Coretta Scott King told messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention.

The issue of full employment is "really not an economic or a political issue. It is a moral issue."

She said her husband, the late Martin Luther King Jr., "once said that as a nation we cannot really be a free people until all of our people are free. I say as a nation we cannot really be a great society until all of our people have a chance to share in that greatness."

She reminded Baptists that "not taking a stand

against injustice, was, in my husband's view, siding with injustice and that in itself was blasphemy against the Lord himself."

"It makes little difference that a black can now eat at a public lunch counter if he or she does not have enough money to purchase a meal," she commented.

She told Southern Baptists she had a two-fold prayer for them: "That your missionary zeal will be successful and that the true meaning of Christ's social gospel be understood and followed by all who hear the good news and believe."

## Allen 'meets the press'

Newly reelected Southern Baptist Convention president Jimmy Allen said in a news conference that he has confidence in the biblical fidelity of Southern Baptists.

"We'll always have folks on both sides of the road who will try to find flaws in someone's statements," he said.

Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex., was responding to a charge by Harold Lindsell, Alexandria, Va., newly-elected president of the Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship, that some Southern Baptist executives, seminary professors and

professors in Baptist colleges do not believe in the inerrancy of the Bible.

Allen expressed confidence in the trustees and leadership in the seminaries saying that if there are serious theological problems in what is being taught the regular process will be sufficient to correct them.

"The basic position of Baptists is a middle of the road belief in the infallibility of the Bible," Allen said. "Some folks are always going to be dissatisfied when it comes to the authority of the Bible."

"Asked if he felt President Carter had taken a strong enough stand on moral issues Allen replied that the President, a Baptist layman, has "taken a lot of flack" for several moral stands he has taken, including encouraging people who are living together to get married.

Asked what had displeased him most and encouraged him most about President Carter's administration, Allen said he was most disappointed when the President named a personal envoy to the Vatican. He claimed this appointment was "an unconstitutional thing."

He was most pleased by President Carter's own personal lifestyle as a Christian in the nation's highest elected office, including teaching a Sunday school class and attending worship services as major priorities in his life.

## Alumni Reports

### NOBTS elects Texan

Lionel Crowell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Nacogdoches, Tex., has been elected president of the national alumni association of New Orleans Seminary.

Also elected were Perry Sanders, president-elect, Gayle Alexander, secretary, and John Gibson, treasurer.

Sanders is pastor of First Baptist Church, Lafayette, La.; Alexander, pastor of First Baptist Church, Alamo, Tenn.; and Gibson, pastor of Wesleyan Drive Baptist Church, Macon, Ga.

Awards for outstanding alumni were presented to Clarence Cecil Randall and Jack Hanberry. Randall is pastor of First Baptist Church, Tuscaloosa, Ala., and Hanberry is warden of the U. S. penitentiary, Atlanta.

### MWBTS ok's Kentucky group

"Sharing Horizons" was theme of the annual luncheon meeting of Midwestern Seminary alumni.

Highlighted by multimedia presentations and an address by seminary president Milton Ferguson, the meeting also included a business session.

Jim Martin, pastor in the Omaha, Neb., area, will be president. Elected vice president was Gerald Young, pastor of Northside Baptist Church, Florissant, Mo. Phil Hall, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Winterset, Iowa, will be secretary.

Jerry Scruggs, 1977-78 national alumni president, presented state charters to Colorado and Kentucky, bringing the number of state alumni chapters to 13.

### GGBTS elects, honors

An executive vice president of a California college was elected president of Golden Gate Seminary alumni.

Stephen P. Carleton, also academic dean at California Baptist College, Riverside, was elected.

Other newly-elected officers are James M. Morton, pastor, Trinity Southern Baptist Church, Livermore, Calif., as president-elect; Windell H. Gibbs, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Merced, Calif., vice president; and P. Wayne Powers, minister of education and youth, Park Victoria Baptist Church, Milpitas, Calif., treasurer.

Honored as alumni of the year were Donald H. Ledbetter and James R. Winchester. Ledbetter is pastor of First Baptist Church, Elko, Nev. Winchester is minister of music and education at Trinity Baptist Church, Fresno, Calif.

### 1609 feted at SBTS meet

A record 1609 participants in the national alumni reunion of Southern Seminary heard a progress report on the seminary's \$10 million endowment-capital needs campaign and elected John Claypool of Jackson, Miss., national alumni president.

The record-breaking attendance, largest in history of any Southern Baptist seminary convention luncheon, exceeded by some 400 people the previous high at the 1974 Norfolk, Va., convention.

A new total of more than \$4 million in cash and pledges in Southern Seminary's financial campaign was announced by president Duke K. McCall. The effort is now underway in Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky and Tennessee, and will expand throughout the nation in coming months.

Claypool is pastor of Jackson's Northminster Baptist Church. Charles Ashcraft, executive-secretary for the Arkansas Baptist Convention, was named president-elect.

### SEBTS presents citation

More than 370 alumni, trustees and friends of Southeastern Seminary elected officers for 1978-79 and heard president W. Randall Lolley make a progress report.

Lolley also presented Sue Fitzgerald, director, Center for Christian Education Ministries at Mars Hill (N. C.) College, as recipient of the seminary's first citation for excellence in Christian ministry.

