

Baptist And Reflector

Vol. 138 / Thursday, December 21, 1972 / No. 51

News-Journal Of The Tennessee Baptist Convention

*For unto you is born this
day in the city of David a
Saviour, which is Christ
the Lord.*

Luke 2:11.



Controversies Over Religious Observances 'Probably A Good Thing,' Lowell

C. Stanley Lowell, associate director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, has said that controversies over religious observances and practices in the public schools are "probably a good thing." Lowell was referring to the present day "religiously neutral public school system" in relation to religious holidays and school observances.

The Methodist minister stated that religious worship and religious indoctrination were a part of the school program in early American culture when the country was "predominately Christian and predominately Protestant." But, he pointed out, "The development of a pluralistic society with large Roman Catholic, Jewish, and secular minorities created a new situation and led to demands for a religiously neutral school system."

Schools are public institutions, he said, "and as such may not be used for religious indoctrination. They may not indoctrinate in regard to any particular creed or any religious faith whatever," he added.

He called attention to guidelines for the schools on religious holidays which had been prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Education and a similar guide issued by the Long Island Interfaith Council. The guidelines called for "mutual understanding" in recognizing that different religious groups observe their special days

differently and that some individuals recognize no religious observances. Teaching about religious holidays should be objective and should avoid any impression of support by school authority, it said.

Lowell felt that such guidelines were useful, but stated that "there is no final determination that even one with the wisdom of Solomon can make in this area."

New Books Series Slated By Broadman Press

Broadman Press will release a series of six books in January 1973 on "Sexuality in Christian Living," according to officials at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

The books are a result of the 1969 Southern Baptist Convention vote which encouraged "all agencies and curriculum planners to give increasing attention" to such material. The resolution stated, also, that "human sexuality and personality fulfillment may best be understood through teaching in home and church."

In response to the Convention vote, the Family Ministries Section of the Sunday School Board worked closely with the Christian Life Commission in developing a collection of printed items for "Christian Sex Education: A Resource Packet" published by Broadman in 1971. The new series of books will be aimed at persons six years of age and above and include: "Made to Grow," "The Changing Me," "Growing Up With Sex," "Sex Is More Than a Word," "Teaching Your Children About Sex," and "Made For Each Other."

Devotional The Words Of Life By Mrs. H. K. Sorrell 322 N. Lafayette, Brownsville

Several years ago, our third son learned his first hymn. It was "Wonderful Words of Life."

During this Christmas season, our thoughts are centered in the Word that became flesh and dwelt among us bringing wonderful words of Life.

Nan F. Weeks tells of little Bobby who dreamed one Christmas Eve that Jesus did not come.

It seemed that Bobby had not been asleep any time when a cross voice told him it was time to get up.

Remembering that this was Christmas morning, he hurried downstairs to see the toys he had asked for. But there was no one there, no stockings hung beside the fireplace, no beautiful tree.

As he rushed out into the street, he found the factory running and the merchants doing business as usual.

Perplexed by it all, Bobby thought he would go to his church. Surely there would be a service there. But when he reached the site of the church, he saw only a sign which read, "If I Had Not Come."

Wandering along in a gloomy way, he remembered the Orphans' Home and the box of toys his class had sent them. He would go and watch them open their presents. However, when Bobby reached the place, instead of seeing the name of the Home over the doorway, he saw these same words, "If I Had Not Come."

He tried to take a feeble old man to the hospital, but there was no hospital nor Rescue Mission where they should have been.

Returning to his home, Bobby stopped in the living room and picked up a Bible to look up these five words, "If I Had Not Come." Imagine his surprise when he found all of the pages after Malachi blank. As he held the pages up to the light, on each one he could see a faint outline of the words, "If I Had Not Come."

But Jesus has come and we do have churches and orphans' homes and rescue missions and hospitals. And in him are the words of Life.

Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable Gift!



BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR

Established 1885
Post Office Box 647, Brentwood, Tenn. 37027
Phone: (615) 833-4220
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Published weekly except Christmas week by the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, at Brentwood, Tennessee, (Post Office Box 647) 37027. Subscription prices: \$2.75, individual; clubs of ten or more, \$2.25; church budget, four cents weekly when sent to 51 per cent or more of church homes. Second class postage paid at Brentwood, Tennessee, and at additional mailing office.
Space forbids printing of resolutions and obituaries. Advertising rates on request.
Member of Baptist Press (BP) news service of the Southern Baptist Convention. Subscriber to Religious News Service (RNS).

News-Journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention
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Pulpit To Pew

By Jim Griffith

When understood to its fullest meaning, "Merry Christmas" is more than just a familiar, seasonal greeting.

Christmas is for joy! The joy of the faith that inspires the celebration. The joy of love given and received.

Cold hearts are often warmed to love by the contagious Christmas spirit and the tightest of pocketbooks receive their once-a-year ventilation at Christmastime.

And for a brief happy time, the spotlight of attention is switched from self to others. Many discover for themselves the Scriptural truth: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Families get together, friendships are restored, and old wounds are covered with the band-aid of love. The poor, the old, and the lonely are noticed and loved.

Christmas is a time for joy! Jesus came that our joy might be full. And He whose birthday we celebrate wants it so.

FEATURING

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Charles Norton Is Beginning 31st Year In Service To TBC



Charles Norton

New Year's Day will assume unusual significance for two brothers serving the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

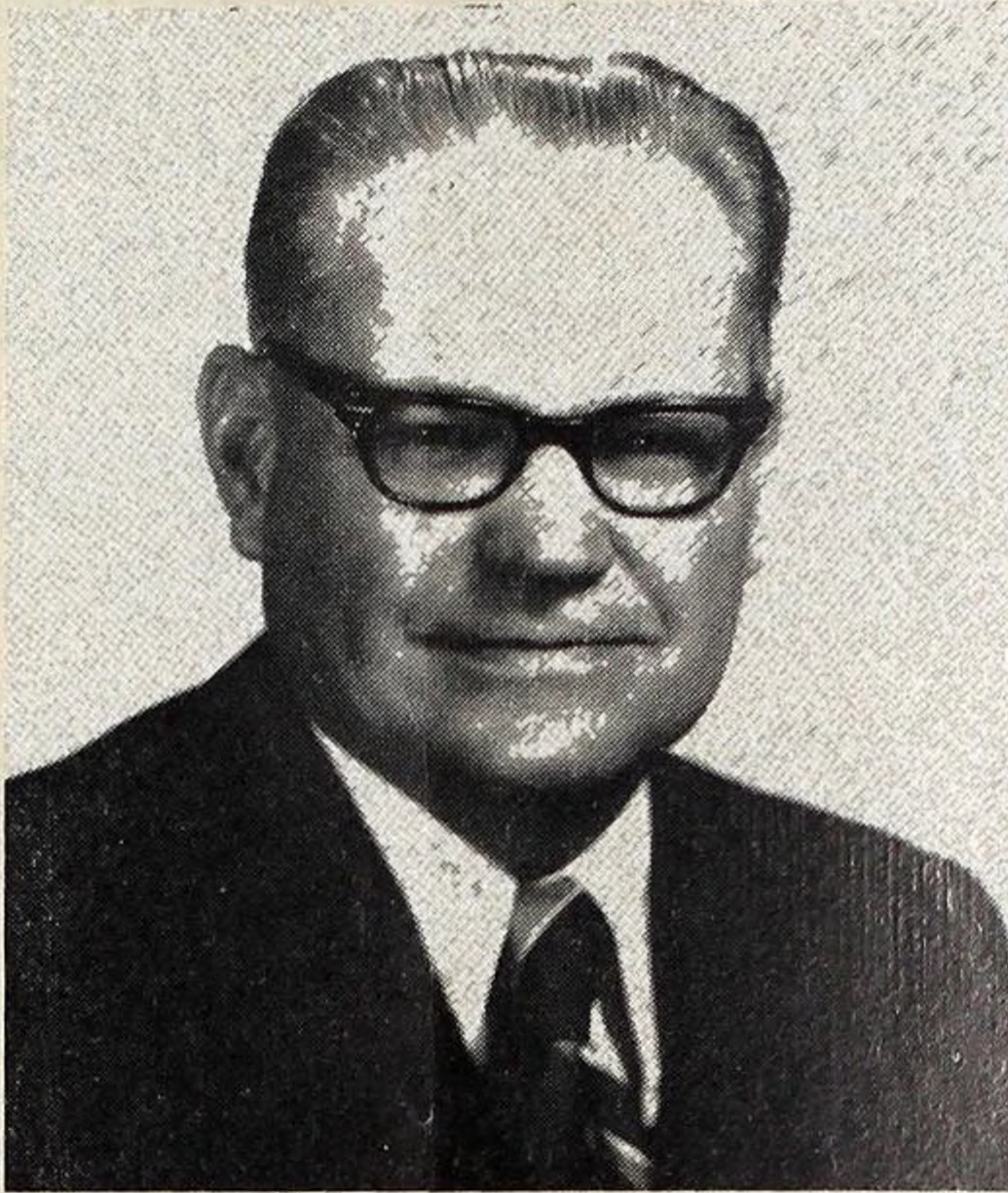
One brother, Ralph Norton, will begin duties as Tennessee Baptists' chief executive officer. On that same day, brother Charles L. Norton begins his thirty-first year with the convention. On Jan. 1, 1943, the elder brother joined the staff of the Tennessee Baptist Convention as secretary of the state Training Union Department. Since his coming, major concepts have been initiated, and the work and program of Training Unions in Tennessee has flourished and expanded greatly.

During his almost one-third of a century with the department, he has served in library work, church architecture promotion, Baptist Student Union organization, music, as well as modern functions of the Church Training program. Because of the groundwork laid by Norton and others, the Student Department and Music Department were organized as separate entities in 1943 and 1955, respectively.

"M Night" Initiated

Two accomplishments of major importance during Charles Norton's tenure have been his concept and establishment of state-wide associational mass meetings (now known as "M Night") and Doctrinal Emphasis Week, which later became "Bible Study Week." "M Night" was organized for the promotion of Training Union and for the inspiration of workers and members. Dec. 7, 1943 marked the first time "M Night" was observed in Tennessee. Doctrinal Emphasis Week was initiated first in January of 1944. The observance was later adopted as part of the program of the Sunday School Board.

One facet in the church Training Union



Ralph Norton

program has been the establishment of age groups within the total organizational framework. This practice was inaugurated by Norton shortly after he assumed the position of secretary of the Training Union Department.

In Tennessee, early in 1943, 863 Training Unions were in operation with a membership of 50,000. Today there are 1900 unions with an enrolment of between 190,000 and 200,000.

Sword Drill Begun In '43

During his first year of service, Secretary Norton began the promotion of the state-wide Sword Drill and a Better Speakers' Tournament. The Sword Drill was first observed in Tennessee in 1943. Junior and primary children participated. Called at that time, the "Junior Memory Work Drill," it was changed in 1965 to the "Bible Exploring Drill."

Increased demands and a broader field of service have called for an enlargement within the Church Training Department. In 1943, two persons served the needs of the state. Presently, seven individuals are employed in the areas of adult work, youth work, children's work, preschool work, library services and special projects, and in secretarial assistance.

