

## Stanley reelected, peace move begins

by Stan Hasteley

Southern Baptists in record-shattering numbers poured into Dallas poised for battle and left scarred but with a sliver of hope that peace between warring conservatives and moderates may yet salvage the nation's largest Protestant denomination from self destruction.

A record 45,431 messengers crowded three halls at Dallas' cavernous Convention Center to reelect its controversial conservative president to a second one-year term, elected his opponent and a second moderate as vice presidents and created a peace committee that will attempt over the next year to find reasons for and solutions to the crisis that threatens to divide the 140-year-old Southern Baptist Convention.

The unprecedented crush of messengers virtually doubled the previous record attendance of 22,872, set in Atlanta in 1978. For weeks attendance had been anticipated to pass the Atlanta mark, but the huge turnout took convention planners by surprise.

Charles F. Stanley, 53, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta, was elected to the customary second term only after withstanding a serious challenge from moderate contender W. Winfred Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex., on a record vote of 24,453 (55.3 percent) to 19,795 (44.7 percent). Even in losing, Moore received more votes than any previous winner in SBC history had garnered.

Moore's challenge came after months of intense campaigning by both sides in a bitter dispute that dates at least to 1979 and the election of the first of four consecutive conservative presidents.

Although the vote for president amounted to high drama, the most electrifying moment of the convention came a few minutes after Stanley's convincing but closer than expected victory was announced.

Messenger Raymond F. Allen, pastor of Blacksburg [Va.] Baptist Church, stepped to the podium to nominate Moore for first vice president but without the surprised 65-year-old pastor's knowledge or consent.

Visibly confused, Moore was sum-

moned to the platform by the equally surprised Stanley to say if he would serve if elected. At the podium Moore turned to Stanley and replied, "Let me ask, Are you asking me that?"

Although Stanley did not respond, he smiled broadly and Moore declared his willingness to serve.

Moore overwhelmed incumbent conservative first vice president Zig Ziglar, a motivational speaker from Dallas, 22,791 to 10,957.

A third candidate, attorney Henry Huff of Louisville—a moderate—was elected second vice president over conservative W. O. Vaught, a retired pastor from Little Rock, Ark.

Stanley's election came amid predictions he would be returned to office with a smashing victory, especially following the Atlanta pastor's stirring appeal for Christian forgiveness, love and humility in a presidential address three hours before the voting.

Another factor at play in the presidential contest arose when evangelist Billy Graham, a Southern Baptist, had an associate send Stanley a message of support. Some moderates expressed the view the Graham endorsement might have been decisive.

Later, at a news conference, Stanley continued to talk of reconciliation but refused to say if he will consult more fully with Moore and Huff than he did during the past year with moderate second vice president Donald V. Wideman, a North Kansas City, Mo. pastor. Stanley did say he would like to use Moore on the speaking circuit.

At a separate news conference Moore insisted he will seek to work with Stanley, and declared, "I really am convinced we're seeing a unity we've not seen in our convention in several years."

But Moore's bright portrayal of a first day's developments that seemed to offer something to both sides changed dramatically Wednesday as new controversy loomed.

Although a potentially explosive moment had passed Tuesday afternoon when the convention adopted without serious challenge a slate of trustees for seminaries and agencies brought by the committee on boards, Stanley's committee on committee's report ignited the convention's most volatile discussions.

Moderates led by Richmond, Va. pastor James Slatton sought to replace the committee on committees' entire slate of nominees to the committee on boards charged with filling trustee slots for approval at next year's meeting in Atlanta. After Stanley ruled that persons nominated from the floor must be considered one by one, messengers overturned the ruling in the convention's closest vote, 12,576 to 11,801.

The challenge of the key committee's choices was the first ever made, although in recent years moderates have, with mixed success, challenged some proposed trustees. Slatton's action struck at the heart of the conservative-moderate division in that it represented a frontal assault on a sitting president's primary prerogative.

Six years ago conservatives led by Houston appeals court judge Paul Pressler and Criswell Center for Biblical Studies president Paige Patterson announced a 10-year plan to take control of the denomination's seminaries



BRING US TOGETHER—Architects of a potential healing within the troubled Southern Baptist Convention are [l-r] newly elected first vice president W. Winfred Moore of Amarillo, Tex. and president Charles Stanley of Atlanta, Ga.

and agencies by electing a succession of conservative presidents whose committees on committees would nominate biblical inerrantists to committees on boards. Those, in turn, would nominate conservative trustees.

The narrow vote overturning Stanley's ruling, which came at the end of Wednesday morning's session, was followed that evening by an extended, bitter debate, when Stanley announced his three parliamentarians had decided the only way to challenge the committee on committees' report was to reject it outright.

Messengers then approved the committee report 13,123 to 9851. But the vote itself raised more questions, as SBC registration secretary Lee Porter said he had received "numerous" reports that surplus ballots were distributed outside the convention center before the session opened.

Slatton argued without success that challenges from the floor should be allowed, but chief parliamentarian Wayne Allen of Memphis, supported by Stanley, insisted the decision was final. The Virginia pastor's challenge would have substituted state convention presidents and state Woman's Missionary Union presidents for the committee's nominations.

Frustration and anger carried over to Thursday's final day deliberations as moderates repeatedly took to microphones on the convention floor to challenge what they considered Stanley's heavy-handed tactics.

The flood of protests subsided only after messengers agreed to a motion by former SBC first vice president John P. Sullivan of Shreveport, La., seconded by Moore, to end all challenges to the chair concerning the controversial committee recommendation. Reports from the floor indicate many moderates then streamed out of the hall.

Earlier, messengers overwhelmingly approved a peace plan proposed by

state convention presidents and a handful of other prominent Southern Baptists.

The plan creates a committee of 22 persons—20 men and two women—to look into the roots of the denomination's ongoing division and propose solutions leading to reconciliation.

Both Stanley and Moore were named ex-officio members "with full (voting) rights." The committee is composed of roughly equal numbers of conservatives and moderates, with several others uncommitted.

Named chairman of the peace panel was Charles G. Fuller, pastor of First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va., considered uncommitted in the battle. Fuller also preached this year's convention sermon, a low key message urging reconciliation in the strife-torn denomination.

The two women, Jodi Chapman of Wichita Falls, Tex., and Christine Gregory of Danville, Va., illustrate the committee's balance. Mrs. Chapman is the wife of leading conservative Morris Chapman, while Mrs. Gregory, a former first vice president, is an outspoken moderate.

The committee was authorized for a possible two years, with the provision that it bring at least an interim report next year to the Atlanta convention. If it chooses, the committee may present a final report then.

Besides the motion setting up the peace committee, the convention handled numerous other motions, many by referral. Among matters disposed of on the floor, one called for a Wednesday evening offering for the hungry. It yielded \$77,428.

Messengers also named former SBC president Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., preacher of next year's convention sermon in Atlanta. Dates for next year's meeting are June 10-12. (BP)

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# sanford's perspectives



Jack D. Sanford

## Push and shove

It was just that, push and shove, at the Dallas Convention Center last Tuesday for the opening session of the Southern Baptist Convention. Yet the push and shove had a certain grace and charm as most of the messengers tried to be on their best behavior.

That was quite an accomplishment, considering every space in the vast, cavernous convention complex had been filled by the 45,049 registered messengers by election time.

There was standing room only in every conceivable place, including all the rest rooms. In fact, one man stood in line for 15 minutes before he discovered he was in line for a ladies' restroom.

When the moment came for the eagerly anticipated election for president the pushing and shoving stopped and all attention focused on the two candidates, incumbent Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga., and challenger Winfred Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex.

When the 44,248 acceptable ballots were tabulated, Stanley had received 24,453 or 55.3 percent, Moore had received 19,705 or 44.7 percent, and many observers sensed an inerrantist field day.

Stanley won, but not by the landslide margin predicted by his supporters before the election. His victory does mean the inerrantists are still in control of the appointive process of key committees in the convention. The margin of victory does mean that the moderates are still a force to contend with in the days ahead.

The contest for first vice president presented Zig Ziglar as the inerrantist choice against Louisville layman Henry B. Huff, a moderate candidate.

In a surprise move, Blacksburg, Va. pastor Ray Allen nominated the just defeated presidential candidate Winfred Moore for first vice president. When the vote was tabulated Moore had received 22,791 votes to defeat Ziglar and Huff.

On Wednesday morning Kentuckian Huff, once again placed in nomination by T. L. McSwain, pastor of Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville, won a runoff election with W. O. Vaught, retired pastor from Little Rock, Ark., for second vice president. Huff received 9302 votes or 55.9 percent while Vaught received 7334 or 44.1 percent of the votes cast.

Thus the top level lineup appears to be a victory of sorts for both sides in the continuing controversy among Southern Baptists. The inerrantists got their man in the top spot with the election of Stanley as president. The moderates got their man in the second spot with the election of Moore as the first vice president. The third spot, held by Huff, gives moderates two of the three main officers of the convention for the coming year.

With this lineup of officers it appears the stage is set for a true movement toward peace in the convention. Peace and reconciliation is possible if the elected officers, representing as they do the full spectrum of opinion among Southern Baptists, can work together

in the kind of give-and-take which best characterizes Southern Baptists.

In news conferences following their elections, both Stanley and Moore declared their intention to work with each other to bring healing, peace and unity to the troubled denomination. Thousands of messengers from every section of our convention are praying fervently for peace under the leadership of these elected officers.

When the presidential elections were concluded, the push and shove was noticeably reduced as thousands of messengers, who apparently came to Dallas only to vote for their presidential candidate, went home. The vote for second vice president on Wednesday morning produced only 16,636 votes, a far cry from the more than 44,000 votes cast for presidential candidates the day before.

The gloom and doom predictions heard following last year's Kansas City convention are not in evidence this year. Not everyone is pleased with what happened in Dallas. Nor did everyone get his wishes. However, it appears that more balance was achieved this year than many people had expected.

The election of a peace committee (see page seven this issue) is a positive sign that most Southern Baptists are ready to stop the fighting, get our house in order and get on with winning people to Christ.

The peace committee gives hope to this observer, and that is the attitude I discovered among the Kentuckians with whom I talked in the corridors of the convention center last week. We are weary of the squabbling, name calling and attacks which we have witnessed for the past few years. All of our work has suffered and the world sees us as fools, not the wise children of a loving God.

The best hope for a calm, deliberate approach to the very real problems we have in the SBC is in the balance among the top leaders and the peace committee representing a broad spectrum of opinion on all sides of the controversies.

If this peace committee and the newly elected leaders do not move us toward peace and reconciliation, then hope fades.

The responsibility now resting on all of us, most especially the press, elected agency and institution heads and seminary and college professors is to lower the level of rhetoric, pray for wisdom divorced from personal bias and act out our faith in a deliberate attempt to live the Christ life in relation to our brothers and sisters in Christ. If those of us who are charged with leadership and responsibility do not rise to the challenge for peace now, we are guilty of dereliction of duty, a sin before God.

I came away from Dallas encouraged and hopeful. I will pray for the peace committee, the elected leaders of the convention and those persons who have been most vocal in the debates and discussions of the past. If millions of us support the leaders and the peace committee with prayer, then surely the Lord will hear from heaven and heal our land.

## 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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# Kentuckians frustrated by parliamentary moves

by Patrick Cole, Staff Writer

A stormy Wednesday evening business session changed the minds of many Kentuckians attending the Southern Baptist Convention concerning the prospect for harmony.

Messengers interviewed after the Wednesday night session disliked president Charles Stanley's ruling concerning the substitution of candidates for the Committee on Boards. Stanley ruled that substitutions could not be made on the Committee on Boards.

