

# Baptist and Reflector

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**TENNESSEANS WRITE CURRICULUM** — Lela Hendrix of Nashville and Paul Brewer of Jefferson City are writers for the 1981-82 "The Youth Disciple" church training curriculum for senior high age youth.

## Carter refuses to blame Teheran violence on Islam

By Stan Haste

WASHINGTON (BP)—President Carter refused to blame Muslims in general or the Islamic faith for the crisis in Iran.

At two points during his nationally-televised news conference Nov. 28, the Southern Baptist deacon and Sunday School teacher emphasized that Muslim teachings run contrary to the violence shown in Teheran by a mob of students who overran the U.S. embassy Nov. 3 and have since held American embassy personnel as hostages.

During an opening statement Carter declared: "There is no recognized religious faith on earth which condones kidnapping. There is no recognized religious faith on earth which condones blackmail. There is certainly no religious faith on earth which condones the sustained abuse of innocent people."

Later, in response to a reporter's question regarding U.S. relations with countries in the Islamic world, the president said the stalemate in Teheran does not indicate a general deterioration of relations with such nations.

"I don't see this as a confrontation at all between our nation and the Islamic world. It's certainly not part of the Islamic faith to condone...blackmail, or the persecution or harm of innocent people, or kidnapping, or terrorism," Carter said.

The president also expressed the view that "in some ways we've been drawn closer to these people because they see what has occurred in Iran as something of a disgrace for their own religious faith, and they don't see this as typical of what Muslims believe."

Even the more radical Islamic Shiite sect, of which the Ayatollah Khomeini is a leader, does not advocate violence against innocent persons, Carter noted. "It's the misguided actions of a few people in Iran who are burning with hatred and a desire for revenge completely contrary to the teachings of the Muslim faith."

"So far as I know," he said, "every Islamic country has condemned Iran for its capture of our hostages and has been very supportive. This includes Muslim nations which in the past have not been close friends of ours—Iraq, Libya, and others."

Carter's statements were made on the Wednesday night before the American Embassy in Libya was attacked and burned. Carter filed the "strongest possible" protest with the government of Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qaddafi after the attack and implied that the Qaddafi regime supported the attack.

In an interview published in Italy, Qaddafi expressed strong support for the Iranian regime in its confrontation with the United States. He said if Iran were attacked, "we would not remain neutral. Iranians are our brothers."

Qaddafi did say, however, that he would try to use his influence to persuade the Iranians to release the U.S. hostages.

## Mission board anticipates no cutbacks in Arab world

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptists are not curtailing missionary activity in Arab countries because of the current crisis in Iran, according to a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board official just returned from the Middle East.

"I know nothing of any plan or thought of withdrawing from any Arab country at this time," said J.D. Hughey, the board's secretary for Europe and the Middle East, just back from a tour of 15 countries within his area.

Missionaries earlier had withdrawn from Iran and for several reasons the Baptist church in Ankara, Turkey, has been put on inactive status.

Hughey did not visit Libya as he had intended because he wasn't able to get a visa, but he does not anticipate that the only missionary couple stationed there will have to leave due to the attack on the Libyan embassy.

The couple, the Harold Blankenships, have been in Libya as missionary associates since 1965. Blankenship, a native of Tennessee, is pastor of the English-language Baptist Church in Tripoli. Born in Flag Pond and a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Blankenship was minister of youth and recreation at Brainerd Baptist Church, Chattanooga, and pastor of Unicoi Baptist Church, Unicoi, before his appointment.

Although Hughey has not heard from the Blankenships since the attack on the embassy in Tripoli, he said he does not think there is any danger for them there.

"They are veteran missionaries," Hughey said. "They know how to take care of themselves pretty well."

He explained that when tensions arise, missionaries make their own decisions about whether or not to withdraw. They have been authorized in advance to take whatever action seems desirable.

He said he didn't see any alarm on the part of missionaries he recently visited in the Middle East, but "the situation has deteriorated since then."

"I saw no evidence of fear or panic on the part of the missionaries, just a readiness to get on with the job, prudently, but persistently," Hughey emphasized.

Hughey did not visit Iran but said, "It is clear we won't have missionaries in Iran for

some time because of the highly volatile and unstable conditions."

The area secretary said he understands that the holding of hostages by Muslims is not new. He related an incident in which one Muslim leader had offered the sons of prominent families an opportunity to be educated at one of his schools, in effect holding them hostages to see that the families followed his will.

But, he said, during visits to Yemen, Gaza, Jordan, Israel, and Egypt he saw no disturbances or display of any anti-American feelings. Many showed the same degree of Arab hospitality he had been accustomed to.

In Yemen, Hughey and other members of a hospital evaluation team touring Southern Baptist-supported hospitals in the Middle East were invited to a feast by the local hakim (the local Muslim religious judge).

Hughey expressed appreciation for the hospitality shown them on previous occasions by the hakim's father who had held the same position. The hakim replied that "the friendship of the father is carried on by the son."

Hughey said that in Gaza, the atmosphere was remarkably quiet. In Amman, after the takeover of the U.S. embassy in Iran, it was absolutely quiet, he said, and in Egypt, everyone was very friendly and he felt no anti-American sentiment.

"What has happened in Iran has caused waves throughout the Arab world," Hughey said. "Even in Egypt now you see women with the Muslim scarf (not veil) on their heads and covering their hair and necks. This is the accepted feminine orthodox Muslim attire. They call it 'decent dress.'"

"The Muslim people seem to be more eager to express their Muslim loyalties than before," Hughey said, "but I personally don't think the upsurge of radical Islam with its extreme expressions of hostility toward westerners and other religions is likely to prevail."

"I think there are enlightened Muslims whose influence already has been felt and will eventually be felt even in the land of (the Ayatollah) Khomeini. But, because of what is happening in the Muslim world, Christians cannot expect any special privileges lest the radical elements be antagonized."

Hughey emphasized that "it will probably be necessary for some time to maintain a low profile even in friendly Muslim countries."

## Mission in Senegal sees 'breakthrough'

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—In what a Foreign Mission Board leader called "a real breakthrough," the government in the western African nation of Senegal has sold Baptist missionaries nearly an acre for a chapel and missionary residence.

John E. Mills, the Southern Baptist agency's secretary for west Africa, says it is unusual in Senegal, as in many other Muslim countries, for any non-Muslim group, especially evangelicals, to be permitted to buy land.

The parcel is in the Casamance region south of the Gambia River.

Mills says he hopes construction funds for the house and chapel will come from this year's Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions.

## Adrian Rogers asks Baptists to urge release of hostages

MEMPHIS (BP)—Southern Baptist Convention President Adrian Rogers urged here that members of the nation's largest Protestant denomination wire or write the U.N. Iranian embassy in New York City "strongly urging swift release of the American hostages in Iran."

Rogers, who also urged "concentrated prayer of intercession in this grave matter," invited "persons of all faiths concerned for world peace and humanitarianism to join Southern Baptists in praying and writing." He said the embassy's address is 622 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017.

"Letters and telegrams should be emphatic and show deep feeling but not be hostile or sarcastic," suggested Rogers, pastor of the 11,000-member Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis.

"As Christians, we should show our love for all people but, at the same time, show that we strongly oppose mistreatment of American citizens and make it clear that we support our government."

Rogers emphasized the need for prayer, declaring that "a military confrontation with religious overtones would be a moral and spiritual disaster."



# Supreme Court to consider legality of Hyde amendment

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U.S. Supreme Court will consider the constitutionality of the Hyde amendment forbidding publicly-financed abortions in most cases.

In a brief announcement agreeing to hear three cases involving a Chicago physician, the justices nevertheless reserved the right to decide only the question of whether it has jurisdiction in the case, rather than pronouncing judgment on the Hyde amendment.

For the past several years, Rep. Henry J. Hyde of Illinois, has enjoyed remarkable success in tying up federal spending bills, especially to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, until Congress agrees to his restrictions.

Until this year, Hyde succeeded in having Congress agree to fund Medicaid abortions only in cases where the life of the mother is at stake, in cases of reported rape or incest, or where long and severe physical damage to the mother would result if an abortion were not performed.

In action this fall, he was successful in getting Congress to eliminate the third exception for the 1980 federal budget.

The practical effect of the Hyde amendment has been the reduction of federally-funded abortions from several hundred thousands a year to a figure estimated between 2,000 and 3,000.

While women's rights activists have fought the Hyde restrictions, anti-abortionists have strongly supported Hyde's efforts and have interpreted his successes in tying up spending legislation as an indication that they should pursue their ultimate objective of having all abortions banned.

The dispute has polarized the American religious community as perhaps no other in recent memory.

On one side, the anti-abortion forces have been led by the U.S. Catholic bishops, although Catholic activists in the movement

## Baptists take rooms at St. Louis hotels

ST. LOUIS (BP)—The 11 hotels closest to the site of the 1980 Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis are filled, according to convention manager Tim Hedquist.