Before joining the state convention staff, Charles Norton served as pastor of the Tabernacle and Tyner churches in Chattanooga. He was also missionary for the Ocoee Association, now known as the Bradley and Hamilton Associations.

The Tennessee Baptist leader was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1932 by the Concord church, also in Chattanooga. He was born in Chattanooga and raised in Ohio. A graduate of Carson-Newman college in Jefferson City, he attended Southern

15 Adult Night Courses Set At Belmont College

Belmont college in Nashville will offer 15 night courses for adults next semester, according to a recent announcement from school officials. A new program concept for the school, it is designed to meet the needs of adults who have not been exposed to college work and those who desire college credit, Glen E. Kelley, academic dean, related.

Seven of the courses will be in the field of business administration, finance, marketing, and secretarial administration; six will cover a broad range of education; and two will be provided in music and religion. The courses will be staffed by the regular professional faculty, Kelley said. Most classes will meet for three hours one night a week.

Classes will begin the week of Jan. 8 and continue through April. Final examinations are scheduled for April 27-May 2.

Registration and class information may be obtained from the Admissions Office at Belmont.

New Books

Give the Winds a Mighty Voice by Daniel P. Fuller, Word Books, 247 pp., \$5.95. The story of Charles E. Fuller.

Ask Me To Dance by Bruce Larson, Word Books, 126 pp., \$3.95.

Food for Fellowship Cookbook by Antoinette Hatfield, Word Books, \$4.95.

How Jesus Won Men by L. R. Scarborough, Baker Book House, 290 pp., \$2.95.

Living that Counts by William J. Krutza and Philip P. Di Cicco, Baker Book House, \$1.25. A study guide to the Book of James.

Types of Preachers in the New Testament by A. T. Robertson, Baker Book House, 238 pp., \$2.95. Qualities of sixteen selected preachers in the New Testament presented and analyzed.

Baptist Theological seminary in Louisville. In 1968 he received an honorary doctor's degree from his alma mater.

The Will Of God, His Goal

Charles Norton feels that the overall purpose of the Training Union program has not changed a great deal during the 30 years of his service. "The fivefold purpose is still to help develop talents, increase spiritual knowledge, inform members regarding church denominational life, deepen the missionary spirit, and lead us to see the will of God," he said. "I will continue to strive for these goals."

A specific expansion goal for the years ahead, Norton revealed, is "the establishment of a Church Training program in every church in Tennessee!" The adopted theme of "Church, the Sunday Night Place," will be the Church Training emphasis for 1973-74—his thirty-first year of service.

EDITORIALS

Season One For Joy, Meditation

This issue of Baptist And Reflector marks the final one for the year 1972. Through the pages of your state news-journal, we have endeavored faithfully to present to our readers a well-rounded picture of Baptist life and work; especially as it relates to the ministries of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Therefore, at this time we express appreciation to each and every person—every reader, who has helped make for this paper one of the best years ever.

The circulation of your state paper has increased constantly throughout the year. Interest and support upon the part of pastors, denominational servants, and all of our readers has made this possible.

Tennessee Baptists are a great fellowship. They have served well together during this year, and have accomplished many good things for Christ's sake.

For each of us, this is a season of especial joy and happiness as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. It is well for each of us to remember that Him whom we call Lord and Master was born in circumstances which today would perhaps classify Joseph's family for some type of welfare benefits. Born in a Manger, Jesus lives today in the hearts and lives of all who believe in Him as the Son of God. He is the same Jesus who stands ready to enter into the heart and life of any person who is willing to come, by faith, to accept Him as He is and for what He is—the one hope of eternal life.

Increased secularization of this season—the increased commercialization—does not please many, perhaps most, of us. We take no joy in observing that the glitter of commerce has in many ways tended to overshadow the realities of the Cross.

One of the sadder aspects of this commercialization is that many sincere Christians are caught up in the web of serving the appetites of a public which seems to demand seven-day-a-week service. In the economy of God, we believe there is nothing to be gained in permitting temporal concerns to overshadow eternal principles.

To each of you, we wish a Merry Christmas in the spirit of the meaning of the Second Chapter of Luke, which reads in verses one through fourteen:

CHAPTER 2

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

2 (And this taxing was first made when Cy-re'nius was governor of Syria.)

3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of

David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Pastor Pays Tribute To Kendall

Dr. Fred Kendall knows Southern Baptists well. He has served faithfully in all types of churches and on all levels of denominational life. When there were pressures to cater to one extreme point of view or another, he was able to remain open to all, and yet retain a commitment to a central moderate position representative of most Baptists.

His leadership should not be interpreted as one of expediency. He is a Christian and a Baptist of strong faith, doctrinal purity, and deep dedication. The few who may not have agreed with him on certain issues have respected him as a man of honor and integrity.

As his pastor for 16 years, I salute him as a trusted friend and faithful helper in the church; and as the chief executive officer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention who has given a stabilizing and unifying leadership to a people who will have him in their hearts forever. (H. Franklin Paschall, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Nashville.)

Minister, Wife Slain, Son Commits Suicide

ATLANTA—A Southern Baptist pastor and his wife were shot to death shortly before midnight Tuesday here, apparently by their elder son, who later the next morning committed suicide.

The bodies of Homer Smith, 57, pastor of Hills Park Baptist church in Atlanta, and his wife Allene, 56, were found by police Wednesday morning after they received a telephone call from the Smith's younger son, Steve, 29.

The police also found the body of Jeff Bentley Smith, 39, with a fatal bullet wound through his head, seated in a reclining chair where he had apparently killed himself after shooting his mother and father.

The younger Smith son said his brother Jeff had called him Wednesday morning and told him what he had done. "You'd better start arrangements," Jeff Smith told his brother.

The first time Jeff called him that morning Steve said he hung up on Jeff. Steve later told police that the family was "hav-

ing problems" with Jeff. The second time Jeff called, however, Steve listened to him tell him that he had killed their parents. Steve then telephoned the police.

Homer Smith, who formerly had been pastor of Venetian Hills Baptist church for 14 years, was lying in a hallway, a .410 gauge shotgun beside his body and wounds in his face and shoulder.

His wife, Allene, was lying on the floor of the master bedroom with wounds in her neck and chest. Jeff was sitting upright in a chair in the den. There were indications that the minister had struggled for his life, police said. There were spent shells and cartridges strewn about him from three weapons—the shotgun, a .25 caliber pistol, and a .38 pistol—found in the house.

Otherwise the house was undisturbed.

Police they could determine no motive for the murders.

"He was the oldest son, and he lived at home. He had a drinking problem. He wore a built-up shoe on one foot from something that was wrong with his foot or leg," said Sgt. E. L. Pike of the Fulton County Medical Examiner's Office. "As to what triggered it, we have no idea."

Steve Smith told police that the family had been trying to hide the household guns from his brother.

A spokesman for the Georgia Mental Health Institute said Jeff Smith had been treated for alcoholism, both as in-patient and day patient, from some time prior to 1968 until last June, when he was transferred to the Georgia Regional Hospital. He entered the hospital voluntarily, but went "awol" after about two weeks. He was officially discharged after his disappearance, and did not return again to the hospital. (BP)

Mrs. Hood, Early Home Missionary, Dies

ATLANTA—Mrs. Margaret Tweedy Hood, one of seven pioneer Southern Baptist Home missionaries, died last week in Dawson, Ga., at age 86.

She had been in declining health living in a nursing home for several months. Her husband, Herman E. Hood, died in 1947.

Mrs. Hood was born in Madison, Ga. She entered the Woman's Missionary Union Training School in Louisville, Ky. in 1908.

She was partially supported by the Friendship Baptist Association. The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board appointed her to mission service in 1900 to Norfolk, Va., to work with various minority groups there. Mrs. Hood started the first goodwill center in Norfolk, calling it The Settlement House. (BP)

Psychologists To Query Pentagon On POW Rehabilitation Plans

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Concern over what type of rehabilitation will be given to American prisoners of war when they are released by North Vietnam is expressed in a resolution adopted here by the Council of Representatives of the 35,000-member American Psychological Association.

Specifically, the 143-member council, which acts as the association's governing body, wants to know what "precautions are being taken that the psychological briefing or treatment given to each returnee be aimed only at his own rehabilitation, and that no attempt will be made to manipulate the political opinions of the returnees."

The resolution also ordered the association's Board of Social and Ethical Responsibility to find out what steps the Department of Defense plans to take and report to the board of directors at its February meeting. (RNS)

Welcome Center In Brazil Provides Unique Ministry

A new idea in evangelism in South Brazil is being spearheaded by Southern Baptist missionary William L. Morgan, former Tennessee pastor and a native of Memphis. The new spark in evangelism is an effort to provide a unique ministry through a welcome center to some of the projected 1,000,000 per year tourists moving up and down new north-south highway 101.

Morgan promoted the welcome center idea and now directs the ministry. As far as he knows, no one else in the area offers free aid to tourists, not even the government. The new facility, opened Dec. 16, 1971, two weeks after the summer season began, and closed when the season closed at the end of February, offers free coffee, picnic area, playground, snack bar, the showing of a gospel film, slides showing the principal tourist attractions, a copy of the Gospel of John, tracts, and information concerning local Baptist churches.

Each visitor also receives a packet containing information on highway routes, hotels and restaurants. All the material is available in Spanish, German, English, and Portuguese.

Morgan realizes that results from this type of ministry will not often be visible. Commenting on the \$11,000 project, built with funds provided by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and volunteer labor, he says that "Seeing the results is not the important factor for us . . . but sowing the seed of the gospel in the setting of an offer of Christian love and help is important."

Five Tennesseans Receive Degrees At Southwestern



Thomason

Weatherford

Howse

Haskins

Dennis

William L. Howse III, former director of organization for the Christian Life Commission in Nashville, and four other Tennesseans will receive degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary during winter commencement exercises, Dec. 15.

Seminary president, Robert E. Naylor, said that the class of 158 candidates will constitute the largest winter graduating class in the school's history.

The Tennessee graduates include Howse, Doctor of Education, Nashville; Charles E. Dennis, Master of Divinity, Tullahoma; Dan D. Haskins, Master of Divinity, Clarksville; Billy D. Thomason, Diploma in Theology, Memphis; and Margaret A. Weatherford, Master of Religious Education, Madison.

William G. Tanner, president of Oklahoma Baptist university in Shawnee, will be the commencement speaker.

Major Site Changes Scheduled For Camps Linden And Carson

A master plan for new facilities at Camp Linden at Linden and Camp Carson at Newport have been developed by Gilleland-Wallace and Associates, Architects, according to Roy J. Gilleland, III. The plans for the camp sites, both operated under the auspices of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, have been approved by the camp subcommittee of the missions committee of the convention's executive board, Gilleland said. He also indicated that this has to be a phased growth pattern.

Priorities have been established for the camps and involve: First, housing; second, dining and administration facilities; and third, recreational and chapel-meeting facilities.