He maintained the convention only had the right to reject or accept the Committee on Committees' recommendation. He ruled all nominations for the Committee on Boards must come through the Committee on Committees.

Messengers also complained the chair continually ignored requests of messengers to be heard from the floor.

Prior to the Wednesday night session, messengers were generally optimistic about the possibility of reconciliation.

Ray England, pastor of First Baptist Church, Winchester, was one of those disappointed with the Wednesday night session.

"I believe there has been lots of words about reconciliation. In light of the way things were handled there has been little action. Parliamentary procedures, response to the people on the floor all indicate an agenda has been followed."

Jack Buchanan, also a messenger from Winchester First Baptist, was attending his first Southern Baptist Convention.

Buchanan declared, "It will not be our last." He was "impressed" with some of the convention's services, but disgruntled with the parliamentary procedures of Wednesday night. "I am deeply concerned about the preset, predetermined, parliamentary decision even before a motion was presented or action proposed from the floor."

Yet Buchanan maintains he is "optimistic" for eventual harmony. He pledged to work for "greater lay involvement."

Dianne Wilson, a member of Immanuel Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, was pleased with the election of Winfred Moore as first vice president, seeing in it a sign of peace.

However, her optimism was "colored" by the actions at the Wednesday night business session.

"We wondered if there was manipulation at the way it was conducted," she said.

Daniel Aleshire, associate pastor of Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, also changed his mind about the convention following the Wednesday night session.

"It was changed because the fair, democratic process was aborted," he charged. "I also understood Baptists understand God speaks through the will of the people."

He continued, "The parliamentary decision made kept the people from making a straightforward, honest appraisal of the issue and voting on the issue."

"I'm trying to figure out which Charles Stanley to believe—the one who preaches love and forgiveness or the one who chaired the meeting with little justice and little kindness," he quizzed.

Wayne Hayes, pastor of Cave City (Ky.) Baptist Church, said he observed "positive signs" in the convention but

he too detected unfairness in the Wednesday evening business session.

"I felt when the chair had been overruled in the afternoon (by convention vote) some folks caucused around and it was a power play."

James Hatter, a deacon at Sulphur Spring Baptist Church, Franklin, said, "I've been really impressed with it. Up till yesterday (Wednesday) everything

went smooth."

He added, "It seems as if they tried to rush things through and do it their way and not the people's way."

People commenting before Wednesday evening often mentioned the election of Moore to the first vice president as helping to bring healing to the convention.

John Watts, pastor of Beech Grove

## Convention impressions

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

**WHEN NOBODY WINS.** There were numerous tales of foulups and shortchanges in several forms as a result of the tremendous crush of humanity in Dallas. Eating places often appeared woefully understaffed. We observed less than pleasant scenes when Baptists became impatient with the slow service. Waiters and waitresses took the brunt of it but one wondered why management had not adequately prepared for the multi thousands the media had told them were coming. It was a no-win situation for all. Two Virginia messengers arrived from the airport at a downtown hotel on a 98-degree afternoon with five suitcases between them and no transportation only to find the hotel had never heard of them. Their printed room confirmation from the housing bureau was worthless. Their nightmare turned into daily frustration as they commuted from a motel many miles out, paying as much as \$25 for a one-way taxi ride. Unfortunately, theirs was not an isolated case.

**BIG BUSINESS.** For many years we have reported that "never have so many spent so much for so little." It was the same in Dallas, only higher prices prevailed and significantly more people paid the bills. In the convention hall one could buy a pack of gum for 60 cents, a canned soft drink for 75 cents, a glass of tea for a dollar and a cheese sandwich for \$3.75. Rooms in downtown hotels approached [and often exceeded] \$100 daily. A Dallas newspaper early in the week noted that if 30,000 Baptists showed up the city could comfortably expect to reap \$8-\$10 million in profits. By the end, at least 60,000 came—nearly three times the attendance at last year's Republican convention in the same locale. Any way you slice it, Baptist conventions are some of the biggest [and most profitable] in America today.

**SOMETHING FOR ALL.** Everybody could leave Dallas, it seemed, having gained something. For the fundamentalists, there was the reelection of Charles Stanley of Atlanta, Ga. as president. The moderates pulled the biggest upsets, defeating strong favorites for both vice presidencies. W. Winfred Moore of Amarillo, Tex., who lost to Stanley for president, beat back Dallas fundamentalist Zig Ziglar's attempt for reelection as first vice president by garnering two-thirds of the vote, the single greatest victory among the top three offices. Having eliminated four other candidates, Henry B. Huff, Louisville lawyer and staunch moderate, handily defeated more widely known archconservative W. O. Vaught of Little Rock, Ark. for second vice president. Finally, there was a third group of "winners" in Dallas—the rest

of us. Moore and Stanley pledged cooperation. Moore declared he hoped "the six year war is over." Perhaps the best thing to come from it is the designation of a peace committee. Its purpose is to "determine the sources of the controversies" and "make recommendations" in order for the denomination to "effect reconciliation." If that results, the 1985 convention may be remembered favorably by Baptist historians for ages. And who wouldn't say "the most prayed over" meeting in our history didn't reach its ultimate goals?

**WASTED MOTIONS:** It appeared to the possibly 60,000 messengers, alternates, visitors and observers at this convention that two of the least popular motions offered suggested increasing the number of allowable messengers from each church. One suggestion was that we begin with an automatic quantity of 10, and congregation size and Cooperative Program gifts might double that number. Could you imagine 90,000-plus messengers? The folks in Dallas couldn't, either.

**LANGUAGE BARRIERS:** The SBC press room staff desperately tries to get printed copies of appropriate Baptist terminology in the hands of all reporters covering the convention every year. While most secular news people do their best to honor Baptist traditions, some novices, plus caption and headline writers and copy editors back at newspaper offices, never get the word. Hence, we have misnomers creeping into daily copy, to wit, this line from The Dallas Morning News: "A total of 45,049 voting 'messengers'—the church's term for delegates—registered." We were properly identified as messengers, but the problem intensified by calling us the "church." On the same day, a Houston Chronicle reporter referred to "the Southern Baptist Conference." Shades of Methodism? More than one photo in the Dallas Times-Herald mentioned Baptist "delegates" in the cutlines. The reporters themselves could not be held blameless in sloppy identifications of Kentuckian Henry Huff as newly elected second vice president. They received his name correctly in perhaps a half-dozen news releases. The Dallas Times-Herald called him "Henry Hough" while in The Dallas Morning News on two consecutive days he was "Howard B. Huff." It's an ongoing educational process for secular news people at every convention, a battle Baptist wordsmiths will never fully win.

**NO HUMOR.** Introducing former presidents to the convention, Charles Stanley said he asked them earlier at a dinner for former SBC presidents to tell something funny that happened while they were president. He replied that they all said "Nothing." And we thought that was only a modern trend.

Baptist Church, Perryville, said he was "impressed" with the spirit of cooperation.

"I think there was unity there," he observed. Concerning the future of the SBC he predicted, "I think we can look forward to a great future in the Southern Baptist Convention. By no means should we throw up our hands but we should praise God for it (the convention)."

Margie Manakee, a member of Louisville's Hillview Baptist Church, said, "I thought people controled themselves well. I didn't see anybody antagonistic."

"My impression is after Winfred Moore was asked to be vice president things began to level off."

She believes Moore and SBC president Charles Stanley can "work together."

Delores Dunaway, also a member of Hillview, agreed that the election of Moore was a "turning point."

"I felt the Lord's hand was in it (Moore's election) because the fellow who nominated him had never done anything like it before and had never thought of it."

Steve Spencer, pastor of Worthville (Ky.) Baptist Church, commented, "I thought there was a whole lot of diversity but yet through the elections and things, especially Moore being first vice president, there seemed to be a pretty good expression of a willingness toward unity."

Spencer said he doesn't believe there will ever be "100 percent unity" but he is "hopeful we will be able to accept each other with our differences."

Ken Morgan, pastor of Sorgho Baptist Church, Owensboro, said, "I feel like it had a good spirit of cooperation if it's not superficial. I think it was a great move on Moore's part to accept first vice president."

Morgan believes the size of the convention demands that the denomination consider alternative ways of doing its annual business. "The vastness of our organization has outgrown its methodology of doing things. Because of our growth communication (between messengers and officers) is lacking."

T. L. McSwain, pastor of Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville, said, "I feel the time has come to move back together and move ahead with Bold Mission Thrust, loving, trusting and accepting one another."

McSwain also cited the election of Moore as being from God. "I believe it was of the Lord that this man from Virginia did what he did, and I think it will help bring the healing we need."

McSwain nominated Henry Huff who was elected second vice president. Huff, a Louisville attorney, defeated W. O. Vaught, retired pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark., in a runoff election.

Jim Carpenter, pastor of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Nicholasville, observed a movement toward peace. "It looks like the foundation of peace is there. We've got to start trusting and give it a chance. I feel pleased with the situation."

Jeff Day, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, believes opposing factions can find common ground in the denomination's missions and evangelism programs.

"Those I've met at the Southern Baptist Convention want to do missions and evangelism. But there is a variety of ways to reach people. My hope has been restored that we will do it and we will do it cooperatively."

## Convention reports

### CP budget is same— \$130 million—in '86

Messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention adopted a \$130 million Cooperative Program budget for 1985-86 to finance the denomination's multiple programs of missions, education and other ministries.

The \$130 million budget is the same as the current 1984-85 budget, an effort to bring Cooperative Program budget and Cooperative Program receipts into closer harmony.

Executive Committee members were told that Cooperative Program receipts for the first six months of the 1984-85 year stood at \$58.1 million, more than \$4 million ahead of the same period for last year. The total, however, is 10.6 percent short of the total allocation budget and 1.5 percent short of the basic operating budget.

The two major budgets in the budget adopted for 1985-86 are the basic operating budget of \$120,600,000 and a capital needs budget of more than \$7.8 million. Almost \$84 million of the basic operating budget is allocated for the Foreign and Home Mission boards. Another \$24.7 million is divided among the denomination's six seminaries.

Also, in some "housekeeping" matters, messengers approved amendments to the charters of several SBC agencies and changes in terminology in two articles of the SBC Constitution. Atlanta was approved as the site for the 1991 meeting of the SBC. The dates are June 4-6. (BP)

### Billy Graham endorses Stanley for president

Billy Graham's press representative verified Tuesday that a telegram had been sent endorsing Charles Stanley for reelection as Southern Baptist Convention president.

Don Bailey, press representative on Graham's Minneapolis, Minn., staff, said he had been able to verify "through the office" that T. W. Wilson did send the telegram to Charles Stanley June 5.

The telegram read as follows:

"Billy Graham read me from Europe. He said, 'Do me a favor. I want you to call Charles Stanley and tell him that I will be praying for him during the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas. Tell him that if I could be there I would vote for him.' God bless you and our great country. We will be praying for you though we ourselves will be in England for a crusade.

"Sincerely, T. W. Wilson, associate to Billy Graham."

Asked why Graham had decided to endorse Stanley when he previously had said he would not get involved in the conflict, Bailey said he had no information on why Graham changed his mind. (BP)

### God will rebuke those who forsake love

Southern Baptist women heard two days of pleas to maintain their "First Love" and warnings that they face a rebuke from God if they forsake it.

More than 2000 participants explored the "First Love" theme in four sessions in the Dallas Convention Center Arena at the 97th annual meeting of Woman's

Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention.