Hedquist reported 13 of the 27 hotels cooperating with the city's convention bureau were filled as of Nov. 15. The next closest hotel is four miles from the Cervantes Convention Center, where the annual meeting will be held June 10-12.

The rush of early reservations is no indication that record breaking crowds will jam the meetings next June, the manager said. He indicated that because of good publicity and the housing problems messengers encountered at the 1979 meeting in Houston, people are taking seriously the need to get their housing requests in early.

The St. Louis convention bureau is handling all housing requests and a computer form is required for each request. The forms are available at state Baptist convention offices, from Hedquist's office at the Southern Baptist Convention Building in Nashville, or in the November issue of the Baptist Program. Many state Baptist newspapers have printed the forms. (See Baptist and Reflector, Oct. 24, pg. 9).

Hedquist said there are still many rooms available, including more than 4,000 in outlying and smaller hotels that don't cooperate with the convention bureau. Unlike the convention in Houston, there will be adequate parking in public lots around the convention center. Anyone with a housing problem should contact him at 615-244-2355.

Hotels that were filled as of Nov. 15 are: Sheraton St. Louis; Bel Air Hilton; Holiday Inn-Riverfront; Stouffer's Riverfront; Marriott's Pavillion; Mayfair Hotel; Lennox Hotel; Best Western-St. Louisian; Holiday Inn-Downtown; Rodeway Inn-Downtown; Ramada Inn-Downtown; Executive Inn-International; Sheraton West Port.

point to support from other religious groups, including the Mormons, certain Lutherans, and numerous evangelicals.

The so-called pro-choice forces have marshalled most of the mainline Protestant denominations and have enjoyed the support of several Jewish organizations as well.

If the high court decides the issues on its merits, it will consider the constitutional question of whether poor women who are denied publicly-financed abortions are denied equal protection of the law as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

The justices will also be asked to determine if the Hyde amendment denies due process of law to indigent women.

Also at stake is the question of whether state legislatures, in this instance Illinois', may further restrict Medicaid payment for abortions only to cases where the life of the mother is at stake.

## Liberia's convention observes centennial

MONROVIA, Liberia (BP)—Liberian Baptists will celebrate their centennial in 1980 with a new building, publication of the convention's history, and the adoption of goals and strategies for the next century.

The Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention Inc. recently approved architectural drawings calling for a nine-story building in downtown Monrovia at an estimated cost of \$1.2-million. It will include offices for the convention and its organizations and auxiliaries, a bookstore, a film library, a publication center, conference rooms, and office space for lease to outside groups.

The history of Liberian Baptists is intertwined with the history of the republic. The first president of the convention was Joseph J. Cheeseman, also president of the country. The current president of Liberia, William R. Tolbert Jr., is also president of the Baptist Convention and pastor of Zion Praise Baptist Church in Bentol City.

Liberia was never the colony of a foreign power. Free black men and women from the United States came to this part of Africa under the auspices of the American Colonization Society. They intended to live on the continent which was the homeland of their ancestors. Some had been slaves and had bought or been given freedom; others were born free.

This group established the first church on Liberian soil, what is now the Providence Baptist Church in Monrovia. Lott Carey, one of their leaders, became the first pastor of that church.

Nathaniel Richardson, retired author of books and articles about Liberia and Liberian Baptist history, and Abraham James, a university professor, will prepare a history of the convention.

Monthly centennial days in each church, beginning in January, will mark the start of the centennial observance. A thanksgiving service at the Good Hope Baptist Church in Marshall Territory on April 4 will mark the anniversary of the organizational meeting.



**BAPTISTS GET COUNTRY MUSIC AWARD** — Jim Rupe (left), executive producer of "Country Crossroads," accepts the award for "top syndicated country series of 1979" from Jo Walker (center), executive director of the Country Music Association, Nashville, and Norman Weiser, president of SESAC Inc., Nashville. "Country Crossroads," a Southern Baptist Radio-TV Commission production, is broadcast on 857 U.S. radio stations and aired worldwide over the American Forces Radio Network.

## Baptist students prepare to lead in new semester missions program

RICHMOND, VA. (BP)—Six Baptist Student Union students are scheduled to go overseas next month for four to six months as the first group of semester missionaries.

In a new program, sponsored by the student ministries section of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, the college students will be working alongside missionaries in Benin, Guadeloupe, Panama, Haiti, Mexico, and Uruguay.

More than 20 missions (organizations of Southern Baptist missionaries in a foreign country or territory) have expressed interest in having a semester missionary, says Charles A. Beckett, coordinator of student ministries, although only seven made specific requests for the first semester.

The program was begun as an answer to BSU directors' requests for more options for college and university students who want to work overseas on a short term basis. The state BSU is responsible for the young people's transportation to and from the field, while the mission supplies housing and meals.

This first group of semester missionaries will handle jobs such as pastor's assistant, Baptist center student worker, physical education coach, and English teacher.

Students participating in the spring semester program are Beth Bohon from the University of Missouri, Columbia, to Panama; Mike Drummond, Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., to Benin; Steve Gaultney, Baylor University, Waco, Tex., to Haiti; Jimmy Rodriguez, Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, to Mexico; Jim Thomas, William Jewell College, to

Guadeloupe; and Laura Heide, Baylor University, to Uruguay.

"We are delighted that the Foreign Mission Board is opening this type of service for our students," Glenn Yarbrough, Tennessee Baptist Convention student director, said. "Two of our students, whom we sent in student missions earlier this year, have done similar activities." Chris Hodges and Chris Ogle, both students at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, are expected to return from Israel and Brazil, respectively, within the next few days after having served extended summer missions programs.

## Two suspects caught in Douglass murders

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. (BP)—Police in Craig, Colo. captured two suspects Nov. 21 in the murders of Richard and Marilyn Douglass.

Douglass, pastor of Putnam City Baptist Church near Oklahoma City, and his wife were killed in their home Oct. 15. Their son, Brooks, 16, and daughter, Leslie, 13, were also wounded by the intruders but have since been released from a local hospital. The children are now living with relatives and have been guarded by a deputy sheriff since their release from the hospital.

Capture of Glenn Burton Ake and Steven Keith Hatch, on a ranch in northwest Colorado was the first word of the suspects since their trail grew cold in Arkansas shortly after the murders.

Moffat County Sheriff S.L. Valdez said Hatch tried to escape unarmed through a window in the ranchhouse but was caught nearby without incident. Ake, reportedly armed with a shotgun and a revolver, also tried to flee but shots fired by sheriff's officers forced him to stop.

Valdez said he first learned of the suspects' presence in the area when rancher Mike Pondella called him to say he had escaped from two men who had beaten and bound him. The Colorado sheriff said the men were also suspects in a recent murder in Hardy County, Tex. The suspects were reportedly driving a car belonging to the murder victim in Texas.

It is expected they will be extradited to Oklahoma and stand trial for the Douglass murders.

## November's gifts approach goal

Tennessee Baptists began the new budget year with a \$1-million month for mission support through the Cooperative Program, according to Tom Madden, executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

When the convention's books were closed Nov. 30, Madden said Cooperative Program receipts for the month had reached \$1,063,014.27. This is near the monthly budget-goal requirement for the basic budget, he noted.

Messengers to last month's TBC adopted a \$15-million budget goal, with \$13-million for the basic budget and a \$2-million challenge budget for Bold Mission projects.

The monthly goal for the basic budget would be \$1,083,333.33. November's receipts were \$20,319.06 below (2 percent below) that goal.

Madden also reported that November's receipts were 3 percent below the Cooperative Program mission gifts of November 1978, when \$1,096,234.44 was received.

Madden described last month's gifts as "absolutely superb" when considered along with the October record month of \$1,386,417.14.



## Conferees search for answers in alcohol abuse seminar

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (BP)—Three Southern Baptist leaders joined more than 200 representatives from 40 denominations and groups examining the impact of alcohol and other drugs on contemporary life here last month. The conference also focused on methods for combating drug abuse.

Although other drugs were discussed, most speakers dealt with alcohol abuse and alcoholism, identified by John DeLuca, director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism as probably the nation's number one public health problem.

Speakers cited research which shows that alcohol-related problems cost \$43.5-billion each year, contributes to the death of 205,000 persons each year, and has a severe and rapidly-escalating impact on women and youth. The United States has 10 million alcoholics.

Creation of an "American Dachau for Alcohol Related Killing" for the 205,000 Americans killed each year by alcohol would "dramatize the wastage of human life by the alcohol beverage industry," declared Jimmy R. Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex., and immediate past president of the Southern Baptist Convention. The Dachau was a German concentration camp used during World War II.

David Hancock, a Presbyterian clergyman from Minneapolis, urged church people, divided over whether total abstinence or moderation is the best way to deal with alcohol, to drop self-righteous attitudes and work together to solve problems growing out of misuse of the drug, alcohol.