Three major areas of development have been worked out for both camps. These areas for Camp Linden include: A primitive camping area developed on the general-

ly wooded areas of the site with a focal point being a lake; a commons area which has centered around it all major activity and meeting facilities; and an activities area containing all necessary activities for the camp's conferences and retreats with the exception of any of the primitive camping areas.

The areas of development for Camp Carson include: A primitive camping area similar to Linden with the exception of the lake; a commons area; and third, an aquatic activity area supplying all necessary functions centered around a four-acre lake and a recreational area with all other outdoor activities.

Gilleland-Wallace and Associates, Architects, in developing the housing areas for the camps, have plans for a housing pod with a cluster of four housing units, each containing a 1-12 counselor-camper ratio and each cabin to contain 24 campers and two counselors as a maximum. The housing pods have been developed into four groups of approximately 100 per group, thereby allowing the development of four groups of 100, two groups of 200, or one group of 400. This, according to Gilleland, would allow usage by boys and girls in separate groups when needed or even allow different groups to use camp facilities at the same time.

The Nashville-based architectural firm has also developed dining and chapel facilities to allow the same flexibility.

Baptist Leader To Discuss Religious Trends on ABC-TV

FORT WORTH—The president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission here will be one of four featured panelists to discuss religious trends of 1972 and possible developments in 1973 on a network television program slated Dec. 31.

Paul M. Stevens of the Radio-TV Commission will join three other religious leaders for the panel discussion on the American Broadcasting Co. (ABC-TV) "Direction" program slated for broadcast at 1:00 p.m. (EST), Sunday, Dec. 31.

ABC news commentator Frank Reynolds will host the program, which will focus on religious developments in 1972 and possible issues to confront the American religious community in 1973.

Others on the panel will include representatives of the National Council of Churches, the Jewish faith, and Roman Catholics.

Panelists or Stevens; Dick Gilbert of New York, a member of the Presbyterian Board of Communications representing the National Council of Churches; Edward T. Sandrow, rabbi emeritus of Temple Beth El in Cedarhurst, N.Y.; and Kenny Sweeney of New York, president of the American Catholic Association of Religious Broadcasters. (BP)

ALLENTOWN, PA.—The 50-year-old Gothic building of the Asbury United Methodist church here was virtually destroyed in a three-alarm fire on Oct. 24. Officials of the 1500 member congregation said the damage would reach \$1 million.

Bible Nuggets

Marriage 'In The Lord'

By T. B. Maston

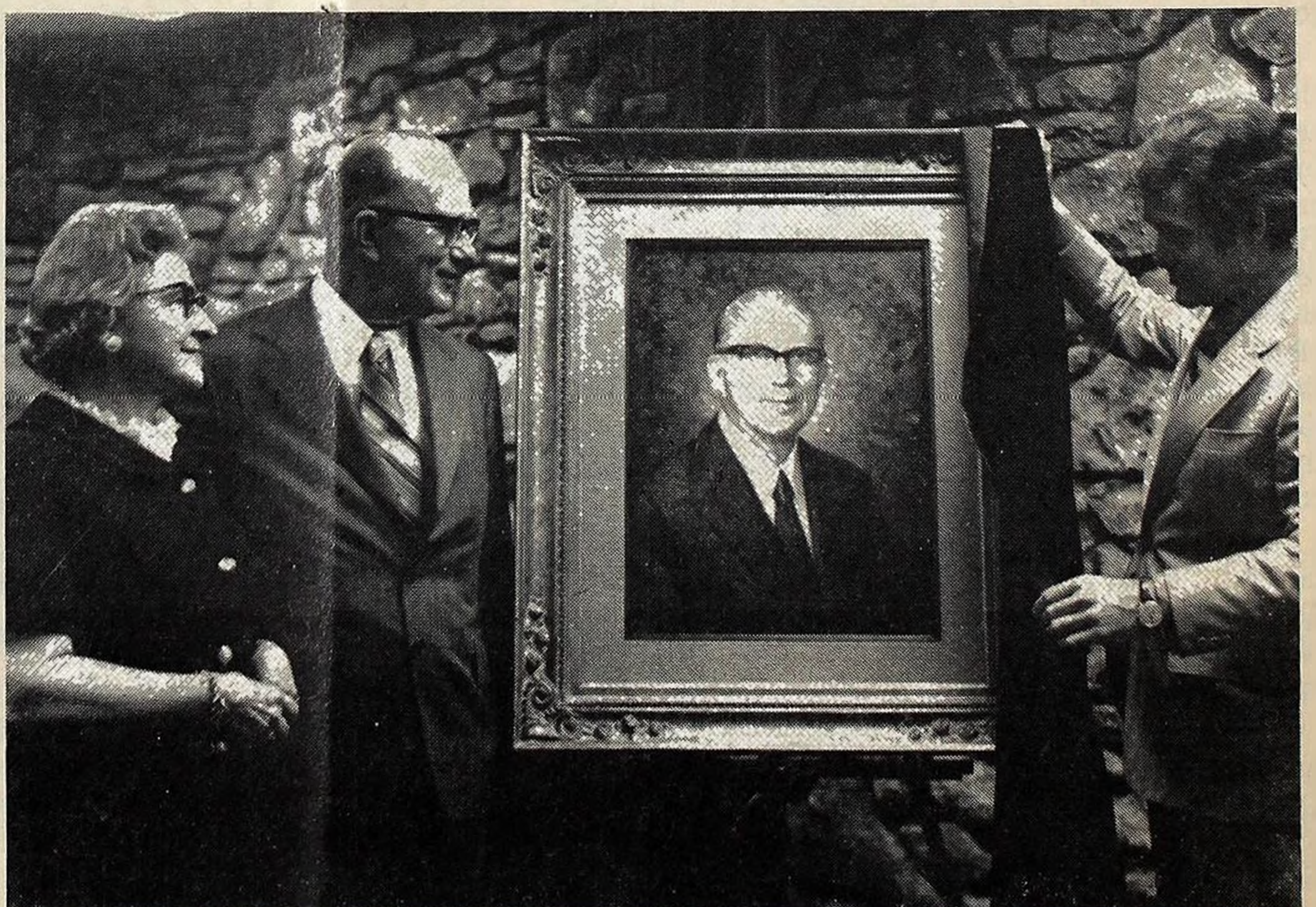
Professor of Christian Ethics, Retired
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. If the husband dies, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord (1 Cor. 7:39, RSV).

What did Paul mean by the four words at the close of this statement: "only in the Lord"? Did he mean that the marriage was to be within the will of the Lord? Or did he mean that the one the widow married should be "in the Lord" or a Christian? The translations of the verse vary but most of them imply the latter. For example: "Provided the marriage is within the Lord's fellowship" (NEB). "Within the Lord's fellowship" would certainly mean that the husband would have to be a Christian. Williams plainly says, "Only he must be a Christian." This seems to be what Paul meant.

If Paul would say that a Christian widow should not marry one who was not a Christian, would he not say the same thing concerning those who have never been married? There cannot be a Christian home without a Christian husband and a Christian wife. And we might add that it cannot be a real Christian home without a real Christian husband and a real Christian wife.

In other words, young people, in seeking a life companion, should not only seek one who is a church member but one who is an active, dynamic Christian. This in turn means that the final test will be positive: How much does the spirit of the resurrected Christ find expression in and through his life?



A portrait of W. Fred Kendall, retiring executive secretary-treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Convention, was unveiled during the recent meeting of the convention's executive board in Brentwood. W. Fred Kendall, II, right, of Union City, unveiled the portrait while his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Kendall, looked on.

The Promised Messiah

By Wade E. Darby, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Jefferson City

Background Passages: Jeremiah 23:5,6; 33:14-16; Matthew 2:1-12

Focal Passages: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Matthew 2:1-6

All Christendom thinks of the birth of Jesus at Christmas. On this Christmas Eve, we look for Matthew's account of the birth of our Lord for the basis of our lesson. Matthew's record is related to Jeremiah's oracles concerning the kings of Judah. Jeremiah berated the kings for the manner in which they had ruled, and held out the hope of a coming king who would rule more perfectly. Matthew sees Jesus as one who will rule. Herod



Darby

heard rumors of a ruler who had been born, and slaughtered an unknown number of infants to protect his throne. Matthew's gospel is related to Jeremiah's promise and Israel's hope.

The Promised Messiah Related To Israel's Hope.

Jeremiah 21:1-23:8 contains oracles concerning the rulers of Judah. The original setting was during the final two-year siege of Jerusalem or 589 B.C. to 587 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar had Jerusalem surrounded. Egypt had been called upon for help by King Zedekiah. The situation was desperate. The King sent Pashur and Zephaniah to Jeremiah to ask him to beseech God for help. Jeremiah could give them no hope. He pictured God as actually fighting against them.

He advised Zedekiah to surrender and told the people to desert to the Babylonians. It is no surprise that he was charged with treason. As the ancient scholars collected and arranged the passage, the oracles related to the Kings of Judah follow. Some are named but some are simply implied. He names the shortcomings of "the house of the King of Judah," Jehoahaz or Shallum, Jehoiakim or Coniah, Jehoiachin, and Zedekiah, though his name is not called. Jeremiah accuses them of failing as leaders.

The people needed spiritual and moral leadership. Because they did not have it, they went astray. Because of their sinfulness, they were now to be scattered in captivity. The kings were largely to blame for Judah's plight. "Ye have scattered my flock . . . behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings . . ." (Jer. 23:2)

Judah's hope for renewal and restoration was dependent upon adequate leadership. Jeremiah held out such a hope. "I will

gather the remnant of my flock . . . and will bring them again to their folds . . . I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them. . . ." (Jer. 23:3,4)

The Messiah, The Fulfillment of Israel's Hope.

All Israel's kings had failed. Saul, David, and Solomon were the kings of the united Israel. After the death of Solomon the nation was divided. There was Israel in the North with ten tribes and Judah in the South with two tribes. Israel in the North was ruled by nineteen kings before she fell to the Assyrians in 722 B.C. Judah in the South was ruled by nineteen kings, too, until she fell to the Chaldeans in 587 B.C. By and large, they were a sorry lot. The people of God suffered from a lack of spiritual and moral leadership.

Humanity has generally believed in a paradise lost, a time in the past when life was perfect. This belief has usually been accompanied with a hope of paradise regained, a time in the future when life will be perfect again. Man knows life as he lives it is very imperfect. He knows it could and should be better. He lives in hope. Israel, too, lived in hope. This hope was crystalized in a Messianic or kingly expectation.

She longed and looked for a king who would be like her most perfect king, David. Under David, Israel had known her greatest glory. The passing years further glamorized his reign. This king, who would reign in power and justice would be of Davidic lineage. Under him the good life would return.