In business sessions they reelected Dorothy E. Sample of Flint, Mich. as national president of the 1.1-million-member women's auxiliary and Betty Gilreath of Charlotte, N. C. as recording secretary.

Several speakers cited biblical references to how God threatened to withdraw from the Ephesian Christians unless they repented and returned to the "First Love" they had forsaken—the love of Jesus Christ which overflows in missions.

"Southern Baptists may be earning the same rebuke," Mrs. Sample warned. "We're intensely busy and perhaps tensely concerned about the condition of the denomination. Are we in danger of falling from the lofty ideal of our First Love?"

"Perhaps leaving their First Love also included lack of love for their brothers and sisters," WMU executive director Carolyn Weatherford said of the Ephesian Christians.

William M. Pinson Jr. of Dallas, general director of the Baptist Executive Convention of Texas, said many careful students of the scriptures believe the zeal of the Ephesians to ferret out the false apostles and to maintain the right doctrine caused them to develop an unloving spirit.

"The history of the Christian movement demonstrates that disputes over methodology, doctrine and ecclesiastical structure result in diminishing evangelistic and missionary zeal. Love and truth, he said, must go together.

"Repent of what we have said or done that undermines missions," Pinson urged. "Repent of letting our love for Christ grow cool. Repent of majoring on how we differ instead of on how we agree. Repent of permitting any belief, attitude or spirit contrary to Christ to lodge in our hearts and minds."

A Baptist pastor from Louisville drew a standing ovation as he challenged Southern Baptists "to lift up Jesus Christ, not moderates or conservatives or liberals or fundamentalists."

"Don't defend the Bible, do it," urged Michael Elliott, pastor director of Jefferson Street Baptist Center. "If we did the Bible, it wouldn't need defending."

Fundamentalists and moderates, he said, can work side by side in reaching out to the homeless and the lost. (BP)

### Self warns takeover larger than individuals

Five Southern Baptists representing Southern Baptist Convention agencies, universities and local churches addressed a variety of issues including convention political activity, soul competency and integrity in preaching at the second annual SBC Forum Monday at the Dallas Convention Center.

More than 5000 attended the meeting, more than doubling last year's attendance of 2000. The Forum was developed as an alternative for clergymen to the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference which attracted about 20,000.

William L. Self, pastor of Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga., drew the longest standing ovation when he claimed that he believes "we're not dealing at this convention with who's going to be our next presiding officer. We're dealing with bigger issues and larger issues than that.

"I firmly believe that we're dealing with some kind of coalition between certain political groups and certain religious groups, because the political groups want access to the resources of our convention."

He estimated that the SBC has \$2 billion of net worth of institutions at stake, and he warned that "there may not be anything there" if the coalition is allowed to take control.

### Neo-orthodoxy could kill SBC, Criswell says

Southern Baptist pastors packed the 20,000-seat Dallas Convention Center to give a Texas-sized finale to the largest Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference in their 50-year history.

Their heroes were obvious in orations given to the patriarch pastor of Southern Baptist conservatism, W. A. Criswell, pastor of Dallas' First Baptist Church, and to Southern Baptist Convention president Charles Stanley of Atlanta.

Outgoing pastor president O. S. Hawkins of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., estimated there "may have been 25,000" at the final session. He said he was counting people who had to stand around the wall.

Fourteen speakers and uncounted musicians helped focus attention on the theme, "Tracing the Rainbow Through the Rain . . . Preaching the Precious Promises."

In a message which he said he'd given more preparation to than any he'd ever delivered, Criswell, the silver-haired pastor of Southern Baptists' largest congregation (26,000), traced a pattern of decline he said had befallen victims of neo-orthodoxy and German higher biblical criticism.

This pattern led to the downfall of British Baptists and the centuring of Charles Hadden Spurgeon, Criswell said. He said there's a lesson in this for Southern Baptists.

"Whether we continue to live or ultimately die lies in our dedication to the infallible word of God," Criswell said. (BP)

### Religious educators look at ministry trends

The Southern Baptist Religious Education Association voted in a two day meeting to establish an endowment of \$150,000 by 1990 and members looked at past, present and future trends to prepare them better for service in their particular ministries.

A record registration of 604, almost double the previous record, voted for the \$150,000 endowment to support the association and to educate Southern Baptists about the issues facing ministers in educational areas.

During the meeting participants heard Will Beal, consultant, Church Administration Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, report that ministers of education are moving away from the day when they were known as announcers and to a day they are known as planners and educators essential to the conceptualization of ministries in the church. Beal said ministers of education have an improved image, better salaries with increased benefits.

But, Beal warned educators not to

"isolate yourselves from your congregations and peers. If you do, you may destroy the minister of education's servant role and may become deserters from your original call."

In a message titled "From Whence We Came," William B. Rogers Jr., dean, School of Christian Education, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, outlined the four recognized traditions in Southern Baptist educational life and warned the educators against having a "separates and isolationists mentality that has characterized us (Southern Baptists) in too many periods." Rogers told the group they needed to know "From Whence We Came" and needed to know "Where We Are" and about "Where We Go" to provide stability. (BP)

### Peace committee named by state presidents

Saying they saw a yearning for peace and healing in the Southern Baptist Convention, presidents of 37 Baptist state conventions, June 10 came up with a 10-point peace plan including nominations for an 18-member committee to study the issues involved and make recommendations to solve the problems.

The motion, including names of 18 men to comprise the "peace committee," was made June 11.

The proposal has the support of current SBC president Charles Stanley of Atlanta and all 37 presidents of the state conventions, including Texas Convention president Winfred Moore of Amarillo, Tex., who was nominated to oppose Stanley.

The 18-member committee will "seek to determine the sources of the controversies in our congregation, make findings and recommendations concerning these controversies so that Southern Baptists might effect reconciliation."

The proposal calls for the committee to report its recommendations to the 1986 convention in Atlanta, or to bring a preliminary report in 1986 and a final report and recommendations in 1987.

Charles Connering, an attorney from Laurel, Miss., conceded there was not unanimity among the state convention presidents on who should be named to the peace committee, but there was unanimous agreement that the 18 men suggested were broadly representative.

Four laymen and no women were nominated for membership on the committee. When asked why no women were suggested, Bill Hickem, president of the Florida Baptist Convention, said that women have been involved deeply in the work of the convention but have not been highly visible. The nominees went to those who were more highly visible, he said. (BP)

### 'Don't make Bible your God,' musicians told

Declaring that "God has given to us the dignity and danger of decision," Frank Pollard, president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Cal., warned his fellow Southern Baptists against making the Bible their God during the final session of the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference.

"I believe the Bible is everything it says it is," said Pollard, addressing close to 1500 church musicians and guests at First Baptist Church, Dallas.

"I am an inerrantist. I believe in the verbal, plenary inspiration of scripture. I believe the Bible is the word of God, but it is not God.

"Jesus Christ is the Word of God with a capital 'W,'" he said. "We need to be lifting up the Lord Jesus Christ."

Pollard challenged the church musicians and guests to emulate the servant leadership model and catch the evangelistic, missionary vision of the apostles.

"They (the apostles) did not offer a creed. They offered Christ," he said. "They did not offer rules. They offered a relationship. They shared Christ with their world, and we must share our Lord Christ."

Music conference officers installed were Harry Cowen, minister of music at First Baptist Church, New Orleans, La., president; Hugh McElrath, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, president-elect; Mary June Tabor, associate music secretary, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, secretary-treasurer; Wade Davis, Church Music Department, Baptist Convention of Georgia, vice president of denominational division; Susan M. Clark, minister of music, Oakdale Baptist Church, Brandon, Miss., vice president of local church division; and A. L. "Pete" Butler, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., vice president of music educators division. (BP)

## Winfred Moore elected first vice president

W. Winfred Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex., was elected first vice president of the 14.3-million member Southern Baptist Convention Tuesday afternoon at the Dallas Convention Center.

Moore took more than two-thirds of the total vote in defeating two laymen, Zig Ziglar of Dallas, the incumbent first vice president, and Henry Huff of Louisville.

Earlier Tuesday, Moore lost a bid for the presidency of the denomination to incumbent Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta, who pulled 55 percent of the votes.

The official vote for first vice president was Moore, 22,791; Ziglar, 10,957, and Huff, 301. (BP)

## DOMs urged to be dreamers

The importance of planning, quality programs, action, Christian retirement plans and retirement was emphasized during a two-day meeting of 310 directors of associational missions. William Pinson, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, issued the call for action.

Reminding that dreams have played a central role in the history of the Christian church and Southern Baptists, Pinson cited efforts of early Baptist leaders such as Luther Rice saying, "We are what we are today as Southern Baptists because of dreamers of the past." But Pinson warned the directors of missions that a dream can become a nightmare if nothing is done with it.

"Only those who persist will see their dreams come true. 'Don't let your dreams become nightmares. Live them out in the spirit and will of God,'" he urged.

The directors of missions previewed a

new church retirement plan offered by the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, Dallas, and were asked by board officials to encourage churches in their associations to adopt the program.

Annuity Board officials said the expanded plan will provide for more adequate contributions, raise the level of benefits, include all ministers and lay personnel and double the state convention's contribution.

The church or association will match the participants' contributions two-for-one, up to 10 percent of base pay. Baptist state conventions will match one-half of the contribution of churches or associations up to \$420 each year. The plan must be adopted by churches and associations by the end of 1987. It will become effective Jan. 1, 1988. (BP)

## Committee on boards nominations approved

Messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention beat down two attempts to replace trustee nominees from the Committee on Boards Tuesday afternoon and then voted overwhelmingly to accept the committee's entire slate of 243 nominees.

Preston Callison, a deacon at First Baptist Church, Columbia, S. C., was nominated as a substitute for William Dial Delahoyde, Raleigh, N. C., on the list of trustee nominees for Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.

Delahoyde, assistant U. S. attorney for the eastern district of North Carolina, will be the third person from the U. S. attorney's office in Raleigh serving as a trustee of one of the SBC institutions.

This argument was not used, however, in the alternate nomination. Instead, it was argued that South Carolina lies within the 300-mile radius of the seminary from which "local" trustees are chosen, yet it has no local representatives on the Southeastern board. In a hand vote two-thirds voted against allowing the substitute nomination of Callison.

William Leathers III, pastor of First Baptist Church, Rockingham, N. C., was nominated as a substitute trustee nominee for Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, but he was rejected by a 60 to 40 percent vote.

Messengers upheld the original nomination of Gerald C. Primm, pastor of Eller Memorial Baptist Church, Greensboro, N. C.

An expected move to renominate Jerry Gilmore, a Dallas attorney who has served as chairman of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, did not materialize. Gilmore, a member of Cliff Temple Baptist Church, was eligible for a second four-year term. But the committee said questions were raised about Gilmore's wife, Martha, who is an ordained Methodist minister. (BP)

## Women ministers urged to continue pilgrimage

The third annual Women In Ministry conference continued its rapid growth, doubling its attendance over the 1984 meeting in Kansas City. About 350 people registered for this year's meeting, one of several held before the June 11-13 Southern Baptist Convention.

Some 500 people, including about 100 men, attended the Sunday morning

worship service, where Molly Marshall-Green, assistant professor of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and interim pastor at Deer Park Baptist Church, Louisville, preached.

Several women attending the conference said this conference provides reaffirmation and fellowship so often missing in their day-to-day lives.

"This meeting affirmed what I have felt for about seven years concerning my call into the ministry. This meeting came at a time when I am finishing my seminary work and am going out to 'sing my song' and find a place of ministry. This has given me great hope and encouragement," said Jann Clanton of Waco, Tex.