Speakers ranged from those strongly urging abstinence to those calling for combating the problem in a context of moderate use. Alcoholism was defined as a disease, a disease resulting from sin, and a sin.

"The strongest network of organizations available to deal with this extensive public health problem is religious groups," DeLuca declared.

Alcohol was identified as an addictive, mind-altering, mood-changing, central nervous system depressant, similar to chloroform, which can relieve stress and produce euphoria, but which also can impair conscience, judgment, reason, insight, memory, speech, hearing, vision, and muscular coordination.

DeLuca said Americans owe it to themselves to analyze the costs of alcohol vs. the benefits of its use by many as a "recreational beverage."

Three of the "sufferers," who have successfully battled alcoholism, addressed the conference, urging unceasing efforts to deal with the problem. They are Don Newcombe, former Brooklyn Dodger pitcher; former Iowa governor and U.S. senator, Harold Hughes; and David Works, an Episcopal clergyman and president of the North Conway Institute, Boston, Mass.

"I know how good I was," said Newcombe. "I just wish I could see how good I could have been. I should have been able to play another five or six years," he said, blaming an excessive use of alcohol for cutting his career short.

Baptism layman Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., capped off the conference with a call for effective action.

"We must work together to reach a solution of the ageless problem (alcoholism) which has plagued humanity from ancient times," Cooper said. "To do less weakens the witness of the church and destroys homes and individuals."

Also speaking to the group was Foy Valentine, executive secretary-treasurer, Christian Life Commission, SBC.

## Methodists to stand trial in retirement homes case

WASHINGTON (BP)—The Supreme Court announced it will not prevent the United Methodist Church (UMC) from being sued by former tenants of a group of bankrupt Methodist-related retirement homes.

The high court's brief order means that it will not rule on the constitutional question of whether a church body such as the UMC can be held liable in such cases until the justices hear the case on its merits.

Pacific Homes, the bankrupt corporation, was named along with the United Methodist Church in a series of suits totaling \$366-million brought by 162 former residents.

Two California courts have differed on the question of UMC liability but the higher of the two, the state court of appeal, ruled last March that because it interpreted the UMC to be a hierarchical church, the denomination could be held liable in the damage suits.

Methodist theologians and historians had argued before the court of appeal that their church's polity is connectional rather than hierarchical.

When attorneys for the UMC appealed the California court's decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, they were joined in a friend-of-the-court brief by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, which argued that making the UMC liable for the retirement homes' bankruptcy "would unconstitutionally mandate the demise of religious denominations as they now exist."

The California case has attracted wide attention in religious circles because of its potential implications for the financial liability of denominations in the operation of a variety of church agencies and institutions, many of which are controlled by relatively independent boards of trustees.

Church officials across denominational lines are worried that allowing the former residents of Pacific Homes to name the UMC as a liable party in their case establishes a dangerous precedent which could lead to an outbreak of similar cases brought by disgruntled individuals or groups.

The Supreme Court's decision to concur with the California court in forcing the UMC to go to trial in the case does not mean, however, that the question of liability will not be dealt with when the case makes its way up the appeals ladder once more, this time on its merits.

But it does mean that church officials will have to wait at least a year or two before the troublesome question is finally decided.

## Rwanda missionaries' son recovering after surgery

DALLAS (BP)—The 16-year-old son of Southern Baptist missionaries Earl and Jane Martin was released from Baylor University Medical Center, Nov. 28, following neurosurgery for head injuries sustained in East Africa.

Wayne Martin, a junior at Rift Valley Academy, Kijabe, Kenya, came to Dallas for treatment upon the recommendations of doctors in Kenya. He entered the hospital there because of headaches and fainting spells which followed a shallow dive into a swimming pool and two soccer accidents at the academy.

Diagnosed as having a subdural hematoma, a blood-filled swelling, Martin was reported to be doing well upon release from Baylor. He and his parents, who are from Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C., will be in Garland, Tex., until after Christmas, when they will return to Africa. His parents are stationed in Rwanda.



**CHILDREN IMMUNIZED** — Angela Field, an English volunteer physician, gives a measles vaccination to a child in Ouagadougou, Upper Volta, as part of an immunization program sponsored by Southern Baptists.

## Weather brings change in missionary strategy

By Susan S. Cahen

UPPER VOLTA (BP)—Years of prevailing drought in Upper Volta led Southern Baptist missionaries into relief ministries, but a break in the weather is pointing their work in new directions.

Seven of the last nine years have brought drought, dealing harshly with the rural areas of Upper Volta which border the Sahara Desert.

Now that an adequate rainfall this year has insured a successful harvest and the immediate needs of the people have been met, missionaries are emphasizing a new trend toward development and prevention rather than relief.

From well-digging projects and grain storage and distribution, the missionaries have moved into agricultural and livestock demonstration projects aimed at helping the people increase productivity. Other measures are planned.

Recently Southern Baptists sponsored five immunization clinics in Ouagadougou, the capital city. With the help of an English physician, who volunteered her time and skill, more than 150 children were immunized for measles, typhoid, typhus, and polio.

Also, literacy classes have begun in five locations in the country which has a literacy rate of only 10 percent. The classes, in French and two local dialects, are the first concerted effort of the mission toward a comprehensive literacy program with a full-time director.

Southern Baptist missionaries and government officials are cooperating in a dam feasibility study.

Already a church in the United States is eager to contribute a substantial amount toward one of the community development projects if the dam is built and to send an agriculturalist to help direct the project.

As in many developing nations, emerging church leaders must be given vocational training to support themselves until their churches become strong enough to support them. Such training is incorporated into the program at the Rural Baptist Training Center at Koudougou.

The current school year marked the opening of the center in newly constructed quarters. Ten students are in their final year of a three-year program in vocational, agricultural, and Biblical instruction.

The missionaries' new direction has met favorable response throughout the country. Some responsive areas were not targets of the

development and prevention strategy but are the result of a highly successful Christian witness. One such area is that around Tenkodogo, a town of about 8,000.

The Norman L. Coads, from Missouri and Arkansas, will minister, teach and witness to townspeople and people in two neighboring areas where Baptists have just begun work.

Although there has been great response in rural areas, the success of Southern Baptist witness has not been confined to them. When the missionaries began working in Upper Volta in 1971, they worked among the educated class in population centers.

First, a highly successful correspondence school in Ouagadougou was founded. Now the city boasts a Baptist Center, and land has been acquired adjoining the university for a student center.

Each student wishing to use the center is required to have a participation card. To obtain one, he must have a personal conference in which the "four spiritual laws" are presented, giving each student at least one contact with the gospel.

More than 400 persons have had these conferences, many hearing the plan of salvation for the first time, and many making professions of faith.

Since 1971, the missionary force in Upper Volta has grown to 12 couples and one missionary journeyman. A national convention has been formed with 22 self-supporting churches and 42 national pastors.

"Upper Volta is as responsive as any of our countries in West Africa," says John E. Mills, area secretary for west Africa. "That just isn't the case in many countries where Southern Baptists work."

Coad agrees with the responsiveness of the country. "Everything we've tried here works," he says. Much of the credit must go to the active lay leadership roles of the nationals. "They are converted; they want to go back to their home villages and tell others about Christ," he adds.

## Korean missionary cited

PUSAN, Korea—Southern Baptist missionary Charles W. Wiggs recently received a citation from the president of the Republic of Korea and the Order of Civil Merit Medal, the highest award presented to civilians in Korea. The citation commended his efforts to improve the medical welfare programs of Korea and expressed the appreciation of the Korean people for him and his work.



## EDITORIAL

# Sharing Christ 'Among All Nations'

Southern Baptists' efforts to reach the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ reached another milestone last month when the number of missionaries under appointment by the Foreign Mission board passed 3,000. The official count now stands at 3,001.

These missionaries serve the Lord in 95 countries of the world — with the 96th, Sudan, scheduled for mission work in January.

The announcement of this record in missionaries under appointment comes just ahead of the current Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and the annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

The theme for the 1979 Week of Prayer is "Among All Nations," based upon Scripture, "By Whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for His name; among Whom are ye called of Jesus Christ" (Romans 1:5-6).

Throughout this week, many Tennessee churches are having special prayer and study sessions for foreign missions.

The national goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions is a challenging \$40.5-million. This is 12.8 percent above the \$35,919,605.40 given by Southern Baptists last year. The 1978 goal was \$40-million.

The Tennessee goal, which was set by our state's Woman's Missionary Union, is \$3-million — a substantial increase over the \$2.6-million goal for the 1978 offering.

Tennessee Baptists gave \$2,533,343.63 to the special foreign mission offering during the November 1978-October 1979 receipt period. Although we failed to reach our 1978 goal by 2.6 percent, Tennesseans did give 13.3

percent more to the Lottie Moon offering than they did the previous year.