Jeremiah promised woe to the shepherds who had failed the flock. (Jer. 23:1,2) He promised a gathering of the flock and good shepherds who would care for the flock. (Jer. 23:3,4) He promised one from the line of David, a shoot, a branch, a growth, "a righteous Branch". Under this king, Judah shall be saved and safe. There will be judgment and justice. (Jer. 23:5,6)

Jeremiah also promised a return to the land. Remember, these words were spoken while Jerusalem was under siege and the captivity was just ahead. There will come a time, said Jeremiah, when you will not talk of a God who brought you from Egypt to the land, but rather you will talk of the God who brought you from the Babylonian captivity to the land. (Jer. 25:7,8)

Better days are ahead. A good king is coming. He shall be called, "The Lord Our Righteousness." (Jer. 25:6) Zedekiah was king. Jerusalem was in the process of fall-

'Baptist Men's Journal' Editor Named to Mental Health Post

MEMPHIS—Dana Driver, editor of the "Baptist Men's Journal" published by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission here, has been named director of public affairs for the Arlington (Tenn.) Hospital and School for the Mentally Retarded.

Driver, 26, is a native of Memphis and a graduate of Memphis State university in journalism and radio and television. He has also done graduate work at Texas Christian university and Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary, Fort Worth. (BP)

ing. The name Zedekiah meant "Yahweh is my righteousness." Zedekiah, however, was an inadequate king. This king who will come will be named "The Lord Is Our Righteousness", and he will be adequate, says Jeremiah.

Jeremiah and Israel were thinking of a Jewish Kingdom in Palestine. Matthew saw the fulfillment of their hope in Jesus of Nazareth. Matthew begins his story of the Christ with the words, "The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the Son of David. . . ." (Matt. 1:1)

The early followers of Jesus thought of a Jewish Kingdom, too. After the resurrection, Luke tells us that the disciples were asking "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the Kingdom of Israel?" (Acts 1:6) Gradually but surely they learned that the King of the Jews was also the King of the nations. They also learned that one did not have to become a Jew to become a Christian. They learned, too, that his Kingdom is not of this world. (John 18:36)

Paul taught that the real Israel (people of God) is not by earthly lineage but by faith. ". . . they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham." (Gal. 3:7) Luke tells us that Jesus warned about those who would insist that the Kingdom is an earthly Kingdom. Don't pay attention to them when they say the Kingdom is here or that it is there, said Jesus. "The Kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:21) In the heart and mind of man, where choices are made and wills are bent to His will, exists the Kingdom.

The Messiah Is The Hope of The World.

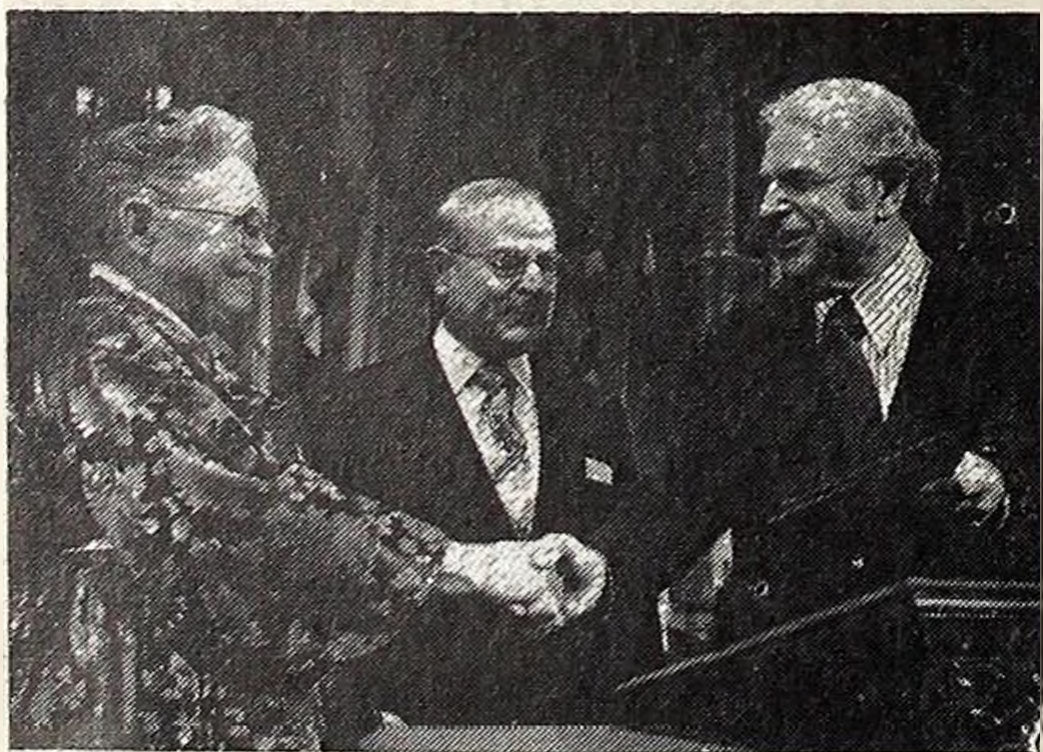
Jesus, the King who came to establish a spiritual and eternal Kingdom, is mankind's hope for a paradise regained. He comes to subdue with love and not might. He enters human life to rebuild and redeem. He can lift man to a new dimension of existence where spiritual and moral values are supreme and matter is transcended. His life, death, and resurrection demonstrate the power of goodness over evil. His reign is real and characterized by righteousness and mercy. We can share in His reign now to the same degree that we yield our wills to Him.

Tennessee News Briefs

A two-year associate degree program in secretarial administration has been added to the Department of Business at Belmont college, according to an announcement from **Charles R. O'Neal**, department chairman. It is designed to prepare students for positions as secretaries, administrative assistants, and technical clerical positions in business, professional, religious, and government organizations, he said. The program, consisting of 66 semester hours, will begin with the January registration. It is available during the day, and also in some evening classes, the chairman noted.

Gene Carter, draftsman in the Church Architecture Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board for the past 11 years, has been promoted to interior designer in the department. The interior design consultation program was approved at the July 1972 meeting of the Sunday School Board trustees at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center. It is designed to provide a tailored service to fit the individual needs and wants of churches, a board spokesman stated. The program design service of suggesting building arrangements for churches will still be available to Southern Baptist churches at no cost.

In the Holston Association, Grace church observed "**Noah Mayfield Day**" recently in honor of his service as a deacon and teacher since the church was organized. **Mayfield** is 84 years of age. **Allen Davis** is pastor.



(Photo by David Clanton)

Missionaries Honored—Dr. and Mrs. **John A. Abernathy**, left, retired Southern Baptist foreign missionaries from Hot Springs, Ark., receive a **Lottie Moon Commemorative Award** from the 17,000-member First Baptist church, Dallas, and its pastor **W. A. Criswell**. The church presented the award for the first time to honor the Abernathys' 40 years' service in the Orient and personalize and spotlight attention on the annual **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**, Southern Baptist Convention-wide offering for foreign missions. This year's goal is \$18,000,000. The presentation was part of a week-long **Lottie Moon** emphasis by the SBC's largest church.

In the Dyer Association, the Hillcrest church ordained **Tom Taylor**, **Claud Yeager**, and **Arlen Prestridge** as deacons. **Reuben Trussell** is the pastor. **J. D. Autry** and **Connie Rogers** were ordained as deacons at Westside church where **Leonard Ballinger** is pastor. In the same association, members of Zion Hill church voted to build a fellowship hall onto the present building. **Dennis Knott** is pastor.

Renewal Center Names Clemmons Director

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The Vineyard Conference Center, formed at mid-year here by professor **Findley Edge**, has named **Bill Clemmons** of Nashville as its first director.

Clemmons, presently director of vocational guidance and family ministry at the Baptist Sunday School Board, is a former missionary, teacher, pastor, and education director.

Starting January 1, he will take over the administration of this renewal center, which seeks, according to **Edge**, "to help individuals and churches discover at increasingly deeper levels the life to which God is calling all his people."

Edge, a professor of religious education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has dreamed of the center for more than eight years, and last July announced the formation of a board of directors representing five denominations.

Since then, the interest of lay people across the nation who have personally experienced a renewed vitality in their Christian lives have made it possible to employ **Clemmons**, according to **Edge**.

Clemmons feels this is what renewal is all about—the realization of a deeper relationship with God and with one's fellowman and the desire to share it.

The new director, who served in Italy for six years as a missionary of Southern Baptists, said that renewal is a total teaching experience, not simply that of content but also a group process. (BP)

James Powell To Assist SBC Cooperative Program Promotion

NASHVILLE—**James L. Powell Jr.**, pastor of First Baptist church in Laurinburg, N.C., has been named assistant director of Cooperative Program promotion for the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission here, effective Jan. 1.

The addition of **Powell** to the staff will enable the commission to fulfill the increasing requests for assistance including national promotion of the 50th anniversary of the Cooperative Program. (BP)

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Tommy Preston, Chattanooga, has accepted the call of First church, South Pittsburg, where he will serve as minister of music and youth. **Norman O. Baker** is pastor.

In the McMinn Association, the Calvary Missionary church called **Earl Glass** as pastor. He is a former pastor in the Polk Association and has served as pastor in other churches in the McMinn Association. In the same association, the Cog Hill church ordained **Herman Jordan** to the Gospel Ministry. He has been called to the Hiwassee Union church in the Polk Association. The Walnut Grove church called **Frank Yoder** as pastor.

Bluff City church, Holston Association, has called **Larry Fletcher** as minister of music and youth. He is a native of Loudon and a junior at East Tennessee State university. **Edward E. Duncan** is pastor. In the same association, **Jack Parker** is serving as minister of education at Clark Street church, and **Richard Harris** has assumed the position of pastor of the Cedar Creek church.

Doyle Chatham has been called as director of education at the Inglewood church in Nashville, effective Jan. 1. He attended Texas Wesleyan college and Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary. He has served on the staff of the LaMar Heights church in Memphis; First church, Union City; Immanuel church, Nashville; and Concord church, Chattanooga. **James Hopkins** is pastor.

In the Campbell County Association, Cedar Hill church has called **Lester Anderson** as pastor; and Elk Valley church called **Craig Logan** as pastor. At the Midway Clairfield church, **Wayland Partin** resigned to become pastor of a Kentucky church.

Three churches in Dyer Association reported leadership changes recently. They include the resignation of **H. S. Glisson** as pastor of Calvary Chapel church and the resignation of **Eugene Cathey** from the Parish Chapel. Second church, Dyersburg, called **Gene Wade** as pastor. He was pastor of Salem church near Trenton.

At the St. Tide church, East Tennessee Association, **Earl Griffin** has resigned as pastor and will move his residence to New Jersey. Deep Gap church has called **Ilf Suggs** as pastor. He is already on the field.

REVIVAL RESULTS

Longcrest church, Memphis, held revival services recently with **Billy Walker**, Walnut Ridge, Ark., as the evangelist. There were 10 professions of faith and numerous other decisions. **John D. Noland** is the pastor.

Hollingsworth Awarded Degree Posthumously

FORT WORTH—Tom C. Hollingsworth Jr., was not able to complete all requirements for two degrees at Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary here.

But the faculty voted here to grant the 24-year-old student the master of divinity degree, posthumously.

Hollingsworth was beaten, robbed and murdered in Alabama this summer while selling Bibles to earn funds to complete his seminary degrees.

He had completed all required hours for the master of divinity degree, according to seminary dean Jesse Northcutt here, but had elected to work simultaneously on the master of religious education degree with hopes of receiving both degrees in December.