Following the theme "Voices of Hope from the Exile," speakers encouraged women to continue on their pilgrimage despite the struggles.

New steering committee members elected to serve two-year terms were Elizabeth Barnes, Cary, N. C.; Elizabeth Smith Bellinger, Waco, Tex.; Debra Harless, Indianapolis, Ind.; Diane Eubanks Hill, Durham, N. C.; Meredith Neill, Greensboro, N. C.; Deborah Whisnand Stinson, Houston, Tex.; Susan Lockwood Wright, Chicago, Ill.; and Karen Mitchum, Brandenburg, Ky. (BP)

## Stanley asks SBC to forgive, love

Southern Baptist Convention president Charles Stanley of Atlanta, Ga. challenged Southern Baptists to put denominational strife behind them and show a watching world that the message of love and forgiveness they proclaim is an authentic one.

Stanley, seeking reelection to a second one-year term as SBC president, issued the challenge to more than 44,000 SBC messengers a few hours before presidential balloting was scheduled to get underway.

The messengers interrupted Stanley's address several times with applause as he urged healing of differences—although he didn't specifically refer to charges so-called conservatives and moderates have hurled back and forth in the SBC's theo-political strife over a variety of issues.

Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church and television evangelist, likened the 14.3-million member SBC to a large family and said all families, large or small, have hurts and must seek to heal them. The healing, he said, must grow out of a willingness to forgive as Jesus Christ forgave, accompanied by a commitment to love other persons and to show a spirit of humility. (BP)

## SBC native Americans form resource group

Four hundred years ago Roger Williams began Baptist work among the American Indians, but it wasn't until the 140th meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention that the first national Indian Baptist organization was formed.

Formed by a group of Southern Baptist Indian pastors, the Native American Southern Baptist Fellowship will help Southern Baptists develop the resources and programs to reach the native Americans for Jesus Christ.

"The Southern Baptist Convention is the most successful evangelical denomination in reaching the Indian people,"

said Victor Kaneubbe, pastor of First Indian Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz., and the newly elected chairman of the fellowship. Kaneubbe said of the 495 Indian tribes in America, only 95 have heard the gospel.

"Ninety-two percent of the Indian population is still unchurched. We want to offer Southern Baptists through our fellowship, our expertise in developing resources that will help our people find Christ in their culture."

Emerson Falls, pastor of American Indian Baptist Church, Oakland, Cal., said the mere organization of the fellowship represents a new vision arising among the Indian people that they want to do something to help their people. He noted that many of the congregations were giving as much as 50 percent of their tithes and offerings to missions through the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program. (BP)

## Wives of ministers encouraged to use gifts

Wives of Southern Baptist ministers were encouraged to use their God-given gifts during a luncheon highlighting the 30th annual Conference of Ministers Wives.

The women heard a musical theme interpretation of spiritual gifts presented by Ragan Courtney, faculty member at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, and Cynthia Clawson of Louisville, a two-time Grammy Award winner for gospel singer of the year.

The ministers' wives were told that while being the wife of a minister is important, it is important to remember their own gifts are real. Courtney said, "All of you are gifted and the greatest of these gifts is love."

The presentation honored 19 women who were chosen as typical wives of ministers who serve in a variety of ways in their own right.

Officers for 1986 are Mrs. Russell Dilday, Ft. Worth, Tex., president; Mrs. Peter Rhea Jones, Decatur, Ga., vice president; Mrs. Ray Rust, Columbia, S. C., secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Bill Hinson, New Orleans, La., corresponding secretary.

Elected as officers for 1987 were Mrs. Ted Sisk, Lexington, Ky., president; Mrs. John Hewitt, St. Louis, Mo., vice president; Mrs. Jerry Hayner, Cary, N. C., secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Don Moore, Little Rock, Ark., corresponding secretary. (BP)

## Peace leader prevented from pursuing mission

Security conscious ushers prevented former Southern Baptist Convention president H. Franklin Paschall of Nashville from presenting his planned "peace initiative" motion during the SBC miscellaneous business session Tuesday morning.

The motion was made instead by Bill Hickem, president of the Florida Baptist Convention and pastor of Riverside Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., on behalf of Paschall and the presidents of 37 Baptist state conventions.

Paschall, president of the SBC from 1966-68, had previously planned to make the motion as the first item of business, but Paschall said he left his ballot cards in the hotel room and security conscious ushers would not allow him to enter the convention hall crammed with 30,000 messengers. (BP)

# The winner's circle

## Stanley will still be his own man

by Stan Haste

Newly reelected Southern Baptist Convention president Charles F. Stanley refused to commit himself to full consultation with the new denomination's vice presidents, including his defeated challenger, W. Winfred Moore, elected as first vice president.

Challenged during a post election news conference to commit himself anew to follow the letter of the SBC

constitution to "consult" with the vice presidents in making choices for the powerful committee on committees and resolutions committee, the Atlanta pastor defended his conduct over the past year.

Stanley was pointedly criticized recently by outgoing second vice president Donald V. Wideman, pastor of First Baptist Church, North Kansas City, Mo., for rejecting all but three of his suggestions to the panels and for

declining to talk with him personally about the choices.

"I did consult with him," Stanley declared. "He did make some choices . . . We discussed them. We did not agree on many of them."

Stanley added, "The constitution does not say you have to agree: it says consult. And so I did what I believed was fair and right."

He also confirmed he had rejected Wideman's request to air his complaint



Stanley

to messengers attending the annual meeting at Dallas Convention Center during the opening session Tuesday morning.

He said he told the Missouri pastor that "to begin the convention on the first morning with that kind of statement I thought would have been terribly divisive, especially in the light of what I was about to preach on at 11 o'clock."

Stanley delivered his presidential address at the close of the morning session, calling on Southern Baptists to forgive, love and humble themselves before each other.

When messengers reconvened for the afternoon session the first order of business was election of a president, an order many moderates felt helped Stanley's reelection.

Stanley kept up the talk of unity during the half-hour news conference, declaring at one point, "I don't think any moderate congregations are going to leave the convention."

Of his sermon, which received good reviews by conservatives and moderates alike, Stanley added, "I believe the message this morning spoke to lots of people on both sides. I think there's going to be a greater spirit of cooperation."

Asked if he saw his victory as one involving the taking of "prisoners," he retorted, "I have no prisoners." Of his opponents he said, "I plan to do what I preached this morning, just love them."

Pressed to commit himself to work with Moore in choosing committee members for next year's convention in Atlanta, Stanley said he had "no reason to think he and I couldn't get along great." He said further, "(I) would be happy to use him. In fact, I'd be happy to send him a lot of places that I got too tired to go."

Concerning ongoing theological conflict that has helped fuel the six-year war between conservatives and moderates in the denomination, Stanley replied, "I think two people can hold very different convictions and still be respectful and accepting."

"I don't have to agree with a person's theology. Some people's theology I would never agree with, would never compromise what I believe in some areas. But I can still accept the person and not reject him."

Stanley also defended his association

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with Jerry Falwell, whom the Atlanta pastor assisted in forming Moral Majority, the Christian Right organization. "He happens to be my friend," he declared. "And there's nothing wrong

with having him as my friend." He also defended his conservative views on Christian issues such as abortion and school prayer, saying he opposes the former and approves the

latter. "I've never used this office to promote any of those things," he said. "I've been to Washington less since I became the president than before. . . . I

don't consider myself a right winger. I just consider myself a very strong Christian citizen who intends for my life and my influence to be felt as much as possible." (BP)

# The loser's circle

## Was veep election providential?

by Robert O'Brien

Defeated Southern Baptist Convention presidential candidate W. Winfred Moore said at a news conference he senses a growing unity among strife-stricken Southern Baptists.

"I really am convinced we're seeing a unity we've not seen in our convention in several years and I'm very thankful for everything that's brought that to pass," he told reporters at the Dallas Convention Center.

Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex., lost to Stanley, who gained 55.3 percent of 44,248 votes cast.

However, in a strange twist of events, Moore captured the SBC first vice presidency, winning more than 66 percent on the first ballot against Zig Ziglar, incumbent and motivational expert from Dallas, and Henry B. Huff of Louisville.

Asked if he saw his election as a sort of "balancing of the ticket" in the SBC theo-political six-year "holy war," he said, "No, what I saw was the biggest blunder anybody ever pulled."

Earlier, Moore, who was being interviewed by dozens of reporters in the second row of seats at the front of the convention center, was interrupted by Stanley calling him to the platform to ask him if he would accept a first vice presidential nomination by Ray Allen, pastor from Blacksburg, Va.

Upon arriving at the podium, Moore put his arm around Stanley's shoulders and said, "Let me ask, are you asking me that?" and added, "I will do with Charles Stanley everything that I know how to do to put the convention back in the mainstream of evangelism and missions."

That series of events, Moore told the news conference, was a blunder because he didn't know Allen had nominated him or that Ziglar and Huff had also been nominated.

"It was a horrible mistake on my part," he said, "and if the Lord turns it to good we can all be thankful."

"Maybe it was the hand of God

putting us in relationship to work together."

Responding to questions he said he hoped to counsel with Stanley on his appointments and in other areas but said Stanley is the president and he will cooperate with him and work under his leadership.

He said comment about growing unity doesn't mean Southern Baptists still don't have a lot of differences of opinion but that they can disagree without being disagreeable.

Asked about problems conservatives see in the SBC, Moore said, "I think we need to isolate problems to see if they are there, instead of putting a blanket of mistrust over an institution."

He said he anticipates the SBC will name a special study committee to work with administrators, trustees and others to explore problems and initiate peace.

"I think the peace committee will begin to talk to each other and those on

various sides and will come back having eliminated some problems and pinpointed others."

Although characterized as a standard bearer of the so-called moderates, Moore said, "A conservative I am. It's unfortunate to label people, but we do so because we don't know how to deal with complex issues."

Asked about a charge earlier by a conservative leader that he was "a tool of the liberals," Moore snorted and said, "I don't agree with that evaluation. I'm not a tool of anybody."

Moore parried questions about whether he would run for president next year, noting that he hadn't anticipated being a candidate this year.

"Have you ever seen anyone nominated for vice president who later became president?" he asked. "I haven't."

Asked about theological liberalism in the seminaries, he said he doesn't per-

sonally know any, although he knows some with whom he disagrees.

But he said it never occurred to him to think that those who disagree with him don't believe the Bible is God's word.

Moore said the question of women's ordination hadn't come up in his church but that if it did he'd have to do a great deal of study on it before expressing his opinion. He said he hoped it wouldn't become an issue at the SBC meeting.

On the question of churches withholding Cooperative Program funds, Moore said they have the right to do it but hoped they wouldn't because Southern Baptists are a cooperating convention.

"I don't think many churches will do it," he said.

"Our biggest problem as a convention is that we don't get together to talk enough to understand each other. We don't have as many problems when we do." (BP)

### Peace committee named to study controversy

Affirming that "peace cannot come by war," the Southern Baptist Convention appointed a 22-member "peace committee" to study the causes of controversy within the 14.3 million member convention and recommend possible solutions.

The motion asks the 22-member committee to "determine the sources of the controversies in our denomination, and make findings and recommendations regarding these controversies, so that Southern Baptists might effect reconciliation . . . ."

Approving a surprise amendment from the floor, the convention added newly elected SBC first vice president Winfred Moore of Amarillo, Tex. to the peace committee as ex-officio member "with full (voting) rights."

Two women members were also added to the committee by the state convention presidents, whose initial plan proposed an all-male 18-member committee plus the SBC president as ex-officio. The two women, chosen to maintain "balance" on the committee, were Mrs. Christine Gregory of Danville, Va., and Mrs. Jodi Chapman of Wichita Falls, Tex.