Dale O. Steele, pastor of First Baptist Church, Burlington, N. C., was elected alumni president for 1978-79. Other officers are Truett Gannon, pastor, Smoke Rise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain, Ga., vice president; Robert (Jack) Burns, pastor, First Baptist Church, Powell, Tenn., secretary; and Clint Hopkins, secretary, Department of Social Ministries, Virginia Baptist General Board, Richmond, director.

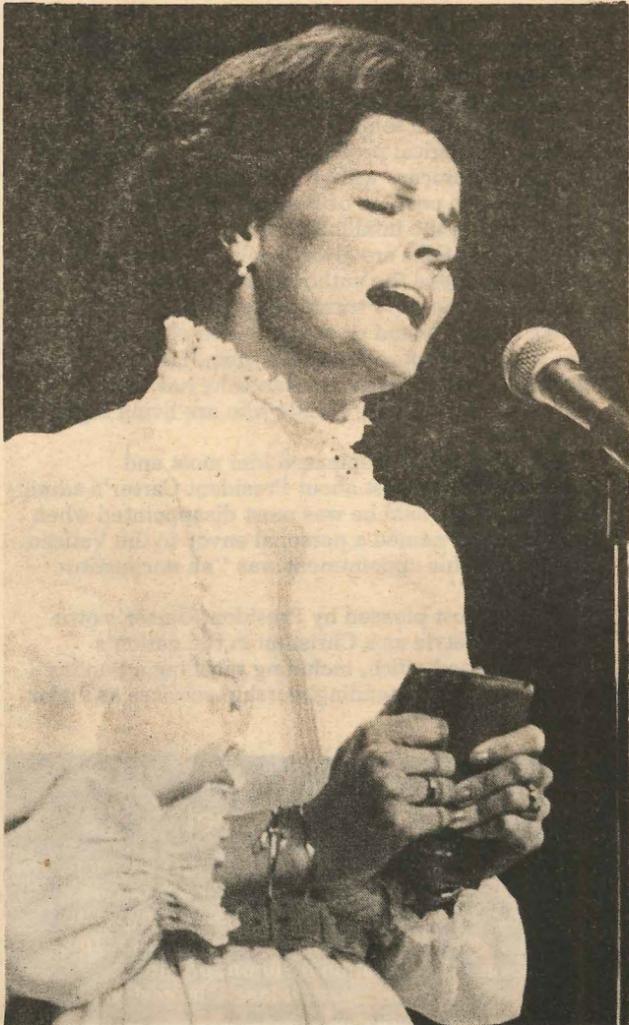
### Naylor lauded by SWBTS

Robert Naylor, retiring president of Southwestern Seminary, was honored and new officers elected at the national meeting of Southwestern alumni.

Elected president was Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss. Richard Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix (Ariz.) Baptist Church, was elected president-elect and John Seelig, Southwestern's vice president of administrative affairs, was elected secretary.

The association honored president Naylor's 20th year at Southwestern along with his upcoming retirement, and recognized his 50th year in the ministry as well as the 70th year of the alumni association.

# SBC '78



Entertainer and anti-gay rights activist Anita Bryant sang and spoke to approximately 20,000 persons opening night of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference.



SBC president Jimmy Allen, reelected to a second term as leader of the Southern Baptist Convention, delivers his address to a record 22,903 messengers. Allen is pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex.

## *personalities and issues*



An estimated crowd of 2000 gay rights supporters marched outside the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta

while singer Anita Bryant was speaking to about 20,000 persons at the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference.



Singer Anita Bryant, shown at a press conference with her husband Bob Green, said she would accept the first vice presidency of the SBC only if it were an honorary position. She was nominated but easily defeated the next day.

# *missions*



Children attending the SBC's day camp gained a persons understanding of Bold Mission Thrust by hearing home an foreign missionaries tell about their work. Home missior ary David McKenzie, Cuba, N. M., talks here with (l-r) Stephanie Parmley, Metropolis, Ill.; Jay Raines, Gatesvill Tex.; and David McRae, McMinnville, Tenn.

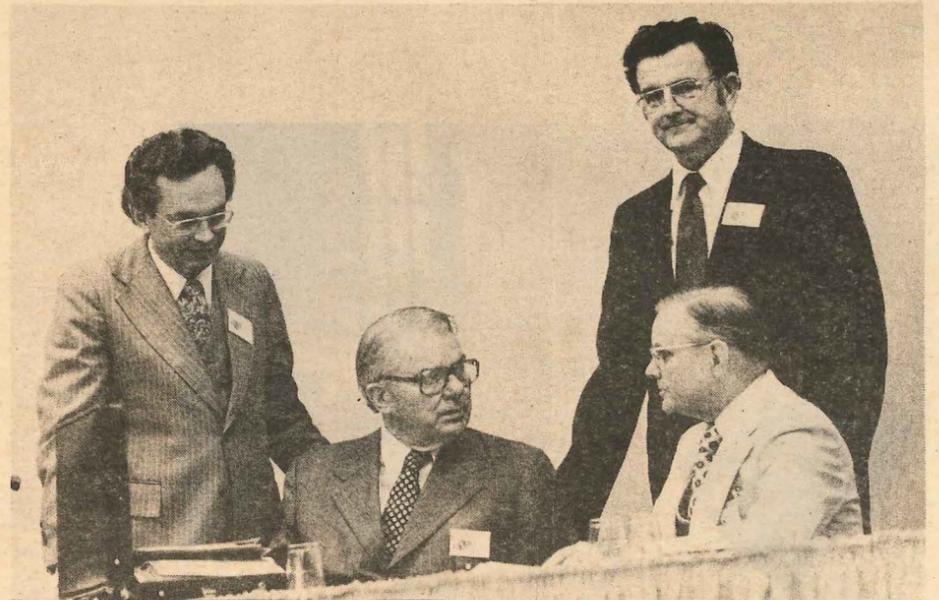


New officers of the Southern Baptist Music Conference are (l-r) Bill Pierson, Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, vice president-ministers of music; Polly Riddle, William Jewell College, vice president-education; James McKinney, Southwestern Seminary, president; Thad Roberts, South Main Baptist Church, Houston, president elect; and Charles Gatwood, music secretary, North Carolina Convention, vice president-denominational groups.