His body was found by hunters north of Camp Hill, Ala., in a wooded area so dense that search planes flying overhead could not spot his car only 200 yards away.

Police sources said his head had been bashed in by a blunt instrument, and the Bibles he had been selling were scattered around in the woods.

In October, two 17-year-old youths from Camp Hill, Ala., Jimmy Lorenzo Hicks and Ramon Silmon, were sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment each after pleading guilty to the murder of Hollingsworth. The sheriff was quoted as saying the youths told him they had promised to buy Bibles from Hollingsworth if he would drive them home to get some money.

Instead, they forced him to stop the car in the woods, robbed him of \$9.07 and killed him, the sheriff said.

Hollingsworth, a native of Gatesville, Tex., and graduate of Baylor university, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom C. Hollingsworth, Southern Baptist missionaries to Argentina for 22 years. (BP)

Americans United, Archer, Mark 25th Anniversary

Americans United for Separation of Church and State will celebrate its 25th anniversary in February 1973, according to Glen Archer, executive director of the organization.

Archer, at the same time, will be celebrating his 25th year with the organization. A special conference will be held in St. Louis Mo., Feb. 5-7, in honor of the anniversary of the religious freedom organization. Porter Routh, executive secretary and treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention; Jimmy R. Allen, pastor of the First Baptist church, San Antonio, Tex.; and Earl O. Harding, executive secretary of the Missouri Baptist Convention, will be among the featured speakers at the conference.

According to Archer, the current annual budget of Americans United is \$765,000. The organization has maintained a balanced budget since its beginning 25 years ago, he said.

"Religious liberty maintained and defended in this country, is implemented by two organizations under our direction," he pointed out. The two organizations include Americans United, the activist group headed by Allen; and the Americans United Research Foundation, a parallel but separate legal entity with its own officers and board of directors. The Foundation is engaged in technical research, finding and publishing new bodies of knowledge.

This issue is the last for 1972. The next issue of **Baptist And Reflector** will have the publication date of January 4, 1973.

This editor and the entire staff of **Baptist And Reflector** express sincere appreciation for the prayers, interest, cooperation and support of Tennessee Baptists during 1972.

At this season, we extend to each reader sincere best wishes for a good Christmas in the Spirit of Christ. We wish for each reader a happy and fruitful New Year in His service.

JAMES A. LESTER, *Editor*

Tired Of Members' Listlessness, Pastor Holds 'On Strike' Sign

AGINCOURT, Ont.—Dramatizing the lack of leadership in his congregation, the Rev. Ronald Weatherington of Christ Lutheran church here preached a sermon from the floor of his church while holding an "On Strike" sign.

He said later that the sermon had had some positive effects.

"I had to confront the people," he said. "I could have gone on calling meetings and writing articles until I was blue in the face."

Mr. Weatherington said his congregation, which has 138 members, has only three laymen on its governing council, but needs at least five to conduct business legally.

The service was "normal" up to the time the pastor was due to step into the pulpit and preach. Instead, he left the sanctuary, returned with the sign and started to preach from the floor.

"Now who's on strike? You or me?" he asked. "I've got to share my anguish with you." (RNS)

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Employees were honored during the December meeting of the executive board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Brentwood. They were, left to right: Mrs. Louise Stolp, office of executive secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Joe Franklin, Protection Plans, and Mrs. John Alden, Brotherhood department, all for five years; Mrs. Stuart Magee, Foundation, 15 years; and Mrs. Leoma Sherrill, maid, business office, 20 years.

Gaddy Named to Staff of SBC Christian Life Commission

NASHVILLE—Welton Gaddy of Louisville has been named director of Christian citizenship development for the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Gaddy, 31, is pastor of Beechwood Baptist church of Louisville. He assumes the post here effective Jan. 1, 1973.

Foy Valentine, executive secretary of the commission, said Gaddy will work in developing programs to help Southern Baptists exert Christian influence on political structures to create an improved moral climate in the communities, in the states, and in the nation.

Valentine added that Gaddy is both deeply committed to and uniquely qualified for working with Southern Baptists "to help bring moral convictions to bear on the political processes and structures in order to bring about changes for God's glory and man's good."

Gaddy earned the doctor of theology degree in Christian ethics from Southern Baptist Theological seminary, Louisville. He also holds the master of theology and the bachelor of divinity degrees from Southern seminary. He has a bachelor of arts

degree from Union university, Jackson, Tenn.

Gaddy is immediate past president of the Louisville Baptist Pastors' Conference, chairman of the Christian Life Committee of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and is a member of the Kentucky Baptist Executive Board. He is also a member of the Christian Life Committee of the Long Run Association of Baptists in Louisville.

He now serves as a panel member on "The Moral Side of the News," a weekly radio program dealing with current moral issues broadcast over a thirty-state area.

Gaddy was pastor of several churches in Tennessee and Kentucky while a university and seminary student. He also served as an instructor in preaching at Southern seminary. (BP)

'Community-In-Crisis'

Project To Aid Churches

ATLANTA—The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board here is participating in eight pilot projects dealing with what is called the 'Community-In-Crisis.'

Increased mobility, the rapid deterioration of whole communities, and the breakdown of neighborhoods, have caused the board to begin investigating ways to minister to the "community-in-crisis."

Warren Rust of the board's Division of Associational Services said that there are three levels of churches in the transitional community: (1) The community is changing and the church doesn't realize it. (2) Symptoms of change are recognizable. Funds are decreasing, the deacons are leaving. (3) The church has reached crisis level and is becoming a shell.

"It is to this third level that this program will minister," said Rust. "But we are in the development process for a system of training for churches in level one."

The board will help provide assistance in operational costs leadership, and special research and study in the projects which will be directed from the Baptist associational level.

The whole concept is based on the fact that individual churches just don't have the ability in many instances to minister to transitional communities. So the churches in an area pool their resources to provide ministry in a fuller sense. (BP)

Lottie Moon Offering Can Stop Dollar Squeeze

Southern Baptist foreign missionaries, caught in a squeeze between inflation and dollar devaluation, are hanging their hopes on the Christmas offering back-home Baptists are now giving.

The 1973 Foreign Mission Board budget is geared to offset pressure on the American dollar so that 2500 missionaries in 76 countries can keep up the pace of their work.

Foreign Mission Board officials say that devaluation resulted in a loss in value of approximately 3 cents per mission dollar last year. Meanwhile, 4 to 5 per cent inflation cut into the buying power of the mission dollar.

An increase in allocations from the Co-operative Program is helping to relieve the pressure. A companion increase from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will put the budget on even keel.

Last year's Lottie Moon Offering was \$17,833,810. This year Southern Baptists are shooting for at least \$18,000,000. Because the offering should provide approximately 46 per cent of the foreign missions budget, missionaries view it as crucial.

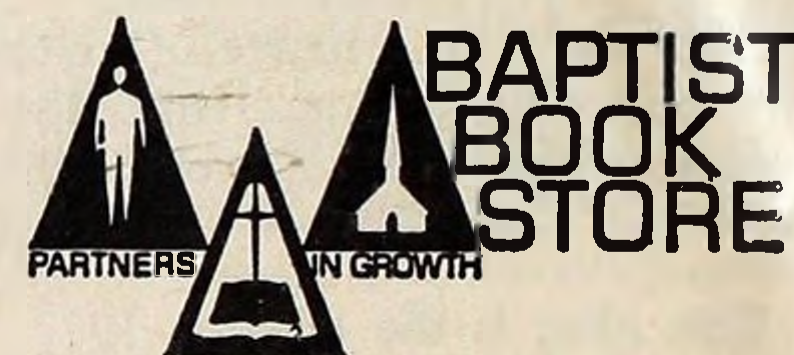
Allocations for the first \$12,500,000 of the offering cover more than 1000 requests from missionaries. But hundreds of other requests totaling more than \$4,000,000 are waiting at the end of the line for the offering to exceed \$18,000,000.

The thousand needs almost sure to be covered by the offering range in size from salaries for 700 missionaries (\$1,000,000) to audiovisual aids in Chile (\$255).

Nashville Church Co-Sponsor Of New Jersey Mission

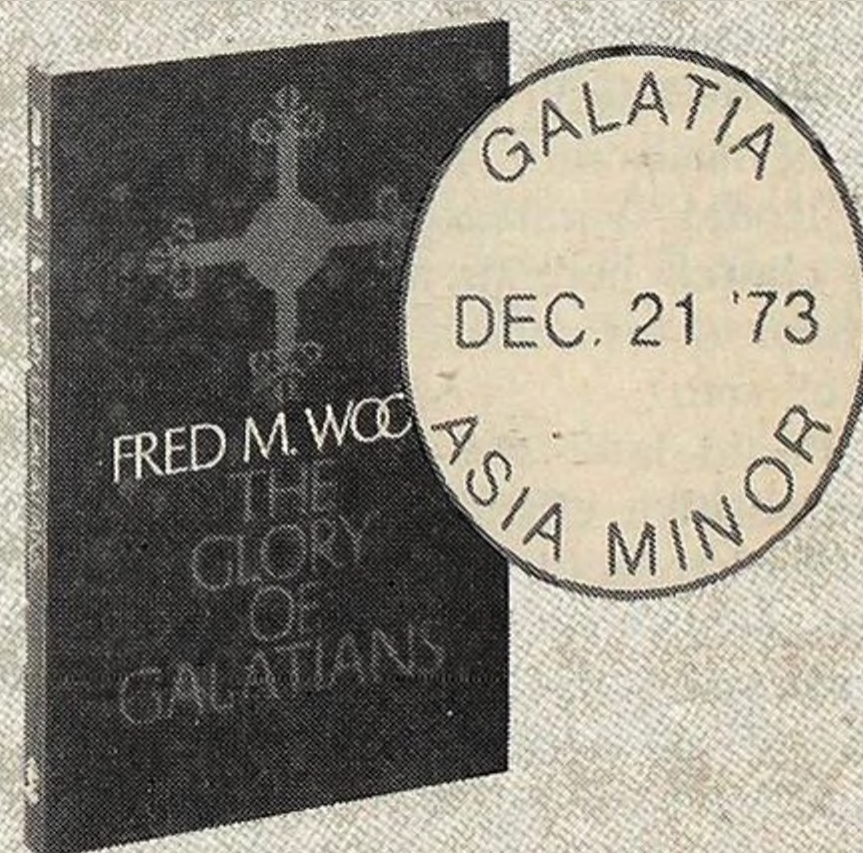
Following three years of existence as a mission, the West Monmouth Baptist church, Freehold, New Jersey, was organized as a church, Dec. 2. The Una church, Nashville, served as a co-sponsor of the mission during most of the three years before it became a church.

DeLane Ryals, pastor of the new congregation, said that financial assistance from Una supplemented the Church Pastoral Aid which is provided by the Home Mission Board. He related, also, that the Una church helped begin a chapel at Glendola, New Jersey. There are presently more than 80 churches and chapels in Metropolitan New York Baptist Association and more than 11,000 members in churches affiliated with the regional Baptist Convention of New York. The area includes New York, northern New Jersey, and southwestern Connecticut.