Mrs. Gregory is a former first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention and former president of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC. Mrs. Chapman is the wife of Morris Chapman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex., who earlier had nominated Charles Stanley as SBC president.

Elected to the committee were: Charles Fuller, chairman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va.; Harmon Born, automobile dealer, Rex, Ga.; Doyle Carlton, businessman, Wauchula, Fla.; Bill Crews, pastor, Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church, Riverside, Cal.; Robert Cuttino, pastor, First Baptist Church, Lancaster, S. C.; Jim Henry, pastor, First Baptist

Church, Orlando, Fla.; Bill Hull, pastor, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.; Herschel H. Hobbs, retired pastor, Oklahoma City;

Albert McClellan, retired program planning secretary for the SBC Executive Committee, Nashville; William Poe, attorney, Charlotte, N. C.; Ray Roberts, retired executive director, Baptist State Convention of Ohio, Columbus, Oh.; Adrian Rogers, pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.; Cecil Sherman, pastor, Broadway Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Tex.; John Sullivan, pastor, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.; Dan Vestal, pastor, First Baptist Church, Midland, Tex.; Jerry Vines, copastor, First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.; Ed Young, pastor, Second Baptist Church, Houston, Tex.; Charles Pickering, an attorney from Laurel, Miss; plus Mrs. Gregory and Mrs. Chapman, and Charles Stanley and Winfred Moore as ex-officio members with full voting rights. (BP)

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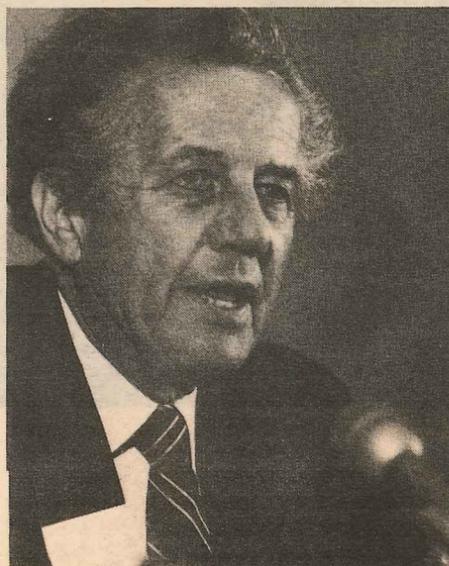
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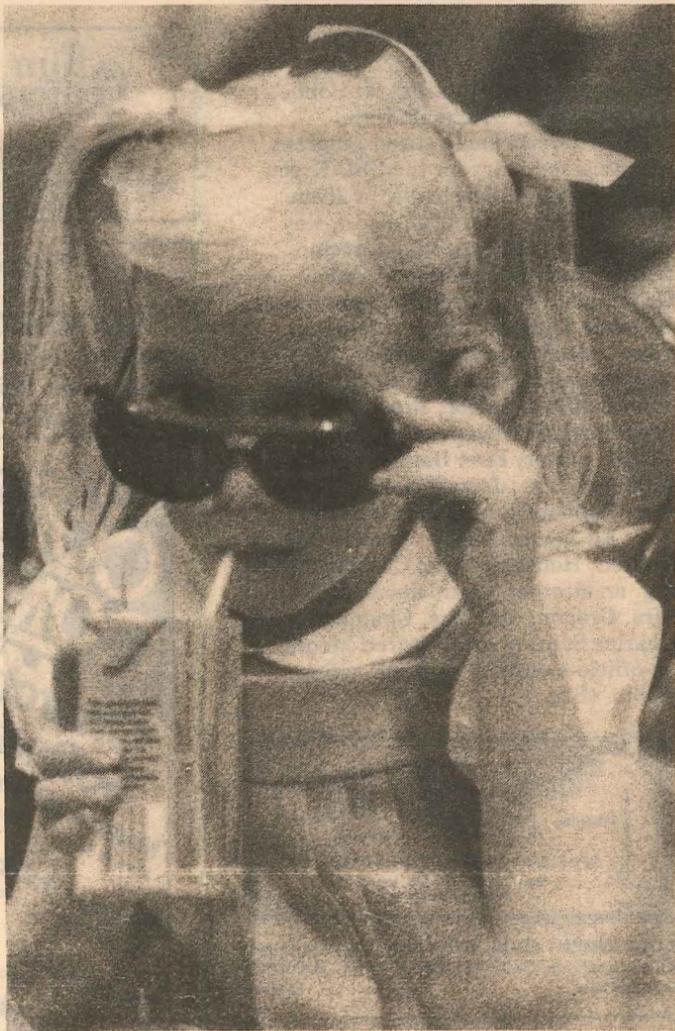
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## Crowds, peace present at 140th

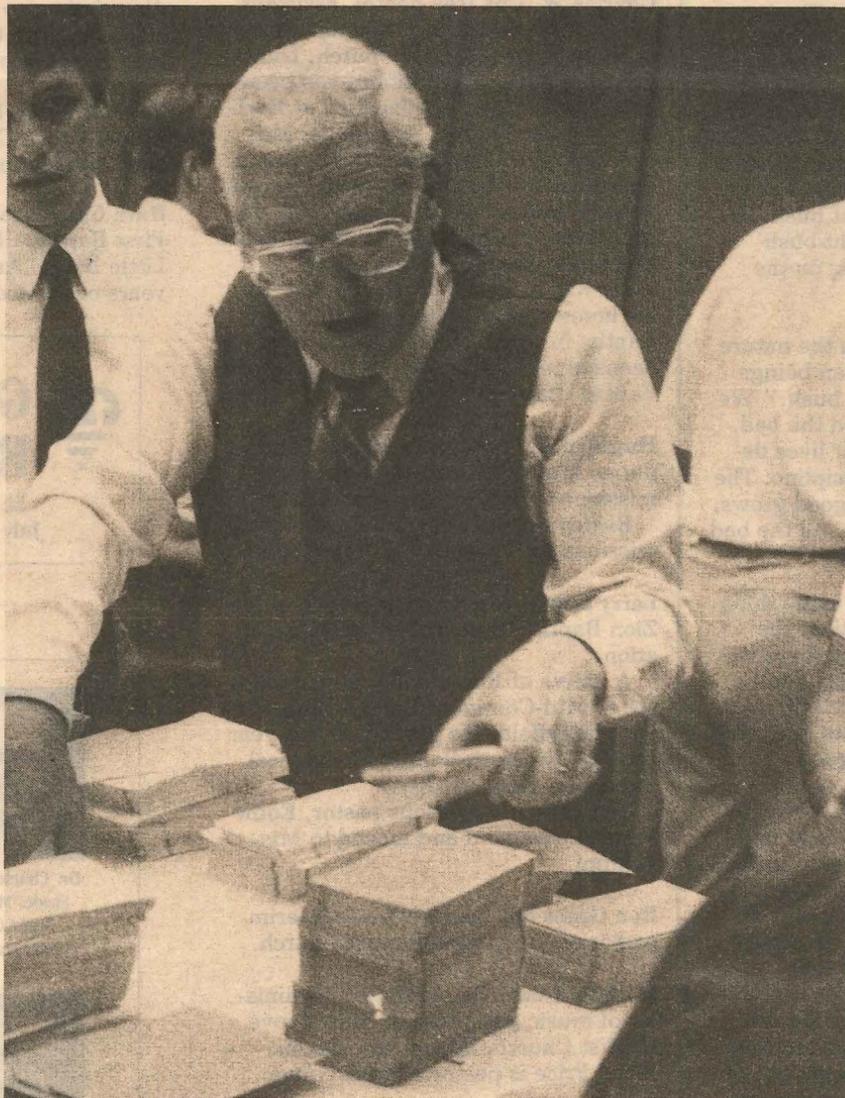
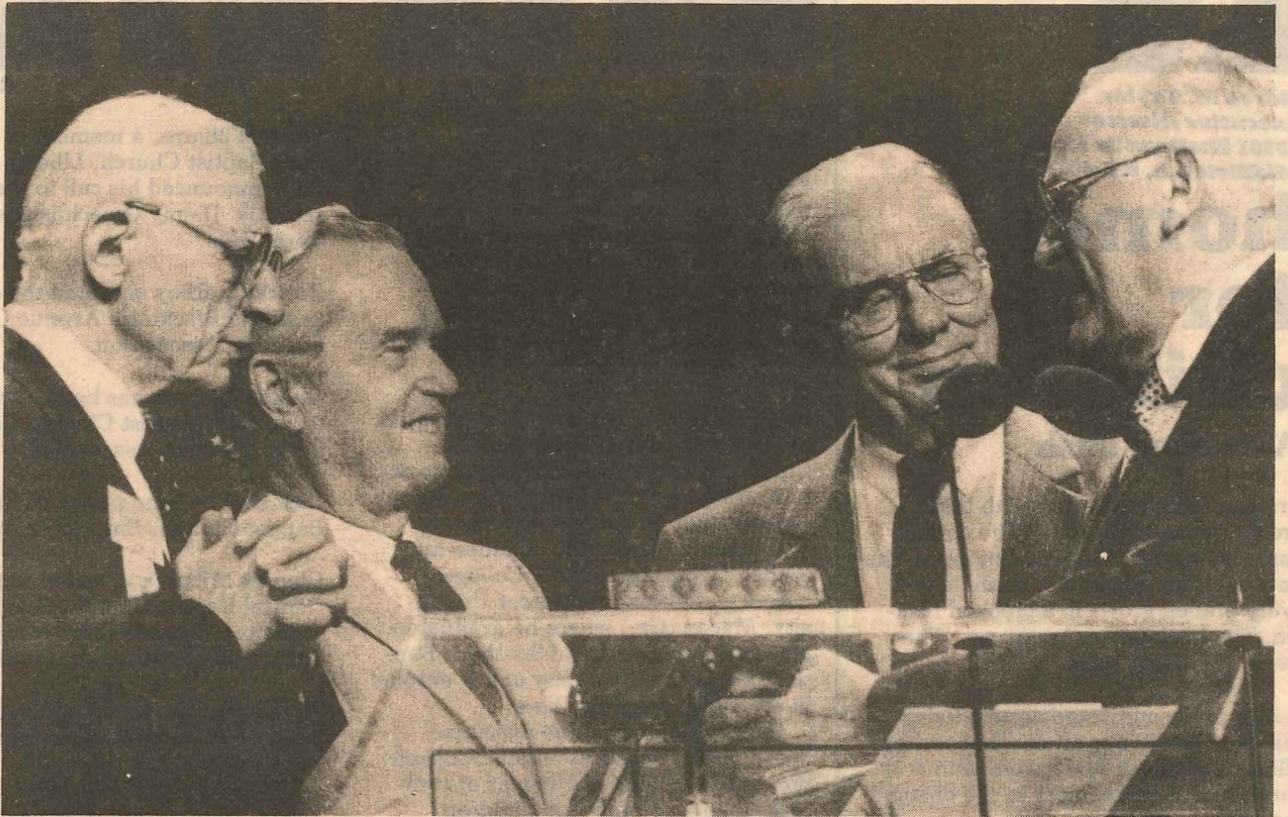


[Center] Messengers totaling more than 45,000 overflowed three rooms in the Dallas Convention Center. Some opted to sit on the floor when all seats were occupied. [Top] H. Franklin Paschall talks with reporters about the "peace plan" for Southern Baptists. Paschall, retired pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville, who earlier suggested a

committee to explore the controversy, joined with the 37 state convention presidents who had also suggested the special committee. [Bottom] Crowds can be especially overwhelming when you are three feet tall. This young lady decided to brighten her outlook by peering over her sun glasses.