# *and lots and lots of officers*



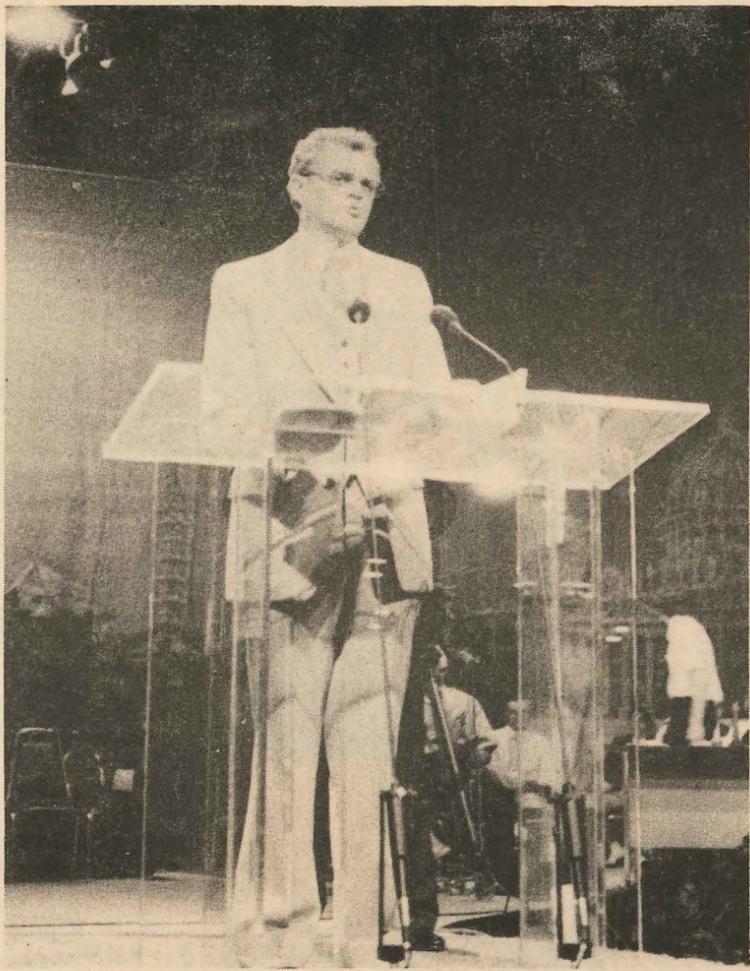
New officers of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference are (l-r) Cecil Chambers, pastor of Centerville Baptist Church, Anderson, S. C., vice president; Homer Lindsay Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., president; and John Hatch, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lakewood, Wash., secretary-treasurer.



New officers of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee confer after election. They are (l-r) Conrad Johnston, pastor in Salem, Va., vice chairman; Porter Routh, Nashville, Tenn., executive secretary-treasurer; and Brooks Wester, pastor of First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Miss., chairman. Standing at right is Preston Callison, lawyer from Columbia, S. C., recording secretary.

Charles Lowry (r), director of the church program services division of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, was elected president of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association. Other officers are (l-r) Hazel Morris, Southwestern Seminary, vice president; Lawrence Klempnauer, Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth, president elect; Harriett Buff, Columbus, Ga., assistant secretary-treasurer; Robert S. Cook, Florida Baptist Convention, vice president; and Melva Cook, Sunday School Board, Nashville, secretary-treasurer.





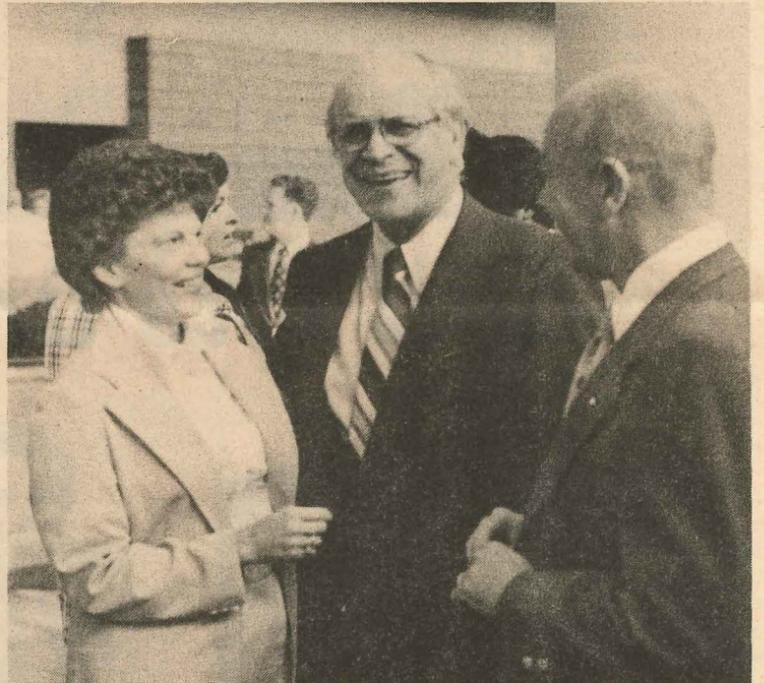
John Dunaway, pastor of First Baptist Church, Corbin, and a member of the SBC Executive Committee, presents a recommendation to the messengers in Atlanta.