If we are to reach the Tennessee goal, our gifts must increase 18.4 percent above our contributions to the 1978 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

The 3,000 missionaries we have now working on foreign fields are, of course, a meaningful milestone. However, we still have a long way to go if we are to reach the SBC goal of 5,000 foreign missionaries by the end of this century.

The need is there. Our mission fields have presented urgent requests for 1,526 additional missionaries. This year we will appoint about 330. Surely, God has called others among us to serve "Among All Nations" — and He will burden us to give to support them as they serve Him.

Inflation and the decline of the U.S. dollar in foreign countries has reduced the financial effectiveness of our mission gifts. We must respond by giving more — not only to maintain the level of service now being done — but to expand our ministry and missions in the name of Jesus Christ.

Recent international news has reminded us once again that the doors to mission work will not always be open. As governments change, so do the attitudes toward Americans who live and work in these nations.

Southern Baptists must respond eagerly to the challenge to go and to support evangelization and missions "Among All Nations." This is Christ's command. Are we willing to sacrifice to fulfill the tremendous task He has given to us?

## Tenn. Sunday Schools rank 10th in number of diplomas earned

Tennessee ranked in a tie for tenth among state conventions affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention in Sunday School Award Diplomas, according to Wendell Price, TBC Sunday School director.

Out of a total of 1,219 such diplomas awarded last year throughout the entire SBC, 42 of these were earned by members of Tennessee churches, Price said. The highest number of diplomas were earned in Florida with 221. Tennessee was tied with Ohio for tenth in the list.

The 42 Tennessee diplomas earned by Sunday School workers were broken down this way: general officers 7, adult 19, youth 6, children 6, and preschool 4.

This information, which was compiled by the Sunday School department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, also provided information about highest awards earned in churches and associations throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

First Baptist Church, Morristown, with 128 Sunday School Leadership Awards was ranked 11 in the Southern Baptist Convention.

Price said others in Tennessee's top five were Oral Baptist Church, Lenoir City with 93; Brainerd Baptist Church, Chattanooga, with 82; Monte Vista Baptist Church, Maryville, with 80; and Westwood Baptist Church, Cleveland, with 74.

Tennessee Baptist associations did well in the SBC top 25, according to Price.

In Sunday School Leadership Awards, Hamilton County Baptist Association with 415 awards was 17th, and Knox County Baptist Association with 364 was 20th.

In Bible Study Awards, Chilhowee Baptist Association was ninth with 795, Knox County Baptist Association was 13th with 728, Shelby County Baptist Association was 16th with 673, and Hamilton County Baptist Association was 24th with 569.

## 18 Tennesseans receive degrees from Southwestern

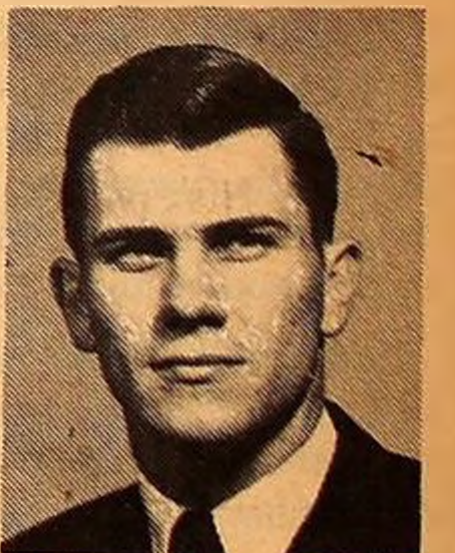
FORT WORTH, Tex.—Eighteen people from Tennessee are among the 270 students who expect to receive degrees during the winter commencement exercises of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here, Dec. 14.

William L. Morgan of Memphis was the only Tennessean among the seminary's 21 doctoral graduates. He will receive his doctor of ministry degree.

Receiving their master of divinity degrees will be Miles F. Boyd Jr. of Memphis, Thomas A. Forehand Jr. of Burns, Michael R. Grebenik of Jefferson City, Mark E. Howard of Memphis, Gerald E. Price of Nashville, John A. Rish of Brentwood, William H. Rodgers of Kingsport, Robert J. Tibbs of Memphis, and Ronny L. Waycaster of Memphis.

Earning their master of religious education degrees will be Judith Ann Bridges of Knoxville, Debi Ann Grebenik of Jefferson City, William B. Harris Jr. of Knoxville, David D. Howard of Memphis, David P. Lewis of Kingsport, Harry W. McRae Jr. of Memphis, and Jim D. Poole of Nashville.

Alan E. Cross of Milan will receive the master of church music degree.



Morgan

## Outstanding session

While it is still fresh on the minds of Tennessee Baptists, we would like to commend the officers of the TBC Pastors' Conference for an outstanding program last month in Memphis.

Too often in recent years, there has been a trend in such meetings in states and at the Southern Baptist Convention to turn these sessions into a series of unrelated messages which chastise pastors and denominational leaders for all sorts of failures.

However, the 1979 TBC Pastors' Conference focused on the priorities, problems, and challenges for Tennessee pastors and churches. The program was carefully planned along this line, and every speaker dealt Scripturally and thoroughly with this subject. The result was one of the best meetings of this type we have ever attended.

Certainly, the messages and spirit of the Pastors' Conference set the tone for the Tennessee Baptist Convention which followed, and without doubt contributed heavily to the positive, constructive convention which we experienced at East Park Baptist Church.

One of the greatest assets which God has given to Tennessee Baptist churches is our pastors. They need the challenge and encouragement which came for this year's Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference.

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 80,236

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**Baptist  
and  
Reflector**

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Tom Madden, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions  
December 2-9, 1979  
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering  
National Goal: \$40,500,000

**among all nations**



Throughout history, artists have related the nativity scene to their own culture.—Japan, Africa, Switzerland



## Letters to the Editor...

Letters on any religion-related subject are welcomed. Letters of over 300 words will not be used. Other letters may be shortened at the discretion of the editor. No unsigned letters will be printed, but writer's name will be withheld for sufficient reason. Letters must contain complete address.

### Disruptive movement

Dear editor:

I am pastor of Alder Springs Baptist Church, LaFollette.

Being 24 years old, and a Southern Baptist for most of the 14 years that I have been a Christian, I have hopes of ministering as a Southern Baptist for the rest of my natural life.

Those hopes were dampened, though, because of the recent controversy in the convention at Houston. As to add salt to a wound, I received, in the last few days, an introductory offer from the Southern Baptist Journal. They are committed to: eliminating the liberalism from our classrooms and literature, and magnifying the 1963 SBC Baptist Faith and Message. Some of the books that are available in the offer give names of people, within our SBC agencies, the authors feel should not be there. These publications claim there are liberals who are trying to take over our churches and denominations. They even cite examples in our SBC literature they consider to be liberal.

These same people, though, are committed to: the autonomy of each local church and the priesthood of each believer, and to encouraging churches not to leave the SBC.

It makes me sick to my stomach to see some of our own people with such unChristian attitudes. They stress that each church is autonomous and each believer a priest, yet they magnify the Baptist Faith and message and expect everyone to adhere to it. They encourage the churches not to leave the SBC, yet they are creating attitudes that may split the convention.

This group of people wants everyone in the convention to live, believe, and interpret the Bible and have a theology equal to theirs, or get out.

I hope that good Christian people will not support any such disruptive movement within our convention.

I am strictly against any such divisive organization carrying the Southern Baptist name.

I love the Southern Baptist Convention, because, in it, I am free. If this group gets their wish, and ousts the so-called liberals, neither you nor I will be free any more as a Southern Baptist Christian.

Charles Newton  
Box 556, Cumberland College  
Williamsburg, KY 40769

### Believing, doing

Dear editor:

Baptist people are concerned because more Baptists are joining cults than any other denomination. I am, too. I heard one denominational leader give this reason for the falling away, "Baptists don't know who they are." His point was for more doctrinal teaching.

His opinion would be valid, if people of other denominations knew who they were, but they usually know less about their beliefs than Baptists do.

Let me offer a different "opinion"—not researched for proof.

Baptists know all too well who they are and what they are and what they believe, but they don't know what to do with that belief. We feed milk (study) and not meat (action), so our people search out something that will allow them to do something with their lives, right or wrong. Actions lead better than words.

Jesus yoked Himself to us (incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection). He did pull us along with a word—even though He did say "Follow Me."; nor did He push us through salvation. Rather He yoked Himself to us, becoming sin for us, that we may be saved for good works.

Baptists are becoming people of louder

words and lesser actions. My father taught me who I am; then he taught me my purpose is to do the will of God. I drifted away from the church and joined the military to do some service.

I encourage anyone to read Hebrews 5:11-14 and compare this with Acts 5:35 to find that milk is words and meat is actions. Righteousness is being and doing. This is discipleship.

Baptists join Mormons for family.

Baptists join "moonies" for self-denial.

Baptists join JW's for witnessing.