# Southern Baptist Convention

*moves, diversity  
annual meeting*



[Top] Harold Bennett [r], executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee, presents a copy of the new book, *History of the Executive Committee 1917-1984*, to its author and Bennett's two predecessors. [l-r] Albert McClellan, author, of Nashville, Duke K. McCall, Louisville, and Porter Routh, Nashville. [Bottom] Lee Porter, registration secretary for the convention worked with Royal Ambassador pages to distribute ballots. The large turnout forced convention officials to print 10,000 additional ballots after messengers began registration.

# mountains to the mississippi



**Eldred M. Taylor**  
Executive Director  
10801 Shelbyville Road  
Middletown, KY 40243

## homes for children

### A crooked bush

Are you familiar with a shrub that grows crooked branches? The correct name is *Corylus Avellana Contorta*. The unusual thing about this shrub is that every branch grows in a crooked fashion. The bush is also known as "The Devil's Walking Stick."

Like many cultivated shrubs today this bush is often grafted. This perhaps allows a stronger root system and a shrub that is more hardy to the changing season. However, when one has the grafted bush, there are two forces at work in the "crooked bush." There is a tendency to grow crooked and a tendency to grow straight.

I understand that if you prune out the straight branches, the crooked branches will be predominant. But if you trim out the crooked branches, the "crooked bush" will become a straight bush. So the bush becomes a "straight bush" or a "crooked bush" depending on the kind of pruning.

There is a lesson for us in the nature of this shrub. All of us human beings are much like the "crooked bush." We have in us both the good and the bad. Which is predominant in our lives depends on the pruning or discipline. The bad can be pruned and the good grows, or the good can be cut back and the bad increases.

Eph. 4:22f deals with the same thing. When one becomes a Christian, the Holy Spirit dwells within and there is given a new nature. However, Paul points out that the old nature still must be pruned, or it will dominate one's life and choke out much of the good.

So many children coming to live at Baptist Homes for Children have had insufficient guidance because of broken homes, an alcoholic parent, inadequate supervision and parenting, or lack of training in moral standards. In other words, the crookedness has been allowed to grow unchecked. In the Christian environment of our Baptist Homes we begin to prune the crooked branches and encourage the growth of the straight branches. The encouragement of the straight nature is provided through the spiritual emphasis of our work. When one of our youth meets Christ and accepts him, a new nature is formed; old things pass away. We also are constantly pruning (guiding) those who have been saved, so they will grow stronger. Pray for us as we prune young lives and develop them toward straight maturity.



Tirey



Hadden



Cox



Richey

### personnel

**Paul E. Tirey** (see photo) assumed the pastorate of Cynthiana Baptist Church, Union Association. Tirey had been pastor of Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn. He is a graduate of Cumberland College, Williamsburg, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

**Steve Hadden** (see photo) has accepted the call as pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Georgetown, Elkhorn Association. He goes to the church from Burgin Baptist Church, Mercer Association.

A native of Louisville, Hadden attended Georgetown (Ky.) College before transferring to Mercer University, Macon, Ga., where he graduated. He is also a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and is enrolled in the DMin program there.

He is a member of the executive board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the board of trustees of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

**Charles W. Cox** (see photo), assistant minister of education for administration at Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association, has been called as minister of education at Heritage Baptist Church, Annapolis, Md.

A native of Charleston, S. C., Cox is a graduate of the University of Georgia, Athens, and he received a MA/CE degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, last month.

He was ordained to the ministry by his home church, Orangeburg (S. C.) Baptist in April. He had earlier been licensed to the ministry by Hurstbourne Baptist Church.

**Hughlan P. Richey** (see photo) began duties May 26 as part time director of missions for Ohio Valley Association.

Richey retired Feb. 28 as director of missions for Little Bethel Association.

**Larry Baker** was called as pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Ten Mile Association.

A native of Russellville, he is graduate of Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College, Mayfield. He graduated this year from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City.

The church's previous pastor, Eddie Pilgrim, resigned and moved to Mississippi.

**Rca Grace** has been called as interim pastor of New Union Baptist Church.

**Michael Doane** began duties as minister of music and youth at Buck Grove Baptist Church, Salem Association. Floyd Price is pastor of Buck Grove.

**Henry Parrott** was called as part time director of missions for Taylor County Baptist Association, effective June 2.

**J. V. Mullen** resigned as pastor of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association. He is available for revivals, study courses and interim work (303 Ingram Ave., Campbellsville, KY 42718).

**Steve Williams**, a member of Coral Hills Baptist Church, Liberty Association, announced his call to the ministry recently. Danny Creech is pastor of Coral Hills.

**Ronald L. Riley** accepted the call as pastor of Blackburn Avenue Church, Greenup Association.

**Gordon Duncan** has been called as pastor of First Baptist Church, Cannonsburg, Greenup Association.

**Rick Hall** became pastor of Garrett Baptist Church, Enterprise Association.

**Charles Milam** was called as pastor of Central Baptist Church, Greenup Association. He goes there from the pulpit of First Baptist Church, Paintsville.

**Danny Mullins** accepted the call as pastor of Colson Mission, Three Forks Association.

**David Lyons** resigned as pastor of Fleming Baptist Church, Pine Mountain Association, to become director of missions for Lynn Camp and North Concord Associations.

**Paul E. White** began duties as pastor of Locust Grove Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

**Ruth Carroll** retired as secretary of First Baptist Church, Madisonville, Little Bethel Association, following 22 years of service.

The church honored her with a reception. H. Garrison Coltharp is pastor of First Church, Madisonville.

**Douglas Fuller** resigned as pastor of Riverview Baptist Church, Bell Association. He will be moving to Illinois.

**Ken Abbot** resigned as pastor of Wingo Baptist Church, Graves County Association.

**John Sekousky** accepted the call as pastor of Eighteen Mile Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association.

**Tim Madison** resigned as pastor of Poplar Ridge Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association, to enter chaplaincy work at Baptist Hospital, Birmingham, Ala.

**Greg Burton** has been called as pastor of Casky Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, Christian County Association. He goes there from the pastorate of Liberty Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association.

**Leonard Martin** was called as pastor of Fairmount Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association. He has been pastor of Second Baptist Church, Highland Park, Long Run Association.

**Bob Langdon** resigned as pastor of Hazelwood Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association to assume a pastorate in Ohio.

**Gene Miracle** began duties as interim pastor of First Baptist Church, Garrison, Greenup Association.

**David Young** became youth activities director at Deer Park Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association.

Young graduated last month from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. He is also a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Tex. Molly T. Marshall-Green is interim pastor of Deer Park.

## GOOD NEWS AMERICA NATIONAL REVIVAL TRAINING SEMINARS

St. Louis, Mo.  
July 10-11, 1985

Atlanta, Ga.  
July 23-25, 1985

Van Nuys, Calif.  
August 1-3, 1985

Counseling

Theology of Revival

Follow-Up

Systematic How-To of Revival Preparations

Invitations

Evangelistic Preaching

Revival Music



**Dr. Charles Carter**  
Shades Mountain Baptist Church  
Birmingham, Ala.



**Dr. Richard Harris**  
Mass Evangelism Home Mission Board  
Atlanta, Ga.



**Dick Thomassian**  
Whitesburg Baptist Church  
Huntsville, Ala.



**Bill Cathey**  
Assoc. Dir. of Evangelism  
Bapt. Gen. Convention of Texas



**Dr. Perry Sanders**  
First Baptist Church  
Lafayette, La.



**Lois Jane Huddleston**  
Music Evangelist  
Gallatin, Tenn.



**Joey Hancock**  
Ash St. Baptist Church  
Forest Park, Ga.



**Ellen Roweton**  
Music Evangelist  
Bolivar, Mo.



For registration information contact: **Mass Evangelism Department, Home Mission Board, SBC** • 1350 Spring Street, NW • Atlanta, GA 30367-5601 • 404/873-4041.

**Ron Joyce** resigned as music director at Unity Baptist Church, Greenup Association, to accept a position in Metropolis, Ill.

**Joe Coffman** was called as music director at Fairview Baptist Church, Greenup Association.

**Steve Banks** resigned as youth director at Northside Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association.

**Bob Bottoms** began duties as director of missions in the Allen and Monroe Association June 1.

**Joel Frizzell** has been called as pastor of Pinkneyville Baptist Church, Ohio River Association.

**Medley Thompson** began duties as pastor of Union Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

**James Stanhope** was called as pastor of Highlands Baptist Church, Lexington, Elkhorn Association.

**Greg L. Loscalzo** began duties June 16 as pastor of Evergreen Baptist Church, Frankfort, Franklin Association.

## congregations

**Porter Memorial Baptist Church**, Lexington, Elkhorn Association, dedicated its new educational building May 26. James K. Pierce is pastor.

**Central Baptist Church**, Corbin, Mt. Zion Association, broke its Sunday school attendance record as a result of a growth effort. The church recently had an attendance high of 1314. During March, April and May the church averaged 922 in Sunday school.

Jim McGee, minister of education at Central, directed the growth effort. Don Mathis is pastor.

**First Baptist Church**, Jamestown, Russell County Association, dedicated a pavilion recently constructed at the church. Don Grider is pastor.

**First Baptist Church**, Russell Springs, Russell County Association, held a ground breaking May 5 for a new church building. The 14,000-square-foot building will include a 330-seat auditorium and an educational building. Donnie Sutton is pastor.

**Eastwood Baptist Church**, Bowling Green, Warren Association, received \$546,456 in cash and commitments during a recent "Together We Grow" campaign.

The congregation plans to build a 1250-seat auditorium, additional class rooms and enlarge its parking space. The estimated cost of the project is \$1.1 million. Jim Haskell is pastor of Eastwood.

## associations

**Taylor County Association** voted to participate in the Good News Kenya revivals scheduled during January, February and March of 1987.

## revivals

**Hawk Creek Baptist Church**, Laurel River Association, had a revival which resulted in two professions of faith and four rededications. Thermon Taylor was evangelist.

**Pine Grove Baptist Church**, Laurel

River Association, had revival services with Joe Mobley as evangelist. One profession of faith was made.

**Central Baptist Church**, Corbin, had 57 people present themselves for baptism and 17 additions by letter during a recent revival. Junior Hill was evangelist. Don Mathis is pastor.

## missions

**Mr. and Mrs. R. Douglas Martin** (see photo) were appointed as missionaries to Taiwan by the Foreign Mission Board.

He will be a general evangelist and she will be a church and home worker.

A native of Dayton, Oh., he considers Corbin his home town. He is pastor of Crittenden Baptist Church, Crittenden Association.

Mrs. Martin, the former Brenda



The Martins

Laws of Corbin, is a graduate of Cumberland College. She has been a teacher in Louisville, Gray and Covington.



**Leon Simpson**  
President  
Clear Creek Baptist School  
Pineville, KY 40977

# clear creek comment

## Loyalty

After the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas last week, some are asking, "What now?" I am thinking of the word loyalty. According to Webster's, it can mean "allegiance, homage, faithfulness, fidelity, trustworthiness, integrity, sincerity, steadfastness, adherence, staunchness, bond, tie, group feeling, good faith, devotedness, support, etc."

Paul speaks of loyalty in 2 Tim. 4, "Demas hath forsaken me . . . only Luke is with me" (2 Tim. 4:10-11). Demas was disloyal and Luke stands as a model of loyalty for the Christian. It seems to me that loyalty is a virtue and the complement of all other human virtues. We should be loyal to our family, our friends, our job, our country.