New officers of Woman's Missionary Union elected during the WMU annual meeting in Atlanta are (l-r) Mrs. William Ellis, Shelbyville,

recording secretary; Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, Danville, Va., president; and Carolyn Weatherford, Birmingham, Ala., executive director.

## Kentuckians in Atlanta



Mrs. Isaac McDonald and her husband (r), pastor of Hodgenville (Ky.) Baptist Church and a former pastor in Alabama, joke with Hudson Baggett, editor of The Alabama Baptist.



Harold Shoulders (l), a native of Franklin and currently associational missionary in Clarksville, Tenn., chats with Robert Wallace, pastor of First Baptist Church, Paris.



Exchanging greetings in Atlanta are (l-r) Harold Barnes, pastor of Horse Cave (Ky.) Baptist Church; Wallace Morris, Bowling Green evangelist; Ted Sisk, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington; Jerry Dan Abernathy, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla.; Glenn Armstrong, pastor of Beaver Dam (Ky.) Baptist Church; and Eugene Enlow, pastor of Beechmont Baptist Church, Louisville.

# The Christian calling for responsible citizenship

by Larry McSwain  
Associate professor of church and community  
Southern Seminary

Arnold Toynbee said shortly before his death, "The individual citizen is facing increasing difficulty in exercising not only his right but duty to influence the government. This development represents an extraordinary dramatic and disconcerting change in the balance of power between the different parts of the democratic community."

Increasingly we are discovering the power of government to shape and to influence our daily lives.

Such a reality could lead to despair about the possibilities of effective Christian citizenship. The easiest path to follow might be to grant to those we think wiser, more powerful, or closer to the decision making structures of government the freedom to decide for us the complex issues which confront our nation. To do so, however, would be to abandon the Christian calling for responsible citizenship.

### The Call to Respect

The Bible makes it clear that Christians are called to an attitude of respect for the goals of government. Government is the instrument of God's choosing for the creation of security and the development of minimal rules for all to follow. Paul stated clearly this aspect of the Christian calling in Rom. 13:7, "Pay all of them their dues, taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due."

Christians are in serious danger of failing to be responsible to the biblical calling when they despise the potential for good which is possible through politics. You and I hear constantly the negative pictures of politicians as crooked, self-interested and uncaring for others. Such an attitude is to overlook the opportunity for a positive and effective ministry to persons which is possible through government. Senator Mark Hatfield wrote in 1971, "For the Christian man to reason that God does not want him in politics because there are too many evil men in government is as insensitive as for a Christian doctor to turn his back on an epidemic because there are too many germs there."

Respect is more than an attitude. It requires action. Too often Christians have participated in citizenship concerns in a negative way. They are seldom heard from by political leaders when positive legislation is proposed to enhance life through improved education, more equitable criminal justice, support systems for the mentally ill, consumer protection, expanded employment opportunities, reform of the judiciary, or a reduction in nuclear arms. Yet the "Christian lobby" becomes forceful in its opposition to gambling legislation, alcohol abuse and legalized drug use. This we ought to do, but not leave the other undone.

### The Call to Protest

The Bible makes it clear that Christians are not to idolize their governments. Contrary to much biblical understanding Christians are never called to support oppressive, racist or God-defying governments. Rather, the Bible enjoins an active protest against such behavior. Romans 13 has too often been wrongly interpreted to mean love for the state instead of respect for it. Reread it carefully and you will discover that Paul admonishes the Romans to support

their government to the degree it is deserving of support. Yet in Rom. 13:8 he insists that one must love one's neighbor whether or not he deserves it. It is a different relationship between persons and the relationship of persons to the structures which govern their lives.

John the Seer understood this quite clearly in Revelation 13. The Roman state had lost its right to respect by claiming divinity for its emperor and demanding a confession of lordship from Christians who could only protest "Jesus is my Lord." John heaps the wrath of God's judgment upon this "beast" who would claim power which belongs only to God.

Of all the people on the earth American Christians should understand this. Our nation was born in protest against tyranny and rooted in the rights of the people to replace bad government with good government. Our Declaration of Independence and Constitution are models of the ideals of freedom for oppressed people around the world. How sorrowful we should feel when we fail to live up to our own dream of "liberty, justice and the pursuit of happiness for all."

While we shall never fully embody this "impossible dream" we ought to protest every law, every judicial decision and every administrative action which falls short of the dream by working for improvements in our political life. Let us not be accused of idolatry by allowing our government to fall short of the best of which it is capable.

### The Call to Participation

The Bible makes it clear that Christians are called to participate in their government. The most explicit form of participation is the payment of taxes. Jesus made it clear that involvement in politics was not optional when he challenged those who would withhold taxes from Caesar "Render unto Caesar that which belongs to Caesar."