All these we teach how to do, then stop short of doing.

Joe Crichton  
1607 La Paloma Dr.  
Knoxville, TN 37923

### Foundation

#### They found a way

By Jonas L. Stewart  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

We continue to be amazed at the many ways people find to conserve their estates through the Tennessee Baptist Foundation. The inquiries and reports that come to our office provide thrilling experiences.

A lady called several years ago to ask how she could leave money in trust. She said, "I won't leave it in a will and can't afford to give it up now. You can't call or write to me because my family would be unhappy with me. You will have to tell me now."

With little time to think, my quick suggestion was to put it in a joint savings account giving the Tennessee Baptist Foundation the right of survivorship.

Time had almost erased that conversation from my memory until a few months ago when a bank notified us that this dear lady had died and that the Foundation was the sole owner of an account of more than \$35,000. This fund will be held in trust into the ages, paying out income to support the Lord's work because she recognized that He gave it to her, therefore she should return it for Kingdom service when she could no longer use it.

Others have made the Foundation, trustee, the beneficiary of insurance policies. This is another way to leave a legacy for the Lord's work without putting it in a will. Many policies are around that were taken out to protect a young family or a companion. The family is now grown and well established or the companion has gone to be with the Lord. The proceeds from such policies could be put to work for the Lord.

No plan removes the need for a Christian will. Whatever plan you have, there are some things that only a well-prepared will can assure in the final distribution of an estate.

Without cost or obligation you may write our office about the possibility of using any of the above plans to conserve your assets for the glory of our Lord.

### New moderator elected at association meeting

Lester D. Anderson, pastor of New Haven Baptist Church in New River Association, will lead Baptists in the work of that association this year. Anderson succeeds Hubert Terry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Robbins, in the post.

Elected to serve with Anderson were: vice-moderator John Bolin, pastor of Low Gap Baptist Church; treasurer Ben B. Bowling, a member at Low Gap; and clerk Mrs. Shirley Carson, a member of First Baptist Church in Huntsville.

Fellowship Baptist Church in Devon was accepted into the association's membership. It is led by Pastor Pitney Seciber.

## Presbyterians lose property fight; Hare Krishnas win right to solicit

WASHINGTON (BP)—In a pair of church-state actions, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to disturb lower court decisions upholding the right of members of religious sects to move about freely making solicitations in public places and declared that a California congregation which withdrew from the United Presbyterian Church owns its local property.

The high court declined without comment to review a ruling by the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals that a policy of the state of Indiana—which would have confined members of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (Hare Krishnas) to a booth at the Indiana State Fair—violated the sect's free exercise of religion.

The Indiana State Fair Board had maintained that the state had a compelling interest in restricting the sect's members to a booth, arguing that it was obligated to protect the public from fraud and from the nuisance created by Hare Krishnas' pinning flowers on passersby.

By declining to take up the California church property case, the high court left standing a state court ruling that the majority of members of the Community Church of Palm Springs, Calif., hold title to their church property in spite of their withdrawal from the United Presbyterian Church.

The denomination had claimed that it owns all local church property and that title to such property reverts to the mother body when a local congregation votes to withdraw.

The dispute was similar to a Georgia case settled last spring by the Supreme Court also involving a Presbyterian congregation. The court ruled then that so-called "neutral principles of law" may be applied to church

property disputes. That legal doctrine means that state property laws may be applied to church property disputes when the mother body's incorporation papers leave doubt as to ownership.

The United Presbyterian Church, in light of that Supreme Court ruling, is currently restudying its incorporation documents to come up with new language which will insure in the future that the denomination controls local church property in such disputes.

## Personal perspective

BY TOM MADDEN  
TBC executive secretary

In John 13:37, Peter states, "Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake." In Mark 14:71, we have this statement: "But he began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man of whom you speak." It is difficult to recognize that the same man spoke these two sentiments.

However, Peter was the author of both of these statements. In defending Simon, one might think there was a long lapse of time. Actually, there were just a few days, scarcely more than hours. In looking at these statements and in light of the background, I want to make three observations.



Madden

The first observation is that Peter overestimated his own courage and strength. When he made the statement that he would die for the Christ, there wasn't a single doubt in his mind but what he would do that. He loved the Christ, he wanted to support Him, and he thought he was willing to die for Him. However, when the crunch came, he walked a guilty distance, identified with the enemies of Christ, warmed himself at the enemies' fire, and finally denied Him with cursing and profanity. It is easy for us to think we are stronger in Christ than we are. God says that he that standeth, take heed lest he fall. No one of us knows exactly how we would react under certain circumstances.

A second observation is this. Simon Peter underestimated the strength of Satan. Jesus had warned Simon that Satan desired to have him and to sift him like wheat. Apparently, Simon Peter did not take this as seriously as he should. I recall being in a class under W.T. Conner in Southwestern seminary. Someone asked Conner, "Is the devil all powerful and is he present at all times in all places?" Conner answered, "He is not all powerful, but the old boy is strong and he does get around in a lot of places." Most of us would agree that the devil is alive and doing well. Later on Simon would say, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8). Out of bitter experience Peter learned how powerful Satan was.

The third observation is that Peter did not rely enough upon Christ. When Judas led the mob to take Christ from the garden of Gethsemane, Simon relied upon the sword, not upon the Christ. He underestimated what Christ could do for him. There is no question in my mind but had Simon identified with Christ and walked closely by his side, that our Lord would not only have cared for him, but blessed him. Thus, Simon would have avoided one of the most bitter experiences of his life.

My prayer is that I may not overestimate my own courage and strength, nor underestimate the devil's power, nor underestimate God's grace and strength towards me.

## Angola convention shows rapid growth

LISBON, Portugal (BP)—The number of Baptist churches has almost doubled in the last year; and Baptist Bookstore stock sells almost as fast as it comes in, according to recent reports from Angola.

Minutes of the 1979 meeting of the Baptist Convention of Angola report about 72 churches active in Angola, said Curtis Dixon, Southern Baptist missionary to Angola living in Portugal.

Although information has been scarce since Baptist missionaries evacuated in 1975 because of civil war, earlier reports indicated 37 churches in the country.

The Dixons, the only missionaries still assigned to Angola, produce Sunday School literature and Theological Education by Extension (TEE) texts for Angola while actively seeking return to the country.

The Angolan convention admitted seven new churches in 1979, all in the Uige Province, where growth is greatest, said Dixon. When convention president, Daniel S. Correia, and secretary, Joao David Antonio, visited many of the churches during the year, they found 500 or more in attendance at all meetings in the Uige area.

The Baptist Bookstore in Luanda is still open, Dixon said, but has almost exhausted its stock. All but 300 of the 11,000 Bibles sent there in late 1977 by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board have been sold. The remaining Bibles are not in a popular dialect, he said.

A supply of books sent by the Portuguese Baptist Convention sold out in less than 24 hours, and Sunday School literature which arrived too late for distribution to churches was sold in a few days.

In addition, the convention ordained seven new ministers at the 1979 meeting, and TEE has 160 students enrolled in five centers, Dixon said. Seven new church buildings were completed in the last year and two more are under construction.

Pastors at a retreat this fall at Quibala requested that new churches be organized in Marquela do Zombo and in the Province of 31st of January.



# Georgia high school students help start New York church

By Marv Knox

STAMFORD, N.Y. (BP)—There's a Southern Baptist church at the foot of the Catskills, thanks to a group of high school students that traveled 1,000 miles to sing, paint, chop wood, and mingle among the people.

When the youth choir from Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta first trekked to Stamford, the village had only a tiny Bible study group which met in an old convent. The closest Southern Baptist church was 50 miles away.

Now, more than a year and two mission trips later, the Bible study group has transformed into a full-fledged church, the congregation is making an impact on the community, and members are reaching into nearby towns with a Christian message.

"Great things have happened here," said Waylon Bray, Stamford pastor. "But without the youth choir from Second Ponce, we might still be a year away from constituting as a church." The congregation formally organized into a church early this fall.

The young people first became involved with Baptist work in Stamford after Georgia "adopted" New York in the Bold Mission Thrust effort, the Southern Baptist endeavor to reach the world for Christ by the year 2000.

From the beginning, the relationship has been fulfilling. Stamford's convent was

almost large enough to house Second Ponce's huge youth group, and that group had the manpower to meet Stamford's physical needs and penetrate the community. From both perspectives, needs and resources fit hand in glove.

On the first trip, made in 1978, nine adult sponsors accompanied 76 youngsters who painted most of the convent's exterior. They also converted a garage into an apartment, chopped tons of wood, conducted church surveys in Stamford and two nearby communities, and presented gospel concerts.

But more importantly, they created goodwill among local residents.

"At the time, we had 18 members. Only two were men, including myself," Bray said. "We were hampered by extremely low visibility in the community."

"But you can't put that many kids in a small town without people noticing them," he added. "The local adults were impressed with the quality of Second Ponce's young people. This created an entirely new image and gave us credibility."