Elbert Hubbard, the 19th century thinker, once said, "If you work for a man, in heaven's name work for him; speak well of him and stand by the institution he represents. Remember, an ounce of loyalty is worth a pound of cleverness. If you must growl, condemn and eternally find fault — resign your position and, when you are on the outside, criticize to your heart's content — but, as long as you are part of the institution, do not condemn it; if you do, the first high wind that comes along will blow you away, and probably you will never know why!"

I think of these words and apply them first to myself as a Christian. I do not want to be a griping, grouching, complaining child of the king as I travel life's highway.

I also want everyone to know I am a loyal Southern Baptist. If others want to moan and groan and wring their hands about how things are going with Southern Baptists they will find me unsympathetic. I have a savior who tells me, "Lo, I am with you always." I want to be loyal to him, to his word and to his great commission. I think most Southern Baptists think this way.

I also want it known I am loyal to Clear Creek Baptist School. There is no other school in the whole world that trains ministers for Christ and their families like Clear Creek. I want to be a good president and leader, making a great school even greater in years to come. We must show the world as Christians, as Southern Baptists and as supporters of Clear Creek — that we are loyal!

# Kentucky-Kenya Partnership

by G. Allen West,  
Associate Coordinator



## A visit to Kenya

Yes, as the old song said, "It's true what they say about Dixie." That can be said of Kenya. We knew it was but now that my wife Jean and I have been there, we have seen and heard and declare it to be so.

Such a declaration doesn't make it any truer, but it has been stamped upon our memories and registered in our hearts.

We rode in a van with James and Wilma Whaley for more than 1000 miles. We met and we visited gracious and dedicated missionaries. We were entertained in their homes and reveled in their fellowship.

We were mired in the mud at Jim and Ruth Green's near Rumuruti and at Massa Mara Game Reserve. Even so we rejoiced with the Kenyans for the abundant and refreshing rains (more than the previous five years).

We saw the beautiful land. Mt. Kenya with its lofty and majestic peak jutting 17,000 feet into the sky, the seashore of the Indian Ocean from Mombasa to Malinda, beautiful Brackenhurst (7200 ft. altitude) and the surrounding rolling fields of tea and coffee plantations. It should be pointed out that coffee, tea and tourism are the major resources for the country.

And we saw the people, the Kenyans, who make up some 80 to 90 tribes, the largest and most aggressive of which are the Kikuyu. There are also the Geriani, Samburu, Turkana, Masai and many more. We found them to be open, fun loving, gracious and desirous of a better way of life.

The challenge is before them and us:

- to pray that God will send laborers into the harvest

- to pray for the missionaries
- to pray for the Kenyan churches and leaders

- to pray for the lost of Kenya
- to pray for Kentucky Baptists
- to pray for the whole world and to go, to send, to give.

It has been the faithful support of the mission programs of Southern Baptists

through the Cooperative Program that has enabled us to do as much as has been done thus far. In recent years the impact of the Lottie Moon love offering for foreign missions has moved the work. In addition the love offerings for relief and world hunger have been used by missionaries to feed starving people and help those in time of need.

The Kentucky/Kenya Partnership is playing a dynamic part in the vital role of the Bold Mission Thrust of Southern Baptists in world missions.

Harold Greenfield, director of missions in Caldwell-Lyon Association, was the guest preacher at the Kenya Baptist Convention. Keith Rogers of Loyall (Harlan County) spoke on evangelism and I spoke on the theme of stewardship. The gathering of 420 messengers took place at beautiful Brackenhurst, their assembly grounds.

Our volunteers from Kentucky have been well received. Their ministries have included building construction, teaching in their pastor and church leadership school (TEE: Theological Education by Extension) and preaching in revivals.

During the coming weeks we will have others who will be teaching teachers in Bible study and stewardship, an architect, a veterinarian, more men to preach in revivals and help in personal soul winning, and others in construction work.

There is a paradox. On one side there is the sense of hopelessness; on the other side there is the sense of hope. Here, as in every third world (developing) country, can be found the teeming multitudes: the hungry, homeless, illiterate and poverty stricken, and most without the knowledge of the savior. On the other hand there are the more highly educated, who are the political, business and religious leaders—persons who are trying to move the country ahead, and many of these are dedicated Christians.

There is now religious freedom and our Baptist teachers are trying their best to reach the masses. Their goal is to win a million souls to Christ by 2010! What a goal for only 43,000!

# STUDENT WORK DEPARTMENT

Presents

# 1985 YOU

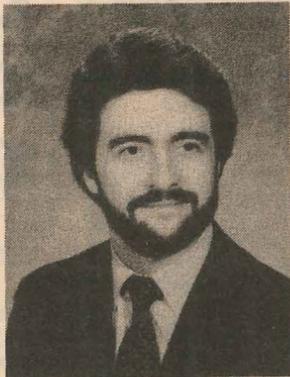


## CEDARMORE

### CAMP PASTORS

### CAMP COORDINATORS

Dr. Dan R. Francis  
Pastor  
Central Baptist Church  
Winchester

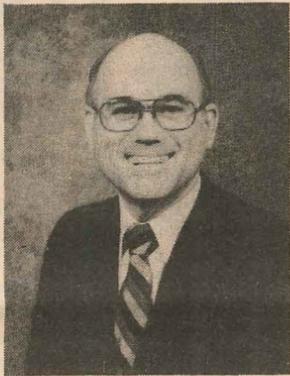


June 17-21



Rev. Dan Flanagan  
Campus Minister  
Campbellsville College

Dr. Guy Futral  
Consultant  
Minister/Church  
Services Department  
Kentucky Baptist  
Convention



June 24-28



Rev. Robin Childers  
Campus Minister  
Eastern Area, Kentucky

Rev. Jack Palmer  
Associate  
Sunday School  
Department  
Kentucky Baptist  
Convention



July 1-5



Mrs. Twila Greene  
Campus Minister  
University of Kentucky

Rev. Jim McKenzie  
Pastor  
First Baptist Church  
Russell



July 8-12



Rev. Rick Howerton  
Campus Minister  
Northern Kentucky  
University

Rev. James P. Majors  
Pastor  
Little Flock Baptist Church  
Shepherdsville



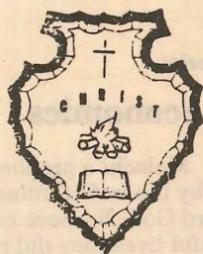
August 5-9



Rev. Tom Smoot  
Campus Minister  
University of Louisville

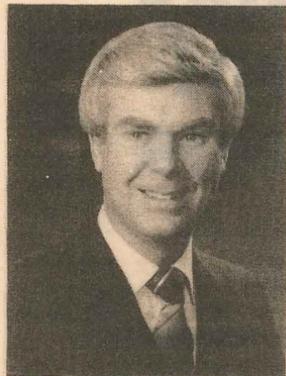
# of KENTUCKY BAPTIST TH CAMPS CONVENTION

## JONATHAN CREEK



### CAMP PASTORS

### CAMP COORDINATORS



Dr. Robert White  
Pastor  
First Baptist Church  
Paducah

July 15-19



Rev. Jerry Simmons  
Campus Minister  
Murray State University



Dr. Greg Earwood  
Pastor  
First Baptist Church  
Murray

July 22-26



Rev. Rick Trexler  
Campus Minister  
Eastern Kentucky  
University

## YOUTH LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

June 17-21, Mike Lassiter, Minister of Youth, Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville.

June 24-28, Eddie Gilley, Minister of Youth, Crestwood Baptist Church, Crestwood.

July 1-5, Scott Kilgore, Minister of Education, First Baptist Church, Ashland.

July 8-12, Deena Yates, Graduate Student, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

July 15-19, Mike Spencer, Minister of Youth, First Baptist Church, Somerset.

July 22-26, Associate Director, Sunday School Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

August 5-9, David Hughes, Minister of Education and Youth, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Louisville.

### STUDENT MISSION TEAMS

Sponsored by Student Work Department  
Kentucky Baptist Convention



BSU SUMMER MISSIONS  
REVIVAL TEAM

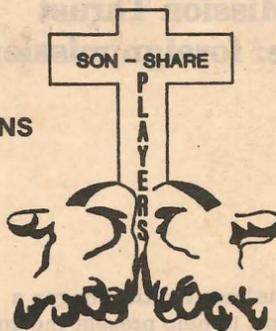


THE SUMMER MISSIONS  
MUSIC TEAM

BSU SUMMER MISSIONS  
DRAMA TEAM



BSU SUMMER MISSIONS  
CREATIVE MINISTRIES TEAM



### CAMP DIRECTOR



Ralph Hopkins  
Associate Director  
Student Work Department  
Kentucky Baptist Convention



**Barkley Moore**  
President  
Oneida Baptist Institute  
Oneida, KY 40972

## oneida journal

### Like a dream

The past several weeks have been like a dream, a good dream. So much has happened, so many fine things, and all so quickly.

Sunday morning the week before graduation, I spoke at Bellevue First Baptist on faith. Less than a mile away our choir was singing one of their wonderful concerts at First Baptist, Dayton. They had spent the night before sleeping on the floor of the gym of that church, and the deacons had prepared a delicious pancake breakfast that morning.

Having had lunch and two hours at a mall, the choir sang again that night at First Baptist, Ludlow. The choir, three staff members and I got back about 2 a.m.

Later in the morning we assembled for our daily chapel followed by the awarding of the individual honors for spring sports. During the course of this school year, eight of our athletic teams had greater success than any time in our history.

Monday evening we had our annual athletic dinner. Our girls were beautifully dressed, each one of them. Some of the friends of our school provide beautiful formal dresses for some of our girls who cannot afford such. Our young men matched the girls. Many of our students had volunteered to help serve the dinner for those eligible to attend, and they did a great job. We had been saving for weeks and fed the group shrimp. Following the meal we adjourned to the chapel to hear our choir sing and Roger Harden, UK bas-

ketball standout, gave a beautiful testimony.

On Tuesday morning we sang praises, had prayer, and honored several score students for their achievements in the areas of drama, art, choir and band. Those eligible received "arts" letters and some few are eligible for a cardigan sweater, our counterpart to the athletic jacket.

On Wednesday morning we had a wonderful four hours honoring the outstanding student of each course for the year. Each received a beautifully printed certificate suitable for framing as did scores who received "good worker" and "outstanding worker" awards. For many this event was the first time in a lifetime where they received recognition. The same thing was true for many receiving "cleanest room" awards in the various dorms, or "progress" awards.

Four hours may sound like a long, dull, boring ceremony. It wasn't. It was exciting, at times thrilling. Young people crave recognition. There is so little of it today for the good and the worthwhile.

Also recognized at this ceremony were several of our staff. Others were recognized on commencement day including those finishing five, 10 and 20 years of service.

Our last midweek prayer service of the school year was also a special time. We recognized Katherine and Charles Damrel for 37 years of faithfulness as Sunday school teachers and youth workers. Bro. Damrel is our long time church treasurer and, in recent years, deacon chairman.

The Damrels received a standing ovation on Thursday evening at the first night performance of "The Sound of Music."

The second night performance honored George Redding on his 80th birthday. Earlier, Bill Messer, Oneida trustee and pastor of First Baptist, Ashland, had led our last regular chapel service. Our choir sang a 70-minute performance at 4 p.m. with guests present from as far away as Texas and Florida. They sang flawlessly from memory the entire concert. A large dinner followed for several hundred, many of our students again serving.

The choir in its concert, and our drama group in three nights of "The Sound of Music" did performances beyond our power to describe for beauty. They never faltered over even one line. I am so proud of each one. Praise God for being privileged to work with such young people!