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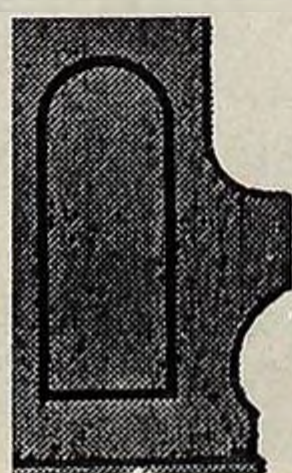


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Executive Board Committees Named

New members of committees of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention were elected during the Executive Board meeting recently. Election of the committees followed presentation of nominations by a nominating committee composed of Robert L. Orr, chairman, pastor of First Baptist church, Dyersburg; Joe R. Stacker, pastor of First church, Concord and Carl B. Allen, pastor of First church, Hohenwald.

Committees for the 1972-1973 convention year are as follows:

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE COMMITTEES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD, TBC, 1972-73

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

1. O. M. Dangeau, Chairman (W)
2. James Canaday, Vice-Chairman (E)
3. Carl Allen, Chairman, State Missions Committee (M)
4. R. Paul Caudill, At large (W)
5. William E. Crook, Chairman, Christian Services Committee (M)
6. Wade E. Darby, Chairman, Education Committee (E)
7. James McCluskey, At large (E)
8. Ralph McIntyre, At large (E)
9. Gaye McGlothlen, Chairman, Tennessee Baptist Program Committee (M)
10. James Nunnery, Vice-President, Executive Board (W)
11. Carroll C. Owen, At large (W)
12. C. Winfield Rich, Chairman, Denominational Cooperation Committee (W)
13. Joe Stacker, Chairman, Public Affairs & Christian Life Committee (E)
14. Clarence Stewart, President, Executive Board (M)
15. Fred M. Wood, President, Tennessee Baptist Convention (W)

CHRISTIAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

1. William E. Crook, Chairman (M)
2. Gordon T. Greenwell, V-chm. (E)
3. Carroll Chapman (E)
4. W. Elmer Crosby (E)
5. James B. Henry (M)
6. Wilson Lonas (E)
7. R. T. Martin (M)
8. Robert L. Orr (W)
9. R. Trevis Otey (W)
10. Virgil Peters (M)
11. William J. Powell (M)
12. Marvin T. Robertson (W)
13. Matt Tomlin (W)

DENOMINATIONAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE

1. C. Winfield Rich, Chairman (W)
2. Raymond A. Boston, V-chairman (W)
3. Herman Callahan (E)
4. Robert G. Capra (M)
5. Larry E. Duke (E)
6. James L. Harney (M)
7. Pat L. Landrum (W)
8. Tom Madden (M)
9. Don J. Milam (W)
10. James W. Owen (M)
11. Bob M. Polk (E)
12. William J. Purdue (E)

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1. Wade E. Darby, Chairman (E)
2. Alfred T. Royer, V-chm. (M)
3. Bill Delaney (M)
4. Ray E. Fowler (E)
5. Jerry L. Glisson (W)
6. Herbert Higdon (W)
7. Archie King (M)
8. Jack May (W)
9. James McCluskey (E)
10. Lee Morris (E)
11. Carroll C. Owen (W)
12. Robert A. Sanders (E)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS & CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMITTEE

1. Joe Stacker, Chairman (E)
2. Kerney L. Bailey, V-chairman (M)
3. Norman O. Baker (E)
4. James A. Canaday (E)
5. R. Paul Caudill (W)
6. O. M. Dangeau (W)
7. John P. S. Humphrey (M)
8. James Hutson (E)
9. Ray Mabey (M)
10. James A. Nunnery (W)
11. Richard D. Patton (M)
12. Harold White (M)

STATE MISSIONS COMMITTEE

1. Carl B. Allen, Chairman (M)
2. Keith Wilson, V-chm. (W)
3. George Capps (M)
4. John R. Churchman (E)
5. D. William Dodson, Jr. (W)
6. Charles D. Earl (E)

7. Fred Kendall, II (W)
8. Ralph McIntyre (E)
9. J. G. Miller (W)
10. Joseph T. Nickell (M)
11. John W. Outland (E)
12. Mrs. Bob Peek (E)
13. J. Arnold Porter (M)
14. C. Henry Preston (E)
15. Dillard A. West (W)

TENNESSEE BAPTIST PROGRAM COMMITTEE

1. Gaye L. McGlothlen, Chairman (M)
2. Courtney Wilson, Vice-chairman (M)
3. P. O. Davidson (W)
4. Grant L. Jones (E)
5. Anderson McCulley (E)
6. Rufus H. Moore (W)
7. Jim R. Osborne
8. Thomas W. Pope (W)
9. O. C. Rainwater (E)
10. R. Richard Smith (E)
11. H. K. Sorrell (W)
12. Clarence Stewart* (M)

*As president of the Executive Board, he is ex officio member of all committees.

18 Baptist Groups Form Asian Baptist Fellowship

HONG KONG—Eighteen Baptist groups met here to organize and constitute the Asian Baptist Fellowship, a newly-created organization to provide fellowship and cooperative mission endeavors among Baptists in the Pacific.

Each of the 18 Baptist bodies participating in the organizational session must ratify officially the decision to join the new fellowship, which was proposed during the 1970 Baptist World Congress in Tokyo sponsored by the Baptist World Alliance.

The Asian fellowship will be a regional organization related loosely to the Baptist World Alliance, similar to the North American Baptist Fellowship and the European Baptist Federation.

V. Carney Hargroves of Philadelphia (USA), president of the Baptist World Alliance, attended the organizational session of the Asian Baptist Fellowship.

Two Baptist World Alliance vice presidents, Daniel Cheung of Hong Kong and B. R. Moses of Ramapatnam, South India, shared in the chairmanship of the conference. A key role in calling the organizational session was played by A. C. Prior of Sydney, Australia, who had served as secretary of an interim planning committee appointed at the Tokyo Congress in 1970.

Attending the constituting conference here were representatives of Baptist bodies in Australia, Bangladesh, the Republic of China, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia and Singapore.

Observers were present from Baptist groups in Macau, South Vietnam and Thailand. New Zealand and the Philippines were not able to send representatives, Prior said.

In a resolution urging support of the new organization, the participants said: "We believe that God is leading us into a new venture of cooperation at depth for a more effective proclamation of the gospel in Asia.

"We call upon all Baptists in Asia to unite to strengthen and undergird the proposed Asian Baptist Fellowship for developments and advance in its mission throughout our lands," the statement said.

(BP)

Court Studies Unlawful Money For Private Schools

WASHINGTON—A by-product of the Pennsylvania Nonpublic Elementary and Secondary Education Act that was declared unconstitutional last year has been argued before the U.S. Supreme Court here.

The unconstitutional Pennsylvania law authorized payment from public funds to private and parochial schools for the teaching of certain secular subjects, through the purchase of educational services from such schools.

The question now before the court in *Lemon v. Kurtzman* is whether the state of Pennsylvania is obliged under a law that has been declared unconstitutional to pay for services in parochial schools that were provided by those schools before the law was declared unconstitutional.

Alton J. Lemon and others brought suit in a Pennsylvania district court against David H. Kurtzman, superintendent of public instruction of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The suit sought a court action prohibiting Pennsylvania from paying approximately \$24 million to the private schools for secular services rendered before June 28, 1971 when the Supreme Court declared the Pennsylvania law unconstitutional.

A three-judge district court in Pennsylvania ruled that the state must pay the parochial schools their claims for 1970-71 even though the act was later declared unconstitutional. The decision was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court which heard arguments in November.

The Supreme Court now has the case under advisement and a decision will be announced some time before the end of the spring term in June 1973. (BP)



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Tribute To Dr. W. Fred Kendall

I wonder if you would be seated just a moment.

Our chairman asked me to lead a prayer. I thought of saying in the prayer the things I would like to say about Dr. Kendall, but I didn't want somebody to say what someone said about a prayer in New England years ago. Do you remember the newspaper reporter who said, "That was the most eloquent prayer ever addressed to a Boston audience." I didn't want anyone to think that I was praying to the audience rather than to the Lord so I just jotted down in the last few moments some words I wanted to say. I want them to be a prayer, Dr. Kendall, and yet I want them to be words to each of us.

God give us men! A time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands;
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor; men who will not lie;
Men who can stand before a demagogue
And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking!
Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above the fog
In public duty, and in private thinking;

We thank God for Fred Kendall, *the man*.

The dear Lord's best interpreters
Are humble human souls
The gospel of a life like his
Is more than books or scrolls.

From scheme and creed, the light goes out
This saintly fact survives
The blessed Master none can doubt
Revealed in holy lives.

We thank God for Dr. Kendall who, like Barnabas, is a man full of the Holy Ghost, full of faith and through whom much people have been added to the Lord.

We thank our God for Fred Kendall, *the friend*. He has been a personal friend to all of us, I am sure.

The friends thou hast, and their adoption tried,
Grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel;
But do not dull thy palm with entertainment
Of each new-hatched, unfledged comrade.

Fame is the scentless sunflower with gaudy crown of gold;
But friendship is the breathing rose, with sweets in every fold.

If a man would have a friend, he must show himself friendly.

There is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother of whom Fred Kendall is certainly a symbol.

We thank our God for Fred Kendall, *the leader*. It's "tough" to be a leader.

A leader must have the courage to change the things that can be changed.

He must have the tranquility to accept the things that cannot be changed.
He must have the wisdom to know the difference.

For all your days prepare,
And treat them just alike;
When you're the anvil, bear
When you're the hammer, strike.

Dr. Kendall is a wise and courageous leader.

We thank God for Fred Kendall, *the preacher*. He's still a preacher! Although an Executive Secretary, he's still a preacher! It still pleases God by the "foolishness of preaching" or as the new translators say, "by the foolishness of the thing preached" to save them that believe.

I do not ask that men shall sound my praises
Or headlines spread my name abroad;
I only ask that as I voice the message
Hearts may find God.

Dr. Kendall is a preacher!

So we thank God for Dr. Kendall, the man, the friend, the leader and the preacher. But most of all, Dr. Kendall, we thank God for the Saviour who lives in your heart.

The tree that weathers every storm,
And stands the test of years
Has steady roots where strength is born
That no one sees or hears.

And as the tree whose silent might
Is lodged beneath the sod
So is the one whose inner life
Is hid with Christ in God.

The secret of your life, Dr. Kendall, is simply this: Jesus is your Saviour and you are committed to His Lordship.

Shall we stand?

Our Father, we are grateful for our Saviour who has made possible a life like that of Dr. Fred Kendall. We ask thy blessings upon him, upon his companion and upon his family. Now, may we face forward to the work that is before us believing that the past is only prologue to a great future. We pray for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Editor's Note: The above tribute was paid to Dr. Kendall by Dr. Fred M. Wood, President, Tennessee Baptist Convention at the close of the Executive Board meeting held Dec. 8 in Brentwood.

Native Tennessean Named Lifeway Store Manager

Loren G. Miller, a native Tennessean, has been named manager of Lifeway Book Store, Jackson, Miss. The Jackson store is the first of a chain of book stores being opened by the Baptist Sunday School Board.