By the time the group arrived in 1979, Stamford anticipated their coming.

"The community was interested in being associated with the youngsters," Bray said. "People from outside the congregation asked to keep some of the kids. I guess people heard through the grapevine that the kids were coming and wanted to be a part."

"Whatever their reasons, the idea worked—at least two young adult men became Christians as a result of young people living in their homes. Also, the musical was better received in 1979. About 450 people heard it, compared to 175 in 1978."

In 1979, the young people also conducted 10 backyard Bible schools and held a tent revival with an emphasis on music. These events reached further into the community, thus facilitating growth, Bray said.

He believes much of the progress the Stamford church has made can be attributed to the relationship between his church and the Atlanta congregation. Second Ponce has supplied the youth choir, helped with supplies, paid for three summer missionaries and one semester missionary. But Stamford has remained financially independent.

"Work in pioneer areas that is given other than financial aid can develop the fastest," Bray said. "People feel the need to be involved, and that causes them to develop good stewardship habits."

"This helps them to become more mature as Christians, and maturity is what we need," he added. "We've got to develop an indigenous church, since we don't have Southerners who've been Southern Baptists a long time."

Bray believes the ongoing relationship experienced by the Stamford and Atlanta churches provides the "planning linked to flexibility" which is necessary to meet these needs.

"We have been the program planners and developers, and they have been the implementers and helpers," he explained. "We've created respect for each other. And that has made this work so well."

## Arizona Baptists support Carter's Iranian efforts

YUMA, Ariz. (BP)—The Arizona Southern Baptist Convention voted to support Jimmy Carter's efforts to settle the Iranian crisis, elected a new president, adopted a \$2,663,000 budget, and set a harmonious tone for the convention's 52nd year.

The messengers instructed the convention's recording secretary to send a telegram to Carter expressing prayer support concerning his efforts.

The budget calls for churches to contribute \$1,260,000 through the Cooperative Program, with 25 percent of undesignated Cooperative Program gifts to go to worldwide mission causes through the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program.



USING TV "SPOTS"—Larry Wimberly (left), pastor of East Hill Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla., went "on location" to tape four television spots. The announcements tell viewers that East Hill is a caring church.

## Churches use TV announcements for maximum community impact

FORT WORTH—More and more Baptist churches, interested in making a maximum impact on their communities but unable to afford the expense of broadcasting a Sunday worship service, have begun practicing the slogan, "It pays to advertise."

"Spot advertisements for radio and television are effective, promote a good church image and can be tailored to fit any church's budget," noted John Cobb Smith of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission's television department.

Smith, who produces and directs many of the spots produced for churches by the Commission's broadcast services department, said production costs can range widely, depending on the complexity and location of the spots.

"Spots produced in the videotape studios at the Radio and Television Commission can be done for as little as \$200 each," he said, "but complex spots, filmed in multiple locations, might cost as much as \$2,000 each. Buying the radio and television time for effective results can go as high as the budget will stretch."

Smith named several things pastors should consider when planning to use spots for local promotion.

"First, decide whether the church wants to promote a revival or some other special event, introduce a new pastor to the community, project an image, whatever," he advised.

Smith also suggested the pastor get professional help to develop the copy. "Many pastors can write but have trouble condensing the message into 30 seconds."

Production time is another consideration. "At the very least, the amount of time needed to tape four good 30-second spots is two very full working days," Smith said.

"When producing spots, we try to put the pastor in situations where he's comfortable. 'In Memphis, First Baptist wanted to introduce its new pastor, Earl Davis, to the community,' Smith said. 'His hobby is glass sculpting, so we showed him in his home making glass figures.'"

Smith suggested pastors consider subjects for announcements from "situations you see and deal with in your own church. Draw your analogies from them."

Ridgmont Baptist Church, Abilene, Tex. was meeting in portable buildings. "We taped their pastor, Tom Lanier, working on the yard outside the buildings. He said any kind of building can be used by churches because churches really are just people, drawn together by Jesus."

The spots produced by East Hill Baptist

Church, Pensacola, are other examples of "on location" spots. One was taped on the beach, another with the USS Lexington in the background, one of them in the church's recreation area and the last in a garage owned by one of the church members. Pastor Larry Wimberly used each setting as a starting point for the message.

"These examples of what churches have done may serve as starting points for other churches considering using spot announcements," said Smith. "Churches interested in the kind of professional help the broadcast services department can provide can contact us here at the Radio and Television Commission."

## Medical fellowship responds to needs

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (BP)—Waves of missions opportunities provided a spiritual transfusion to the third annual meeting of the Southern Baptist medical-dental fellowship at Disneyworld.

Almost 200 physicians, dentists, nurses, and students of these professions were challenged by films and a quartet of speakers at the three-day meeting to respond to the mushrooming opportunities for missions service around the world.

Franklin Fowler, medical consultant for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board at Richmond, Va., called the growth of the independent, spiritually oriented, professional organization from 50 to almost 300 members in three years "a dream of mine that's come to fruition."

The foreign missions leader lauded the members of the healing arts for their response during the last 12 months in which 300 physicians and dentists interrupted their practices to become involved in world missions in short-term volunteer service ranging from two weeks to one year.

Cited specifically was the almost instant response of the physicians to medical needs in the Dominican Republic following Hurricane David. "Within 48 hours we had a medical team of 12 physicians on their way to the Caribbean," Fowler said. "The team got there so quickly they welcomed the Red Cross on their arrival."

In a business session, the fellowship voted to contribute \$2,000 to the medical missions development fund for continuing education for foreign medical missionaries. The fund is administered by the Foreign Mission Board.



# Our People and Our Churches . . .

## PEOPLE...

Hughes Avenue Baptist Church in East Ridge ordained David Burris, Bill Mitchell, and James Voiles as deacons recently. George Holland is pastor.

A deacon ordination service was held at First Baptist Church in Lenoir City for Charles Dye and Everett Rausin. Charles A. Redmond Jr. is pastor.

Merton Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis, ordained Graham Brooks and Mike Russell as deacons last month. W.A. Foote is pastor.

Southside Baptist Church in Mt. Pleasant ordained Jim Wright to the gospel ministry on Nov. 18. The ordaining council was made up of ministers and deacons from Maury Baptist Association. Coye Marbutt preached the ordination sermon. Wright is pastor of the Southside congregation.

Larry Howington was ordained as a deacon at Ball Camp Baptist Church in Knoxville recently. The church is scheduled to ordain Kenneth G. Miller on Dec. 9. Leonard Markham is pastor.

Former Tennessee pastor James Atchley has been elected vice-president of the Virginia Baptist Pastors' Conference. He presently is pastor of North Run Baptist Church, Richmond, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Nipper, Ball Camp Baptist Church, Knoxville, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently. Leonard Markham is pastor at Ball Camp.

North Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield, ordained Homer Felts Jr. and James Bush as deacons. Pastor John Segree delivered the ordination message.

West Knoxville Baptist Church elected and installed David Anderson, Mel Mathis, and Carroll Southards as deacons. Eugene M. Fleming is pastor.

Ridgeway Baptist Church in Memphis ordained two ministers and 11 deacons recently in special services. Ordained to the gospel ministry were Harold W. Maples, minister of music at the church, and J. Richard Cochran, minister of youth and youth music. The 11 men ordained as deacons included Jim Dorris, Jack Goodman, Philip Haley, Barry Hodge, Richard Holley, Barry Sanders, Pat Spencer, Jim Strait, Rob Stuart, Jim Traylor, and Jim Wheeler. Livy Cope is pastor.

Indian Hills Baptist Church in Gallatin ordained two new deacons. Harold Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church of Gallatin, preached the ordination sermon to candidates Tony Smith and John Carter. Larry Gilmore, pastor of College Heights Baptist Church, Gallatin, delivered charges to the church and the deacons. Jack H. Goodwin serves as pastor of the Indian Hills congregation.

Members of Ridgeway Baptist Church in Memphis honored minister of music Harold W. Maples on the occasion of his 10th anniversary in that post. During a reception, the church members presented a love offering to Maples and his family.

In Memphis, Rugby Hills Baptist Church ordained Ronald McNeer, Jimmy Murray, and Caryl Waits as deacons. Jack Custer is pastor.

William P. Hooker, William Edwin Smith, and Nicky V. Webb were ordained as deacons at Cordova Baptist Church in Cordova. W.D. Burke is pastor.

A dual celebration held recently marked 50 years in the ministry and 50 years of married life for Earl A. Forderhase, Fredonia. Since his first retirement in 1972, Forderhase has been pastor of Parkview Baptist Church in

Clarksville. The couple was married on the same day that he was ordained to the gospel ministry in Browning, Mo.

Gary Bennett was ordained as a deacon at Cherokee Baptist Church in Jonesboro recently. Fred Witty, Baptist Student Union director at East Tennessee State University, delivered the ordination sermon. James Cambron is pastor.