**H. C. Chiles**  
Clear Creek Baptist School,  
Pineville, KY 40977

## sunday school lessons

Lessons for June 23, 1985

International series

### The Lord's complaint

**Micah 6:1-5** In spite of the fact that God had been gracious and merciful to his people, they had forsaken him and turned to other gods, whereupon he challenged them to explain why they had done so and to declare the reasons for their having grown weary of him.

As proof of his abundant love for them, God reminded them of various things he had done in their behalf, mercies which they should not have forgotten. He called to attention that he miraculously delivered them from the land of Egypt and enabled them to make the journey to the Jordan River. He had given them unusually capable leaders and had done various other things in their behalf. During their journey to Canaan, King Balak had invited Balaam to pronounce a curse upon them but God did not permit him to do so. Rather, God influenced Balaam to bless them. God called on them to state their grievances against him, if they had any.

**Micah 6:6-8** In a string of abominably sarcastic questions the people asked what God was expecting of them. God told the people what he was requiring of them, and the three things constitute the very minimum of what God demands of all his children.

God requires his children "to do justly . . . to love mercy . . . and to walk humbly with him."

It is encouraging to know that God has made provision for his children whereby these strict requirements may be met, namely, through Jesus Christ our Lord. His grace is sufficient to enable us to meet them. It is impossible to meet these requirements apart from the enabling grace and strong strength of God's son and our savior Jesus Christ.

Life and work series

### Fidelity in economics

**Malachi 3:2-10** Malachi's prophecy was occasioned by the unfaithfulness of the people toward God. Because of their terribly sinful lives they did not respect God as they should have done, which made it obvious that their love for God had waned woefully. They accused God of being unjust by allowing the wicked to prosper and the righteous to suffer. The divine answer to their inquiry, "Where is the God of judgment?" (Mal. 2:17), was recorded in 3:1, "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts." In it we observe a promise, a person and a purpose.

Malachi made it clear that when Christ appeared he would purge the people of their dross, beginning with the sons of Levi. He let them know that God's judgment would come upon the priests, or spiritual leaders, who above all others should have been faithful. Singled out as worthy of particular judgment are sorcerers, adulterers, false swearers, oppressors of wage earners, those taking advantage of widows and orphans, and cheaters of strangers.

Despite the blessings upon them the people had departed so far from God and his ordinances that they did not recognize that they had gone astray. Even worse, they felt no conviction for their sin and denied they owed God anything.

Malachi struck at a very vital point when he revealed that the heart of Israel's difficulty was dishonesty toward God—stealing the tithe from him, keeping for their own selfish purposes what God had definitely commanded them to return to him. One would think that no man would be so foolish as to rob God, yet that is what many have done and are doing every day.



**William W. (Bill) Marshall**  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer, KBC  
Box 43433,  
Middletown, KY 40243

## on mission together

### Bold Mission Thrust update: foreign missions

In 1976 Southern Baptists began a special effort to help present the gospel to everyone in the world by A.D. 2000. Called Bold Mission Thrust, this comprehensive approach includes careful follow-up to evangelism, and results in churches established, leaders trained, outreach sustained and quality of life improved for families worldwide.

This update, provided by our Foreign Mission Board, will enable all of us to target our prayers more specifically as we enter this next 15 years of this strategic mission.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS STATISTICAL UPDATE 1976-1984

Objective by A.D. 2000	Base Year	1983	1984	Increase 1983 to 1984	Yearly % Increase Base-'84	Current Status
1. 5,000 Missionaries	2,667	3,346	3,482	2.57%	2.84%	Ahead
2. 125 Countries	82	102	105	2.94%	2.79%	Well Ahead
3. 10,000 Volunteers	1,200	4,735	6,213	31.21%	20.05%	Well Ahead
4. 75,840 Churches	7,584	13,586	14,791	8.87%	7.70%	Behind
5. 184,890 Churches/ Chapel Combination	18,489	30,581	32,570	6.50%	6.49%	Behind
6. 8,960,630 Membership	896,063	1,708,568	1,910,483	11.82%	8.78%	Behind
7. 807,470 Baptisms	80,747	146,149	156,326	6.96%	7.62%	Behind
8. Seminary Enrollment	3,797	7,284	8,913	22.36%	9.95%	Ahead
9. Theol. Education by Extension	3,433	7,171	7,833	9.23%	14.74%	Ahead

# Messengers arrive early for presidential vote

It was evident during the early morning hours of the opening day of the Southern Baptist Convention that many Southern Baptists believe "the early bird catches the worm."

Hundreds of Southern Baptist messengers crowded into the hallways of the Dallas Convention Center almost two hours before the arena was opened Tuesday morning for what many observers have called the most potentially divisive meeting of the nation's largest Protestant denomination.

By the time doors opened at 7:45 a.m. several thousand other messengers were lined outside beneath a steady Texas shower.

Those who arrived before 7 a.m. did so positively. Early arrivers joined in the singing of favorite hymns and enjoyed fellowship.

Reasons for arriving early were diverse, but all were united by a common cause—to find a seat and be a part of the opening day of the convention.

Hazel Maffet, a 70-year-old messenger from Audubon Baptist Church, Louisville, was an outspoken early arrival.

"We're interested and concerned Baptists who want God's will to be done. Whatever happens, we will go on. We won't be divided," she declared.

Mrs. Maffet, who came with nine other messengers from the Louisville church, brought food and drinks because "Tuesday you don't leave."

She said she is a strong believer in Baptist principles and for that reason she planned to vote for Winfred Moore of Amarillo, Tex. for president because "that's what he stands for."

Danny Crow, pastor of Pittsburgh Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, Pa., skipped breakfast and walked from his hotel room for one simple reason.

"I'm a realist. I wanted a soft seat



Messengers are "wall to wall" as they prepare to enter the convention meeting hall.

for the day," he said.

Crow and nine other messengers from his home church came to Dallas because of news reports which predicted a possible division.

"We're in a real mission area. There had been talk of a split and we're in a place where we can't afford that," he said.

Crow noted most of his people favored the reelection of Charles Stanley, when they became familiar with his work through his television ministry.

"Stanley has opened a lot of doors for them in our area," he said.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Stacy, laymen from First Baptist Church, Natchitoches, La., were among the earliest arrivals at 6:15.

"We haven't even had coffee yet, but we wanted to make sure we got in," Mrs. Stacy said. Smith said they were open to the work of the Holy Spirit in making their decisions.

Bill Hair, Covington Pike Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., arrived at 6:15 because he wanted to be a part of history.

"It seems like this is going to be a pivotal convention," he said. "It could

be the most significant event in church history in the last 200 years, as the country's largest Protestant denomination faces great, critical issues."

Al Andrews, pastor of Wilkesboro Baptist Church, Wilkesboro, N. C., was "late" arriving at "just" 7:15. He expressed surprise at the magnitude of the crowd and noted he drove from his Garland hotel through steady 25-mile-per-hour traffic.

He said he was here because of the issues shaping the convention. Andrews expressed support for Moore because "he will represent an unbiased opinion that incorporates the umbrella philosophy of the Southern Baptist Convention."

George and Jo Ann Whitfield, First Baptist Church, Cartersville, Mo., arrived at 6:25 for their first experience on a Southern Baptist Convention floor.

The couple looked forward to the election of the president and hoped good things would come from the decision of the messengers.

"We're praying for a closer fellowship in the convention. We want to see unity and harmony restored," Whitfield said.

Robert and Evelyn McKenzie, Savannah, Ga., said they ate breakfast at 5:30 and rushed to the convention center to get in line at 6:30.

McKenzie, who describes himself as a regular convention participant, especially wanted to be a part of this year's meeting.

"Dallas is really quite a place to come," he said. "I think of it as kind of the Mecca of Southern Baptists."

Most messengers knew it would be a long day when they arrived. George Rose, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Marion, N. C., summed it up this way:

"We know it will be a long day, but we don't care. We're willing to pay the price to see Charles Stanley elected." (BP)

## Convention Center record

The opening day of the Southern Baptist Convention was the largest single event in the history of the Dallas Convention Center.

Frank Poe, convention center manager, said Tuesday, June 11, was the "largest in terms of the number of people attending" any event at the sprawling convention center.

"We have had meetings where the registration was higher, but this was the largest meeting we have had in terms of the concentration of people under one roof in a single day," Poe said.

He noted the Home Builders Association meeting, which was a "multiple day event," drew 55,000 registrants. "But we never had all of them attending in any single day," he said.

Poe said an estimated 50,000 to 51,000 people attended Tuesday's session.

"We know there were more than 45,000 messengers and we estimate there were at least 5000 more, including people in the exhibits, non messengers and people walking the hallways." (BP)

## news in brief

### Irregularities suspected in committee election

Amidst suspicion of possible voter irregularities, the Southern Baptist Convention's Committee on Committees' slate of nominees to the Committee on Boards survived a heated challenge from the floor June 12.

Messengers approved the committee's nominees to the key Committee on Boards by a vote of 13,123 to 9851 after a disputed ruling by SBC president Charles Stanley and parliamentarian Wayne Allen of Memphis, Tenn. that a substitute slate of nominees was out of order.

Before announcing the vote, SBC registration secretary Lee Porter told messengers he had reports from members of the SBC teller's committee that numerous persons were seen passing out ballots outside the convention hall and in the parking garage.

"I was asked to do something about it," Porter said, "but I can't. The integrity of the balloting system of the SBC depends on the integrity of local churches and individual messengers."

"You cannot vote another person's ballot if they leave," Porter told the messengers. "We shouldn't have to

supervise that in a meeting of 12, let alone a meeting of 40,000 to 45,000."

Messengers hotly contested nominees to the Committee on Boards because that committee nominates candidates for trustee boards of national SBC boards, agencies and institutions. Committee appointments have been a key factor in disputes between moderate and conservative Southern Baptists in the past six years.

Following the vote three Southern Baptist pastors—Cecil Sherman of Ft. Worth, Tex.; his brother, Bill Sherman of Nashville, and James Slatton of Richmond, Va.—held a news conference to protest what they called a lack of justice in the voting process.

Earlier in the day Slatton proposed that presidents of state Baptist conventions and Woman's Missionary Union organizations be substituted for the Committee on Committees' slate.

Discussion over Slatton's challenge, characteristic of actions throughout the day on the issue, evolved into confusion and repeated cries of "point of order" as messengers and leaders at the SBC podium sought to deal with the issue.

Stanley eventually ruled Slatton would have to nominate and the messengers discuss the 52 names one by one, rather than present them as a group.

Messengers rejected Stanley's ruling 12,576 to 11,801.

When business resumed at the evening session and upon the advice of

parliamentarians, Stanley ruled SBC Bylaw 16 prevents messengers from amending Committee on Committees slates of nominees and that they must be either accepted or rejected.

Slatton, both Shermans and others protested that Stanley ignored numerous shouts for "points of order" from all over the convention hall as he brought the issue quickly to a vote.

"They'll say we were disturbing the peace," Slatton said. "I say a guarantee of peace is due process and a structure that makes peace possible. Regrettably we don't have due process." (BP)

### BPRA exhibit winners named in competition

Judges made first and second place awards in four categories in the Baptist Public Relations Association exhibit competition during the Southern Baptist Convention.

First place winners are Education Commission, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Annuity Board, and Southern Baptist Seminars.

Second place winners are Mississippi College, Union University, Brotherhood Commission, and Baptist Sunday School Board.

Seventeen exhibits were entered in the competition to encourage improved communications by means of exhibits prepared by members of BPRA. (BP)

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