Miller

The new manager is a graduate of Carson-Newman college and Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary. Prior to joining the staff of the Baptist Book Stores in 1970, he was associated with churches in Texas, Arkansas, and

Georgia.

According to Jay O. Turner, area manager, Lifeway is a new concept in the book store business. The store will handle books, Bibles, cards, gifts, music, and musical instruments.

Two Staffers Are Named By Home Mission Board

Two major appointments have been announced following the annual meeting of the Home Mission Board in Atlanta recently.

Orrin D. Morris, Home Mission Board staffer, was named coordinator of a region including three states of the board's planning and coordination section; and Jack H. Grisham, a Mississippi pastor and teacher, was named assistant secretary for the Department of Christian Social Ministries.

A former secretary of the board's Department of Planning Service, Morris will assist board staffers and state convention leaders in developing a comprehensive and uniform plan for mission strategy for Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado. The states are in one of four regional sections of the board's field.

Grisham will work in ministries to alcoholics, drug abusers, ex-prisoners, and migratory workers. He served previously in the

field of mental health at the University of Mississippi where he was an instructor in adolescent psychology and counselor-consultant. He served also as pastor of the Shady Grove church in Magee, Miss., and was associate pastor of the Beargrass Negro Baptist church, Louisville.

Religion Around The World

C. J. Lawrence, Dallas, has been appointed director of Christian social ministries for the Alaska Southern Baptists, according to a joint announcement by the Home Mission Board and the Alaska Baptist Convention. He will assume his new duties Jan. 1.

A graduate of Tulsa university (Oklahoma) and Southern Baptist Theological seminary, Lawrence will focus his efforts on organizing a child care program, extending the work of family services for the convention and working with juvenile delinquents, unwed mothers, illiterates, and others.

Bomb Found In Franklin Children's Home Building

By David Keel

At 6:30 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 15, an anonymous gruff male voice called a Robert E. Nelson advising that a bomb had been placed in one of the buildings on the campus of the Franklin branch of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes.

The caller thought apparently that he was talking to home superintendent Robert Nelson. Superintendent Nelson and officials were contacted and the bomb was found in the basement of the administration building of the home which houses offices, apartments on the second floor and a play room and supply rooms in the basement.

Not knowing at first in which building the bomb had been placed, Nelson evacuated some 35 adults (the 70 children at the home had already left for school) from all the buildings on campus. Some four persons were in the building at the time of the anonymous call.

The Nashville office of the United States Treasury department is investigating the bomb threat. At this time, according to Nelson, no motive has been established and it is not certain just how the bomb was to be detonated since no timing device was found. The alleged bomb was a small electronics device about the size of a baseball, equipped with a size AA battery and attached to a small bottle.

The contents of the bottle have been sent to Atlanta for analysis. One investigator was overhead to say that if the bottle did contain nitroglycerine the explosive force could have completely destroyed the building. Nelson expressed deep regret that the incident happened.

Chorus Of Nuns Will Sing At Capital Yule Festival

ROCHESTER, N.Y.—A choir of Roman Catholic nuns from Rochester will take part in the "Pageant of Peace," the 1972 national Christmas tree festival in Washington, D.C.

The 45-member Concert Chorale, composed of Sisters of the St. Joseph Order of Rochester, will offer a program of holiday music at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16, the second day of the national festival.

Under the direction of Sister Virginia Hogan, who founded the singing group in 1965, the Chorale will present selections representing four centuries of music, including "Lo, How E'er a Rose Is Blooming" from the 16th Century, and "Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head, an Appalachian folk song.

This year is the 49th in which a national Christmas tree has been decorated and displayed in the national capital. In addition to the large principal tree, 57 smaller ones representing the states and territories are donated by the American Mining Congress each year (RNS)

'Living Bible' Translated Into 69 Languages

ATHENS—Dr. Kenneth Taylor's "Living Bible," a modern language paraphrase of the Scriptures, has been translated into 69 languages, it was reported here.

At the annual meeting of Living Bibles International, which is directed by the evangelical scholar, 12 representatives said the book has been published in 28 African languages, 22 Asian, 14 European, and five in Middle East languages.

More than 6 million copies of the English-language version have been distributed in the last 18 months. Of these, 400,000 have been distributed in England alone. (RNS)



Members of the Jones Chapel church, Paris, burned the note on their parsonage recently during special services.

The home was purchased in 1964 for \$13,500. James Phelps, superintendent of missions for the Western District Association, brought the message at the service. Others participating in the occasion included S. A. Moon, deacon; J. H. Medlock, treasurer; and Freeman Comer, deacon. Eulon Davidson, Robert Hart, and Walker Davidson, members of the building committee, then led in the note burning.

Mississippi Baptists Approve Funds To Rebuild Assembly

JACKSON, Miss.—The Mississippi Baptist Convention voted here to authorize a \$1½ million capital funds campaign to rebuild Gulfshore Baptist Assembly at Pass Christian, Miss., which was virtually destroyed by Hurricane Camille in 1969.

The convention also adopted a record budget of \$4.2 million, elected a new president, expressed opposition to obscenity and vulgarity in the mass media, and defeated a proposed constitution amendment.

A special committee on constitution and bylaws had recommended that officers in the future be elected so that the first vice president would ascend to the presidency after a one-year term.

Observers said the proposal was rejected primarily because its language was "vague and uncertain." Traditionally in Mississippi, the convention alternates electing a layman and clergyman as president, and each traditionally serve two one-year terms.

Resolutions opposed "the deplorable trend" in the mass media "toward permissiveness," with obscenity, vulgarity, coarseness and lewdness, including the new obscenity—violence.

Another resolution observed that "drug abuse is in an epidemic stage" in Mississippi, and called the beverage alcohol "the most abused drug in our state." Alcohol, the resolution said, must be recognized "as a mind-altering, addictive, represent drug."

Other resolutions opposed gambling in the state, and urged the state legislature to strengthen laws to protect rights of citizens to have a day of rest.

The new budget of \$4.2 million will allocate almost \$1.6 million to Southern Baptist world mission causes. The \$1.2 million capital fund campaign for Gulfshore Assembly would be added to other funds already in hand to rebuild the assembly at an estimated current cost of \$2.5 million.

Elected president was David Grant, pastor, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson. (BP)

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Promise And Fulfillment

By W. R. White
Baylor University, Waco, Texas

Basic Passages: Genesis 49:8-12; Isaiah 49:1-6; Luke 2:25-32; Galatians 4:4-5
Focal Passages: Genesis 49:10; Isaiah 49:6; Luke 2:25-32; Galatians 4:4-5

There are many messianic promises in the Old Testament. Each was rooted in some immediate historical situation. It had some immediate significance but transcended the contemporary and local situation with its major predictions to be fulfilled in the future.

Messianic promises in their final and complete fulfillment anticipate a ripening of a particular setting.

Jehovah saw fit to show prophets and other inspired speakers and writers with foregleams of the coming Messiah. It was not only to prepare the world's climate for His coming but to encourage God's people in times of crisis and discouragement with a sustaining hope.

If we assemble all the messianic promises, we would discern a basic outline of the life of Jesus Christ.

Significant Promises Gen. 49:10; Isa. 49:6

Jacob or Israel was given the spiritual vision of the continuity of the descendants of Judah as the royal line through which the Messiah would come.

David was the high point among the kings descending from Judah. In some major aspects he became a type of the King Messiah to come. Shiloh, perhaps, symbolized to the Jewish mind tranquility or peace, hence the one to bring peace as the Prince of Peace was intended.

The Messiah was to be God's servant who would rally and restore Israel, particularly the spiritual remnant. Yes, he would be a great light to the Gentiles and the hope of salvation for all mankind as well as the glory of Israel.

Spirit-Filled Priest Recognized Messiah in Jesus Luke 2:25-32

The parents of Jesus took the child for the customary ceremonies in the temple. Fortunately the priest on duty that day was a man full of the Holy Spirit and on that

day seemed to be especially under the mastery of the Holy Spirit.

He discerned immediately the child Jesus was the long-expected Messiah. He had wanted to live to see Him and was so overjoyed that he said he was now ready to die. He had lived to see the greatest hour in Israel's life.

He recognized Him as the light to the Gentiles and the glory of the people of Israel.

It should be observed that the spiritual remnant in Israel, even those officiating in the temple, recognized Jesus as the Messiah.

God Kept His Promise Gal. 4:4-5

God does not order spiritual events by the time on the sundial or clock. In the fulness of time for the particular event. He acts—not a fraction before or after the crisis is ripe.

He sent His son in the fulness of time by the way of a woman born under the law for us who are under its curse that we might be delivered and be adopted as His sons.

We have had all the promises that referred to only His first coming completely fulfilled. There are some applying to His second coming yet to be realized. So many promises have been met and so many predictions Christ made have been achieved we can look with confidence toward the events yet to be.

True Christmas says that a greater day is yet to be and will be. So much has been kept that we may in full faith expect the rest—yea—the best yet.

Foundation

The Confession Of A Pastor

By Jonas L. Stewart
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

"I believe in Christian stewardship. As a pastor it was an obsession with me to lead my people to see and know the joy of giving. It was with some pride that I once pointed to the record of giving in the churches where I served.

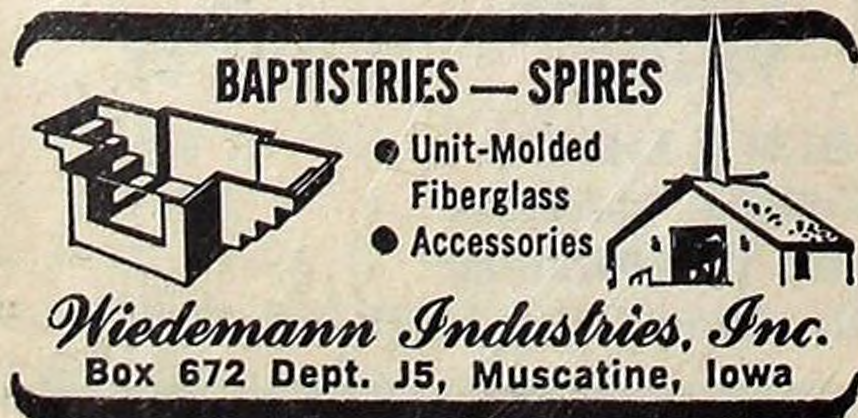
"My confession, however, removes all the pride I might have had in this area of leadership because I never really got to the greatest area of Christian Stewardship. We have provided for current needs but we could have done so much more. I never spent much time helping my people see the importance of making Christian Wills. This could well be the greatest sin of my ministry. If the people whom I served had all made wills, leaving 20% of their assets to the Tennessee Baptist Foundation as a trust fund, those who have now gone to heaven would be giving more to the Lord's work on the earth than those who still live. I confess that my attention was on the immediate and not the ultimate goal of stewardship."

If every Tennessee Baptist who lives today would leave an average of \$1000 in their wills to be held in trust by the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, the day would come when these trust funds would amount to eight hundred eighty-five million dollars (\$885,000,000). This would be sufficient income to endow every institution we own with income of nearly ten million dollars per year. Pastors, why not lead your people to take care of their future testimony as well as the present?