Willingness to pay taxes is an implied support for the services which those taxes provide. Consequently, Christians must enter the arena of political power, compromise, negotiation and decision making to insure the most equitable and just use of tax money. The power to tax is ultimately the power to govern. It is symbolic of the most fundamental act of citizenship which can be performed. Every Christian has the responsibility of participation in government by paying taxes; by voicing one's concerns to those who levy, collect and spend taxes; by replacing those who abuse the power of taxation; and by working steadfastly to insure budgets rooted in righteousness.

Christian protest is ultimately a refusal to allow Caesar to use the tax dollar for unrighteous purposes. The American Revolution was fought over a slogan, "No taxation without representation."

The Christian political credo ought to be "no taxation for the destruction of human persons, no taxation for the support of religion, no taxation for the benefit of the few, no taxation for the support of immorality, no taxation to maintain racism, no taxation for injustice." For ultimately the call of Jesus to participate in Caesar's work is always tempered by the more powerful calling for every person to "render unto God the things which are God's."

That is the form of participation which is to be mine and yours as we act as responsible citizens.

## BULLETIN

Rhodesian security forces investigating the stabbing death of Southern Baptist missionary Archie G. Dunaway Jr. have confirmed the killing was the result of guerrilla activity.



Dunaway

The body of Dunaway, 57, was found on the Sanyati Baptist Hospital compound early in the morning of June 16, Rhodesia time, after he had been missing all night.

The search for Dunaway was initiated among missionaries when he failed to meet his wife at the hospital where she is a nurse and director of a school for midwives. Dunaway was maintenance supervisor for the hospital and an area evangelist.

This was the first Southern Baptist missionary to be a victim of politically motivated violence since the 1972 death of missionary nurse Mavis Pate in a Gaza ambush. This is the first violent death of a missionary since the murder of Gladys Hopewell in Taiwan in 1973.

As a precautionary measure all Southern Baptist mission personnel with the exception of one couple have been evacuated from the Sanyati compound. Dr. and Mrs. Maurice L. Randall will remain for the present to care for seriously ill patients.

A summer missionary from Mississippi was to return to the States with Mrs. Dunaway June 19.

Dunaway was a graduate of Southern Seminary and pastored churches in Indiana and Tennessee prior to appointment in 1947 to Nigeria.

Survivors include his wife, four grown children living in the States, a brother, sister and granddaughter.



President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, flanked by Glendon McCullough, executive director of the Brotherhood Commission, and Mrs. McCullough, join in singing "Blest Be the Tie" at the National Conference of Baptist Men in Atlanta.

## Is your minister's salary for real?

No businessman would consider his employe's expense account, insurance and other "fringes" as part of income. Personal income is one thing; fringe benefits and business expenses are in another category.

But it is surprising how many respected businessmen on church finance committees overlook this basic accounting practice when calculating their minister's salary. In order to create an illusion of paying a minister well it is easy to say, "We pay our minister about \$12,000 a year." Not a bad salary. The committee has done its job well. Or has it?

This is the common, though unrealistic way to figure income:

Salary .....	\$ 6,500	Pension .....	1,020
Utilities Allowance .....	360	Group Insurance .....	300
Car Allowance .....	1,800	Parsonage .....	1,700
Conference Allotment .....	350		
Continuing Education .....	100	<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$12,130</b>

This is the business-like way:

Income:			
Salary .....	\$ 6,500	Continuing Education .....	100
Parsonage .....	1,700		
Utilities Allowance .....	360		
	<b>\$ 8,560</b>	<b>Fringe Benefits:</b>	
Business Expenses:		Group Insurance .....	\$ 300
Car Allowance .....	\$ 1,800	Pension .....	1,020
Conference Expenses .....	350		
			<b>\$ 1,320</b>

So it's not \$12,130 but \$8,560 for actual income.

In these days of rising prices a minister's modest income is being stretched especially tight. He can't live on an illusion.

Have you—or your church members—taken a businesslike look at your minister's salary lately? Separate the illusion clearly from reality. Your minister will be happier because of it. We think you will be too. (Adapted from West Union Messenger)

## Missions & Ministries

### Hillvue Heights—missions means action

Last summer Hillvue Heights Baptist Church, Bowling Green, sent a group of youth, college students and adults to Stamford, N.Y., to help in starting a Baptist church.

This summer another Hillvue Heights group is going for a week's work there and the church has appointed and is supporting three summer missionaries to serve there the entire summer. The three are Kay Morrison, Judy French and Brad Montell.

A fourth summer missionary supported by the church will work with Hillvue Heights in a local mission ministry.

Twelve students from the church are serving in summer missions this summer, some outside the United States.

### Used stamps buy food

Miss Lilamani Perera of Sri Lanka, Ceylon, has founded the "Food for Stamps" program in Louisville.

The program collects used postage stamps which are sold and the money used in the Salvation Army Bangladesh children's feeding program. So far more than 20,000 meals have been served to undernourished Bangladesh children through the program.

At least one quarter inch of the envelope should be left around the stamp when it is torn off.

Mail stamps to Miss Lilamani Perera, c/o The Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters, P.O. Box 2040, Louisville, KY 40201.

### Mrs. Pendley on furlough

Mrs. Frances Pendley, missionary associate to Yemen, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: 628 Seattle Drive, Lexington, KY 40503). The former Frances ("Pinkie") Read of Kentucky, she was born in Butler County and lived in Louisville and Lexington. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1973, she worked as a private duty nurse in Lexington.

### Oranges in language study

Mr. and Mrs. Charles V. Orange, missionaries to Tanzania, are in language school in Kenya (address: Box 137, Limuru, Kenya). He was born in Greenville, Ky. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1977, he was pastor of First Baptist Church, Westcliffe, Colo.