In McMinn-Meigs Association, Mount Pisgah Baptist Church ordained Troy Thearp and Tommy Latham as deacons.

Oak Grove Baptist Church in Athens ordained Jackie Davis, Ed Hennessee, and Ross Morrow as deacons. Gerald Atkins is pastor.

## CHURCHES...

East Commerce Baptist Church in Lewisburg celebrated its 20th anniversary recently. Special services at the church included three lay speakers: Bruce Ramsey, Mrs. J.E. Carter, and Eddie Barham. William Stockton, pastor from 1959-63, delivered a special message also. Bill Ball, former minister of music, directed the music for both services. Carl N. Price is pastor.

Judson Baptist Church in Nashville held a day of celebration marking final payment on the original land and buildings, constructed in 1969. The church, constituted in 1911, as Glen Leven Baptist Church, moved to 4900 Franklin Rd. in May 1969.

Waterville Baptist Church, Cleveland, held open house and dedication of new facilities recently. Included in the new addition are pre-school rooms, a church office, pastor's study, Sunday School rooms, and a special room used for visiting evangelists or missionaries. The church's new sanctuary will seat 650. Highlighting the sanctuary are nine stained glass windows, each depicting a scene in the life of Christ. Roger Hobbs is pastor at Waterville.

Members of Cherokee Baptist Church in Jonesboro purchased a house and three acres on the west side of the present church property for \$35,000. The membership voted to resell the house and approximately one acre. The remaining two acres will be developed for parking, according to chairman of deacons Z.P. Gamble. James Cambron is pastor.

A new fellowship and activities building was dedicated by members of Madison Baptist Church in Jackson last month. The building was constructed at a cost of \$75,000. According to building committee chairman Jerry Rushing, the facility was constructed so that another building of the same size can be added in the future. The new construction will also be used as Sunday School space. Working with Rushing were George Maroney, W.T. Johnson, James Johnson, and Pastor Gerald O. Smith.

## LEADERSHIP...

Pamela Williams Warhurst resigned as music director at Rover Baptist Church in Eagleville. David Wall is pastor.

Dale Rodney Caldwell has joined the staff at Main Street Baptist Church, Lake City, as minister of education. A native of Knoxville, he is a former minister of youth at Main Street and just completed two years of study at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Ray Jones Jr. is pastor of the Lake City church.

Members of Woodbine Baptist Church in Nashville called Bruce Alan Clark as minister of education and music at that church. He is a 1976 graduate of Samford University in Birmingham, Ala. For two years he was minister of music and youth at First Baptist Church in Tehran, Iran while serving as a journeyman with the Foreign Mission Board. Terry Clapp

is pastor at Woodbine.

First Baptist Church in Kingsport announced that Charles C. Hobbs, associate professor of English at Carson-Newman College, is serving as interim pastor for that congregation. Hobbs is a native of Bristol and has been on the C-N faculty since 1965.

Lewis D. Ferrell, pastor emeritus of Whitehaven Baptist Church in Memphis, has concluded his interim pastorate at Northview Baptist Church in that city and has been called as interim pastor at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Pleasant Hill, Miss.

First Baptist Church in Michie called Johnny Parrack as minister of music and youth last month. He comes to the post from Corinth, Miss. Formerly he was assistant minister of music and soloist for the Elliott Baptist Church in Camden, Ark. Lathon Bray is pastor.

Jim Byington, pastor of First Baptist Church in Middleton from 1975 until October 1979, is serving a new church in Floyd, N.Y. The area is a pioneer mission field for Southern Baptists. Byington is a graduate of Union University in Jackson, and Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Memphis.

Third Baptist Church in Nashville called Richard Sanders as assistant pastor. Sanders, a student at Belmont College in Nashville, plans to enter Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, in the fall of 1980.

## REVIVALS...

Graceland Baptist Church, Memphis, was led in revival meeting recently by evangelist Henry Linginfelter, Alcoa. The music was brought by Dick Barrett of Bremen, Ga. There were several decisions, including professions of faith and rededications, according to Pastor E. Lowell Adams.

Several decisions were reported following revival services at Beulah Baptist Church in Kingsport recently. The evangelist for the services was Jim Lindsay, Elizabethton. Kenneth Kyker is pastor.

J.D. Cathy, pastor of Pomona's First Baptist Church, held a revival at VanLeer Baptist Church recently. There were 30 professions of faith and many rededications. Three years ago, the church had a membership of 12, and today the membership stands at over 100, according to Pastor Randy King.

## McDougal takes new post at Carson-Newman College

JEFFERSON CITY—Barbara McDougal, a native of Waterville, N.C., has been named assistant dean of students at Carson-Newman College effective Jan. 2, 1980. She will replace Brenda Sloan who resigned earlier this fall.

Currently Mrs. McDougal is associate professor of home economics at Carson-Newman and director of the Child Enrichment Center. She was a member of the college's faculty from 1956-59 and after a four-year departure returned to the faculty in 1963.

She is married to Samuel E. McDougal, geologist with New Jersey Zinc Co. The couple has two daughters, Karen, a junior at Carson-Newman, and her sister Jeanne, a freshman at C-N this year.

Mrs. McDougal earned her B.S. degree in home economics from C-N in 1954 and the M.S. degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, the following year. She currently is working toward a doctorate in educational psychology at UT-Knoxville.



McDougal

## Salem to sponsor refugee family

Messengers to the annual meeting of Salem Association voted to sponsor a refugee family, according to director of missions Abe Silliman. The sponsorship will be carried out as an association, using churches and individuals.

Silliman also reported baptisms in the association were up by 38 percent during the past year. Gifts through the Cooperative Program increased by 17 percent, and associational missions receipts increased by 13 percent.

Officers elected for the 1979-80 associational year are: moderator Amos Jarman, pastor of West Main Baptist Church, Alexandria; assistant moderator Bobby Colvert, pastor of Covenant Baptist Church in Smithville; clerk Jerry Spurlock, Indian Creek Baptist Church; and treasurer John Odum Evans, Salem Baptist Church, Liberty.

Attendees established a new date for the 1980 meeting, Silliman said. It will be held Oct. 21-22 at Snow Hill and Sycamore Baptist Churches.

## Seminary campaign tops \$7.8-million

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Tennessee ranks sixth in contributions to Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's "Resources for Excellence" campaign.

Tennesseans have given \$219,339 toward the campaign of the Louisville-based seminary.

Kentucky donors lead the contributions, giving almost half of the \$7.8-million received and pledged so far. Kentucky residents have given \$3,496,845.

Virginia places second in gifts to the campaign, with \$1,527,517, followed by North Carolina with \$731,868, Georgia with \$634,912, and Florida with \$265,521. Texas, Missouri, and Maryland have also passed the \$100,000 mark in the campaign.

The campaign is seeking \$10-million in new endowment and capital funds to expand the institution. Southern's enrollment has doubled in the last five years, to more than 2,700 students.

## Union University chorus presents Christmas music

JACKSON—The 150-voice Union University Chorus will present its annual Christmas concert Dec. 6, at 8 p.m. in the G.M. Savage Memorial Chapel on the Jackson campus.

The 50-minute program will feature contemporary composer Ron Nelson's "The Story of Christmas," written in 1958 and based on a 17th century composition of Heinrich Schutz. Kenneth Hartley, chairman of Union's music department, will direct the vocal group.

The Union University Symphonic Band will open the evening's program with a selection of Christmas carols. The concert is free and open to the public.

## Strickler to lead Sullivan

Carl Strickler, pastor of Lynn Garden Baptist Church in Sullivan Association, was re-elected to the post of moderator by messengers in their sixth annual meeting recently.

Other officers, also re-elected, included: assistant moderator Clyde Simms, pastor of Sullivan Baptist Church; treasurer Cecil Dykes; assistant treasurer Mrs. James Bishop; and clerk Joe Byrd, pastor of Bloomington Baptist Church.

Messengers will gather Oct. 21, 1980 at West View Missionary Baptist Church in Kingsport for their seventh annual meeting.