Pastors, your Tennessee Baptist Foundation is the only chartered trust agency authorized by the Convention. Tell your people about the services it offers. Come to our office or write Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Dr. Jonas L. Stewart, Executive Secretary, Box 647, Brentwood, Tenn.



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From the Executive Secretary

By W. Fred Kendall

Many ideas come to my mind today that I would like to write about. Just four more days and Christmas will be here. It seems strange that pleas should have to go out to keep Christ in Christmas. But even some billboards have made that plea as firms have advertised but have placed a very high and supreme value on the real spiritual meaning of Christmas. Is it not the fault of Christians that Christ has ever been obscured? Have we not a supreme opportunity to witness to Him and to His meaning for all of life?

I hope that you will take every opportunity to attend church, to witness personally, to witness through living, and through the way you celebrate the birth of our Lord. This should be a great time for evangelism and for missions. World missions have had a great promotion through the Lottie Moon Offering. Pray that all of our churches will work to penetrate our whole life with the spirit and witness to Christ during this period when we celebrate His birth.

Christmas is also a time for the expression of true Christian love. It begins in the home with loved ones and members of the family. It is a time for all the family to return home and to gather together for real fellowship. Giving of gifts is but a small token of the real love which ought to abound in the homes where Christ reigns as Lord. Every member of the family ought to express his or her love for every other member.

It is a time to remember the rich blessings of true friends. Cards and gifts are means of expressing our appreciation and love. But words and deeds are even more effective. True Christian friendship is one of God's great gifts in the fellowship we enjoy through Christ.

Christians ought to be keenly sensitive to the needs of all people who have needs which they cannot meet by their own efforts. Some are poor and others are ill. Still others have grown old and lonely and almost forgotten. It is a time to remember all of these by manifesting a real love that

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On Matters of Family Living

By Dr. B. David Edens,
 Director, Marriage and
 Family Program
 Stephens College
 Columbia, Missouri 65201



What Habits Of Adults Do Kids Find Hardest To Take?

Adults yell too much, listen too little, and "keep their secrets but not ours." Asked which adult habits irritated them most, 3rd and 4th graders in hundreds of elementary schools named the three unattractive customs listed above, reports the new book **What Bothers Us About Grownups—A Report Card On Adults By Children**. By 5th grade, youngsters were complaining of chronic adult snoopiness and snottiness, the way grown-ups invade privacy and scar the ego with caustic comment.

is not merely limited to the Christmas season but will continue through the year.

For each of you who read this column I want to wish a very Merry Christmas. May Christ be more real in your life than He has ever been. If someone reads these words who has never given your heart to Christ, let me urge you to do so. The true meaning of Christmas can only be found in the song of the angels at Bethlehem, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Since this is my last column, I want to wish for each of you a Happy New Year and a great 1973. It has been a real joy to write this communication to you for about four years. I shall continue to remember you in my prayers and I commend Dr. Ralph Norton to you. He is a great leader and will lead us into the unknown tomorrows where Christ is challenging His people to follow to greater blessings and richer spiritual victories.

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Historically:

From the files

50 YEARS AGO

Rev. R. B. Womack, a former pastor of First church, Memphis, associate editor of the **Baptist And Reflector**, editor of the **Arkansas Baptist**, and teacher in several Baptist schools, died at the age of 78 in Memphis.

Calvary church, Alcoa, ordained B. H. Hillard to the gospel ministry. The examination was conducted by J. R. Johnson, pastor.

20 YEARS AGO

The Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, acting under authorization of messengers to the convention, began to effect the establishment of "The Church Building and Loan Program of the Tennessee Baptist Convention," whereby churches could make individual loans.

Ralph Norton, pastor of the Red Bank church in Chattanooga, delivered the ordination sermon for Richard Baker upon his call to the gospel ministry. Norton had just completed holding revival services at the Deaderick Avenue church in Knoxville.

10 YEARS AGO

The William B. Stokely Jr. gymnasium at Harrison-Chilhowee academy was dedicated. Charles C. Lemons was president of the academy.

First church, Milan, dedicated its new auditorium valued at over \$300,000. Former pastor Henry J. Huey delivered the dedicatory message. E. L. Smothers was pastor. Seating capacity in the new structure was 1000.

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FMB Appoints Missionaries, Adds New Staff Member

RICHMOND—In its final meeting of the year, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board here added 12 new persons to its overseas force, heard its executive secretary report on the status of missionaries in Uganda, elected a South Carolina associational missions superintendent to its department of promotion and furlough ministries, and approved recommendations of various committees.

The six new missionary couples were appointed in a night service at First Baptist Church, Alexandria, Va., following an afternoon business session here. Many board and staff members traveled with the missionary candidates to Alexandria on chartered buses.

An Alexandria pastor and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd H. Atkinson, were one of the couples appointed. They expect to work in Chile. He is pastor of Sunset Hills Baptist church.

Other new missionaries are Mr. and Mrs. Roy W. Brent Jr., of Louisville, Ky., formerly of Los Alamos, N.M., appointed to Kenya; Mr. and Mrs. Everett R. Burnette of Rock Hill, S.C., Senegal; Mr. and Mrs. Jim L. Harvey of Sweetwater, Tex., Indonesia.

Also, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas G. Ringer of Mulhall, Okla., Laos; and Mr. and Mrs. G. Wayne Buck of Rome, Ga., employed as missionary associates for a four-year term in Israel.

Dr. and Mrs. George H. Kollmar of Amarillo, Tex., were reappointed for missionary service in Colombia, where they previously served for 14 years.

A crowd of approximately 1,500 persons attended the appointment service in Alexandria which continues a trend toward more out-of-Richmond appointments begun by the board in recent years. Such services are held at the invitation of the host church.

The board has appointed, employed or reappointed a total of 171 persons in 1972. While high compared to other missionary organizations, this number is the lowest since 1964 for the Southern Baptist foreign mission agency, said Jesse C. Fletcher, director of the mission support division.

Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary, reported that several missionary families from Uganda are in Kenya awaiting developments before deciding whether they can return to that strife-torn African nation. G. Webster Carroll and several other missionaries are still in Uganda. Board officials and new missionaries assigned to Uganda who are completing orientation are awaiting word from Carroll before making a decision about going directly to the country or beginning language study in Limuru, Kenya, Cauthen said.

Sam Pittman, superintendent of missions for the Beaverdam Baptist Association in South Carolina, was elected by the board as an associate secretary in the department

of promotion and furlough ministries, effective Feb. 1, 1973.

He is believed to be the first associational missions superintendent elected to the board's staff. A Greenville, S.C., native, Pittman has held pastorates in Tennessee and South Carolina.

After relocating here with his wife and two children, Pittman will have a specific relationship to associational superintendent of missions throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, according to Samuel Debord, secretary of the promotion and furlough ministries department.

The board approved a recommendation that Executive Secretary Baker J. Cauthen and his wife visit Southern Baptist missions in Bangladesh and India in January and participate in the dedication of a new Baptist hospital in Bangalore, India. (BP)

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A BURDEN?

BY LEIGHTON FORD

During this election year politicians have been trying to find out what are the major worries of the man on the street. Taxes? Crime? War?

According to a Yale psychiatrist, the worries which lead to despondency are much more personal. Dr. Eugene Paykel asked 373 people to rate the events that would upset them most. Heading the list were: the death of a loved one, going to jail, an unfaithful spouse, financial difficulty, separation, divorce, unwanted pregnancy, and major illness.

Most people carry some burden, a fact that's clear from the letters that come in from the Hour of Decision listeners. Perhaps your heart is aching and you say: "What can I do with this burden?"

The Bible gives a three-part answer. Psalm 55:22 tells us, "Cast your burden on the Lord and He will sustain you."

Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ." And Galatians 6:5 says, "Each man must bear his own burden."

Three apparently contradictory statements! Yet taken together they add up beautifully to God's prescription for a burdened heart. First, there is the principle of *Divine Dependability*. Psalm 55 was written by a man who was crushed by life. Out of trouble, betrayal, a broken heart, with no way out, the Psalmist turns to God and says, "Give your burdens to the Lord. He will carry them." This is the principle of *Divine Dependability*: God cares. In your affliction, He is afflicted. Turn your burden over to Him and leave it there. When a man loses everything but God, he finds that God is enough!

The second principle is that of *mutual charity*. Some people so over-spiritualize everything they believe that "if you have the Lord you don't need anyone else. You can make it all on your own." They overlook the fact that often the way God carries our burdens is through other people! The basic law of the Christian life—Jesus' New Commandment—is "Love one another." We carry out that law of love as we bear each other's burdens.

But we can't bear one another's burdens unless we know one another's burdens. Too little sharing of this kind takes place among Christians. Sometimes our churches are so impersonal that people come, sit through a service or class and never have a place where they can unburden their hearts. We've also tried to hide the fact that Christians have problems, too. We need to be

honest enough to tell a brother or sister. James says, "Confess your sins one to another and pray for one another" (James 5:16). Perhaps you're carrying around a burden that you haven't shared with someone else. But how can they help unless you share?

To develop this spirit of *mutual charity* with our brothers and sisters in Christ, we must spend time to listen to each other, to understand one another, to pray for each other and to offer practical help and advice. If our churches would develop that kind of "body life" and mutual concern it would be in itself a mighty witness to an unbelieving world. Through caring Christians they would see a caring God.

Again, the Bible doesn't stop there. We can't merely socialize our problem by loading them on others, any more than we can merely spiritualize them by putting them on God. Some people run constantly from one preacher or counsellor to another because they are unwilling to face up to their own problem.

That is why the Scripture lays down a third principle: *personal responsibility*. "Each man shall bear his own burden." When Paul says, "Bear one another's burdens" he uses a word that means the staggering load that is too heavy for any one person to carry. But here he used a different word which means "every man shall shoulder his own pack." In other words, each of us has a personal share of responsibility that we must not shirk.

Often God allows us to have burdens to exercise our faith. People who run from problems—who try to fill the valleys of their lives with drugs, for example—are really missing a blessing. Faith grows under pressure, in disappointment, trial and difficulty, far more than when things are comfortable.

Perhaps you're thinking as you read: it's easy for you to talk like this; you don't have to carry my burden. And, of course, you're right. But I know someone who does understand; his name is Jesus Christ. He knew what it was to be despised, rejected, deserted by His friends. He knows how to bear a burden, for He prayed alone in agony in a garden before they crucified Him. "It was our grief he bore, our sorrows that weighed Him down. For He died in our place (Isa. 53:4). Jesus promises, "Come unto me all who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest."

Today, trust your burden to the Heavenly Father to carry. Give to him your burden of guilt . . . for His forgiveness; your burden of worry . . . for His peace. And He will sustain you by the power of His spirit. By the love of His people. And by the strength you need to live, one day at a time.

Cast your burden on the Lord and you will find, as a great Christian once said, that burden will become as wings to a bird.

Leighton Ford is an associate evangelist with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

This is a condensation of a recent text for The Hour of Decision radio program.

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