### Powers begin furlough

Mr. and Mrs. J. Wendell Powers, missionary associates to Taiwan, have arrived in the United States for furlough. Their address is c/o H. Inmon, Route 1, Saulsbury, TN 38067. He is a Pruden native.



These 23 students are among a record 37 summer missionaries sent out this year by the Cumberland College Baptist Student Union. The group includes 18 students from Kentucky.

### Thirty-seven summer missionaries from Cumberland

A record 37 summer missionaries will represent the Baptist Student Union of Cumberland College this summer.

"The students at Cumberland are having a more optimistic outlook on serving Christ by helping others," said Jim Wilson, religious activities director.

Four of the summer missionaries are sponsored by the Student Work Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, 29 are representatives of the Home Mission Board, two are appointed by the Kentucky State Missions Department and two others are special

assignments.

Summer missionaries work 10 weeks with minimal pay. Positions are available in every state and students work under the supervision of a local pastor.

Student missionaries from Kentucky include Gloria Bottom, Harry Browne, Kathy Carpenter, Revel Dawson, Chris Gholson, Barbara Gregory, Russell Gross, Laura Hill, Karin Hitch, Jim Howerton, Linda Howerton, Angela Johnson, David Moss, Sandi Satterfield, Billy Scott, Wilma Scott, Jerry Waugh and Carl Williams.

## Christian Education

### Butler, Cox are visiting profs at SBTS

Trent Butler, missionary to Switzerland, and Jim Cox, associate editor of Western Recorder, will be visiting professors this fall at Louisville's Southern Seminary.

Butler is a missionary to Rushlikon, Switzerland, where he teaches Old Testament at the Baptist theological seminary. He will also teach Old Testament courses in Southern's School of Theology.

Prior to his appointment by the Foreign Mission Board in 1971, Butler was assistant professor of religion at Atlanta (Ga.) Baptist College.

Cox, who has been with Western Recorder since 1975, will teach the course "ministry of writing" in the School of Religious Education.

Cox's articles have appeared in hundreds of Southern Baptist publications. He is an active member in the Baptist Public Relations Association and is the only person to have held every office in that organization.

A third visiting professor, James L. Sullivan, former president of the Baptist Sunday School Board and the SBC, will teach courses in church and denominational administration.



Several Kentucky pastors and denominational leaders attended a recent conference at Southern Seminary to discuss their work as field supervisors in the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degree program. They are (l-r) A. B. Colvin, Verlin C. Kruschwitz, William H. Rogers, Eldred M. Taylor, William L. Kaufman, G. Allen West, David A. Nelson, Clarence Barton and Russell Bennett, director of supervised ministry studies at Southern.



Decker



Dick

### Clear Creek adds two

Two new staff members, Deborah Renee Decker and Joel Dick, have been named at Clear Creek Baptist School.

Miss Decker, a Marion native, joins the School of Music staff and will teach children's choirs, piano, organ and freshman theory and sight singing.

She graduated summa cum laude with a BS in music from Campbellsville College, where she received the Presidential Honor Scholarship.

Miss Decker earned the MCM degree from Southern Seminary. She taught in the Bullitt County school system and was pianist and music assistant at First Baptist Church, Shepherdsville.

Dick, a former resident of Monticello, will work with the Clear Creek radio department which produces and distributes approximately 100 programs weekly.

He is a graduate of Clear Creek with a bachelor's degree in theology and religious education.

Dick is married to the former Paulteta Richardson, also a Monticello native. They have two children, Mike and Rebecca.

### Students to exhibit art

The Campbellsville College Art Department will present an exhibit at the Town Square Mall in Owensboro June 23-25.

Art instructor Tom Clark and several students will demonstrate techniques in painting, pottery, crafts and other art forms.

From June 27-July 2, Campbellsville will have a booth at the Owensboro Hydrofair. Gentle Spirit, a quartet of college students, will give a concert at 7 p.m. June 28.

### Cubine gets DMin degree

William P. Cubine, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Paducah, was awarded a DMin degree by Lexington Theological Seminary.

Cubine has received a BA degree from Georgetown College, a MDiv from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and a MA degree from the University of Kentucky.

Before going to the Paducah pastorate he served Burlington Baptist Church and Central Baptist Church in Paris.

### Honors for SBTS student

Timothy W. Sharp, a native of Princeton, W. Va., was awarded two honors by the music faculty of Southern Seminary.

The second-year student was named "Outstanding Student of the Year" and "Outstanding Conductor of the Year."

A graduate of Belmont College, he was selected from more than 300 students in the School of Church Music. He is minister of music at Beechwood Baptist Church, Louisville.

# Mountains to the Mississippi

## Personnel

**Thompson to Second Baptist, Greenville**  
George Thompson, Louisville, began May 7 as minister of music and youth at Second Baptist Church, Greenville.

He is a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and came to Second Baptist from Arcade Baptist Church, Louisville. He has served other churches in Kentucky and Tennessee as music and youth minister.

Thompson is an Air Force veteran. At Cumberland College he was active in BSU, president of Phi Mu Alpha and chorale president.

His wife Connie is a native of New York state. She has a bachelor's degree in music and teaches in the Bullitt County district.

## Hammett to Lynn Association

Eutre N. Hammett resigned as coordinator of missions for Russell Creek and East Lynn Associations to become superintendent of missions for Lynn Association.

He will begin his new duties July 1.

Hammett was born in Barren County and pastored several churches in Kentucky. He is a graduate of Bowling Green Business College, Campbellsville College and Western Kentucky University.

Mrs. Hammett is the former Frances Everett of Barren County. They have two married daughters.



Thompson



Forgey

**Paul Forgey to FBC, Tompkinsville**  
Paul D. Forgey is the new minister of youth and outreach at FBC, Tompkinsville. He comes from FBC, Panacea, Fla., where he was pastor.

## Kilgore to FBC, Ashland

Scott Kilgore has been called as assistant pastor of First Baptist Church, Ashland. Kilgore is a native of Georgia and a graduate of Mercer University. He recently graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

His special area of ministry will be youth and education.

## Deaths

**Lebanon deacon Robert Mullins dies**  
Robert S. Mullins, deacon at Lebanon (Ky.) Baptist Church, died April 30.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Mouser Mullins, and three children, William L., Shirley and Mary Ruth.

## Drexel Church Furnishings

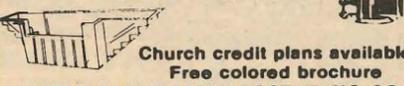
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## BUSES

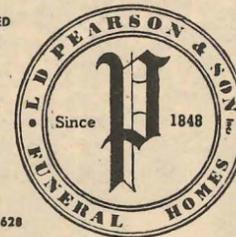
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Arnold Caddell 120 Main Street, Newport, Ky. 41071 606-581-1938

## Frank Owen

### Christian college

A great many young people are now deciding whether and where to attend college. Let me speak a word for our Baptist institutions. I believe a liberal arts education is at its best in a setting in which uninhibited religious teaching is part of the curriculum.

One cannot be fully educated whose learning has a vacuum where his religious education ought to be. Man is a spiritual being with an insatiable religious appetite that is sure to surface in some manner, sometime during his life. A well-poised, symmetrical person is balanced by healthy religion. In a pluralistic society, only a church-related school can be fully free to add the religious dimension to learning.

The church-related college is usually smaller. In smaller classes students are known by names. Relationships are closer, more personal. This smaller circle of learning often makes for greater development of personality. My son, John, four years pastor at Finchville (now moving to a new pastorate at Dent, Ohio) states that he "came alive" intellectually and awake spiritually in the small classes at Georgetown College after transferring (with high grades) from a large university.

Some people criticize Christian colleges because every utterance of every teacher is not pleasing to them. All the schools policies aren't satisfactory to them. We need to think this through. Far more policies and teachings are acceptable in an imperfect Christian college than in the general run of secular schools, which replace the Christian schools that fail through our non-support. We cannot demand perfect institutions, or faculties, or administrations. Nothing on earth is perfect. Earth's choices are not between the perfect and the imperfect, but between the worse and the better.

Go to one of our Baptist schools. At Campbellsville, Cumberland or Georgetown a Baptist student church member applying for matriculation for the first time can receive up to \$600 assistance. There are other possible resources. Prospective students may write me about our Matching Funds Scholarships. Do it before the July 31 deadline.

## Sunday School Lessons

H. C. Chiles

Lessons for July 2, 1978

### International Series

### Paul ministers through letters

Acts 18:1-4, 1 Thes. 2:1-2, 13-20

In his pioneer work as a missionary Paul concentrated on the centers of population. After establishing the work of the Lord in the urban centers, for the most part it was through others that the gospel was carried to the people in the surrounding areas.

From Athens, the city of culture and philosophy, Paul went to Corinth, the city of commerce, wealth, luxury and immorality. The shocking lack of spirituality in this wicked city afforded Paul a tremendous challenge and opportunity for an effective ministry for Christ. Fully intending to be self-supporting, Paul immediately sought a home and a job. He resided in the home of Aquila and Priscilla and with them worked at tentmaking.

On the week days Paul labored at his trade but on the Sabbath he went to the synagogue and boldly declared to the Jews that Jesus of Nazareth was their Messiah.

In spite of the terrible indignities and experiences to which Paul and Silas were subjected in Philippi, those faithful Christians remained undismayed. Even though they faced the possibility of being subjected to similar insult and injury in Thessalonica, they later journeyed there and were the first Christians to enter the city. Knowing

beyond a doubt that they were within God's will, and that God would preserve their lives through great dangers, Paul sought out the synagogue, accepted the invitation to address the assembled congregation, and proclaimed the teaching of the Old Testament to the effect that the Messiah would suffer, die, be buried and rise again.

In response to Paul's faithful proclamation of God's message to the Thessalonians, a number were regenerated and organized into a church. Satan and his followers hated the message that Paul proclaimed, and their wrath made it advisable for the apostle to leave the city. Writing to them for the purpose of encouraging them when they were subjected to numerous trials, Paul reminded them that his love for them had been genuine and that he had longed to return to them, but that Satan had prevented him from doing so. Paul let them know that should he be deprived of the privilege of being in their presence on earth again he would continue to rejoice in the blessed assurance of being with them in glory. Wonderful as it is to have fellowship with those whom we have introduced to Christ, while we are sojourning on this earth, it will be far more blessed when we shall dwell with them in our heavenly home.

### Life and Work Series

### A dynamic gospel

Colossians 1:1-14

A few years after the church was established in Colosse, false teachers disseminated unscriptural and erroneous doctrines among the members. Epaphras wisely concluded that he should go to Rome and consult with Paul about how to cope effectively with this heretical movement. His detailed report on the Colossian Christians was to their credit, but he reminded Paul that these false teachings would have a disastrous effect on the church if they were allowed to go unchecked.

Directed by the Holy Spirit, Paul wrote this epistle to counteract the teachings which were subversive to the Christian faith and dishonoring to Christ. After identifying himself, Paul added that he was "an apostle of Jesus Christ." He associated with his own name that of Timothy, his brother in Christ and loyal colleague in the Lord's work. Paul designated his readers as "the saints and faithful brethren in Christ." He rejoiced that the expression of grace on God's part had resulted in the enjoyment of peace on their part,

After commending them for the progress which

they had made in the Christian life, Paul thanked God for their faith in Christ, their love for all the saints, their hope for the future, and their effectiveness in disseminating the gospel. Paul paid Epaphras a high tribute when he called him "a faithful minister of Christ." Knowing that they could not do God's will unless they knew what it was, Paul prayed very definitely that they might be filled with a thorough knowledge of God's will for them.

Paul also prayed that their manner of life might conform to God's will. The knowledge and understanding of that will must issue in right conduct.

Moreover, Paul prayed that the Colossian Christians might be thankful to God. There are very few duties which the Bible enjoins in stronger terms than that of thankfulness.

In verses 12 to 14 Paul mentioned three things which should cause Christians to be thankful, namely, the portion which they have inherited, the power from which they have been delivered, and the price at which they have been redeemed.

# Mountains to the Mississippi

## Ordinations

Mt. Pisgah ordains deacons Ed Alton, Will Ed Nance and James Newton have been ordained deacons of the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Boaz. George F. Fournier is the Boaz pastor.

### Robert Proctor ordained

Robert Proctor was ordained to the ministry May 28 by Faith Baptist Church, Franklin Association. He was ordained at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, where he is pastor.

Vernon Mallow of Georgetown College brought the charges to the candidate and church. Robert G. Cook preached the sermon and Danny Collett prayed the ordination prayer.

## Revivals

### Revival at New Zion church

Three professions of faith and three public rededications were reported in revival services at New Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Irvine Association.

### Hillsdale reports 36 decisions

Hillsdale Baptist Church of Louisville, Robert Holland, pastor, experienced a recent revival with 36 decisions including 14 additions to the church.

## Congregations

### Note burning at Warsaw

Warsaw (Ky.) Baptist Church held a note burning service June 18 to indicate the church is free of debt after 28 months in its new building.

The former church building was destroyed by fire in November 1973. The new building was completed in January 1976.

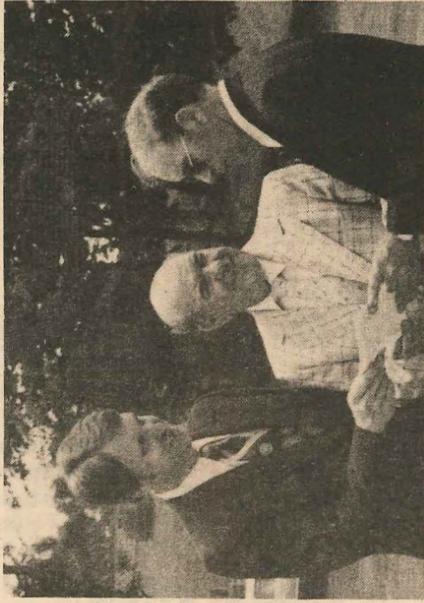
The total cost of the building and furnishings was \$275,000 and the church assumed a debt of \$51,700 when it entered the new structure.

Not only was the debt retired but during the same period Warsaw's mission giving increased, a full time housekeeper was employed and pastor Robert E. Morris' salary was raised.

### Clifton licenses Carl Williams

On recommendation of the deacons, Clifton Baptist Church, Louisville, voted in business meeting May 31 to license Carl P. Williams to the ministry.

He is the youngest son of pastor and Mrs. Robert O. Williams. He is a student at Cumberland College and is a Home Mission Board summer missionary in Hancock, Md., this summer.



**Great Crossing pastor Henry Walters (r) and two former pastors, David Dunn (l) and Frank Rhodus, confer on order of worship for 193rd anniversary services June 4. Dunn is now pastor in Clarksville, Ind., and Rhodus is retired and living in Carrollton.**

### Bible Venture meetings slated

The success of the Bible Venture Campaign pilot project in Northern Kentucky Association has prompted the state Sunday School Department to sponsor two Bible Venture interpretations in Kentucky.

Associational Sunday school directors, directors of missions, pastors and other interested persons are invited.

Kenneth Dean from the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville will lead the interpretation. James Rennell of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Sunday School Department will assist him.

The meetings will be held at Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, July 6 and First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, July 10. Both start at 1 p.m. and will conclude around 3 p.m.

## Missions

### Five Kentuckians in Sojourner program

Five Kentuckians are serving this summer as volunteers under the Home Mission Board's Sojourner program which gives young people missions experience. Participants must be 25 or younger and must have completed their junior or senior year in high school.

The five are Jeffrey Lee Minor, Oneida; Leigh Ann Miller, Ekron; Kernie Dean Miller, Feds Creek; Donna Jean Lanham, Louisville; and Cynthia Hope Carwile, Louisville.

The two Millers will serve in Ohio; Minor and Miss Lanham in Oklahoma; and Miss Carwile in Indiana.

# SBC Atlanta 1978

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