## Haywood re-elects leaders

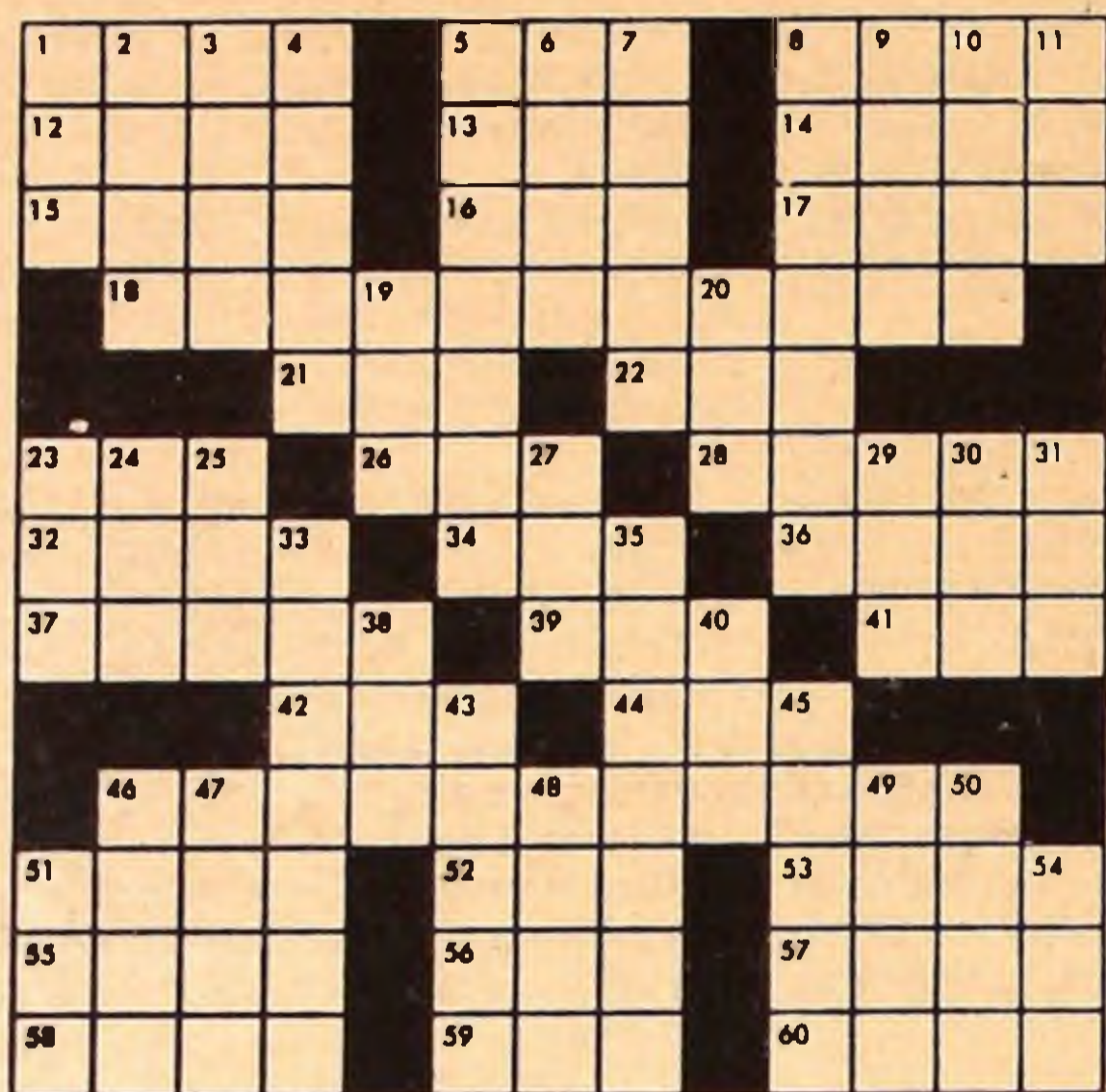
H.K. Sorrell, pastor of Brownsville Baptist Church in Brownsville, was re-elected moderator for Haywood Association at its recent annual meeting.

Other officers, also re-elected, are: vice-moderator Bennie Morrison, a member of Harmony Baptist Church; treasurer J.T. Newsom, a member at Harmony; and clerk Mrs. J.C. Williams, a member at Brownsville.



## Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 10



### ACROSS

- 1 They came to him (Matt. 21:14)  
5 "shall he — in harvest" (Prov. 20)  
8 Baby protectors  
12 Descendant of Esau (Gen. 36:28)  
13 Irish sea god  
14 Seth's son (Gen. 4:26)  
15 "all your — upon him" (1 Pet. 5)  
16 Before  
17 Ceramic stoneware  
18 "Behold, I send —" (Mark 1)  
21 Part of yesterday  
22 Educator's group: abbr.  
23 Month: abbr.  
26 Limb

- 28 "forgive me this —" (2 Cor. 12)  
32 Diagonally  
34 Spanish title  
36 Portico  
37 Vapor  
39 Quagmire  
41 — Aviv  
42 Hoover, for one  
44 Drinking cup  
46 It works repentance (2 Cor. 7:10; 2 words)  
51 "shall — us away the stone" (Mark 16)  
52 Hurried  
53 Leave out  
55 Author Gardner  
56 English festival  
57 African plain  
58 Raised to life (Heb. 11:35)

### CRYPTOVERSE

S H B I P S X G N R I G Y J C C X W H M W

Today's Cryptoverse clue: X equals Y

- 59 Filthy place  
60 "both the — of it" (Ezek. 15)

### DOWN

- 1 Resinous substance  
2 Place (Num. 23:7)  
3 — Magdalene (Mark 16:1)  
4 Devil (Matt. 13:39)  
5 "— is the man" (Jas. 1)  
6 Corn Parts  
7 Unripe  
8 Lazarus, and others (Luke 16:20)  
9 Concerning  
10 South African  
11 Strong soap solution: abbr.  
19 Moray  
20 "or of the — moon" (Col. 2)  
23 Jewish months  
24 Bottomless (Rev. 9:1)  
25 Rachel, by shortening  
27 Place of battle (2 Sam. 21:18)  
29 Baseball great  
30 Noah in the N. T. (Luke 17:26)  
31 N. T. book: abbr.  
33 Placed under a burden  
35 "— in their purse" (Mark 6)  
38 O. T. book: abbr.  
40 Place (2 Ki. 9:27)  
43 City of Lycia (Acts 27:5; poss.)  
45 Stand of trees  
46 Pierce  
47 Earthenware jar  
48 — pork  
49 Augury  
50 Untamed  
51 Herring, of a kind  
54 Football abbrs.

## Pulpit To Pew

By Jim N. Griffith

A friend writes that with numbers from his auto license plate, Social Security, insurance company, phone company, and zip codes he is fast becoming "numb from numbers!"

Seeking the solace of worship, he settled into his pew and the music director said, "Let's begin our service by turning to number...and sing 'Count Your Blessings'."

The minister then preached from—you guessed it—the book of Numbers!

Apparently, the numbers craze is here to stay and there is little to be gained from fighting it. Perhaps, we need to go with the trend:

For the Christian, make the Lord's Day number one among all days, let the Bible be number one among all books, and the church number one among all institutions. And above all, make Jesus Christ number one in your life.

Then, we could say: "Now we are getting somewhere with numbers." In fact, when it comes to church attendance, one might be bold enough to suggest this slogan: "Be a Number—Don't Be a 'No Count'."

## Congressman seeks new law to curb religious vandalism

WASHINGTON (BP)—A Brooklyn, N.Y., congressman has introduced legislation which would make destruction of churches and synagogues, as well as their contents, a federal crime.

Rep. Stephen J. Solarz said he was taking the action because of a recent rash of "suspicious" church and synagogue fires in his district and "an apparent increase" in such incidents elsewhere.

Solarz noted that in one recent act of vandalism against a Brooklyn synagogue, the building was gutted and nine Torah scrolls destroyed by fire. Members of the synagogue buried the remains of the scrolls, some of them more than 200 years old and valued at several thousand dollars each, in a public ceremony attended by religious and civic leaders.

Solarz told the gathering that "if it's a federal crime to burn a cross on someone's lawn, then it should be a federal crime to burn a Torah scroll in someone's synagogue. The spirit of freedom of worship is violated unless there are substantial penalties for interfering with a congregation's right to worship without fear."

In a statement announcing introduction of the bill, H.R. 5917, Solarz said that U.S. Justice Department officials have "side-stepped" cases involving such acts of vandalism because they claim that unless they suspect that specific federal laws, such as those dealing with explosives, have been violated, they have no jurisdiction.

The congressman said also that he will seek support for his bill from the nation's religious community "and especially from those denominations with a history of persecution."

He will also ask for support from both liberal and conservative members of Congress under the belief that liberals, "who traditionally support civil rights bills," and conservatives, because it is a "strong anti-crime measure," will be attracted.

Himself a Jew, Solarz pointed out in his statement that many of his constituents were survivors of the Jewish Holocaust and of the pre-World War II "Krystalnacht," an infamous night in which Jewish synagogues and other Jewish-owned property were destroyed by the Nazis.

"Many of these people remember it as if it

happened yesterday," he said. "But to see it happen again, here in America, is as unbearably painful as a recurring nightmare."

### Devotional

## Lesson in patience

By Evelyn C. Foote

As long as I can remember, I have had to fight against impatience. I still do! I've memorized several Scripture verses which have helped me, such as Psalm 27:14, James 1:4, and Romans 5:3-4. But a favorite has been this:

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31).

The verse took on an extra meaning for me two years ago, when

Baptist Women selected it as their watchword for the year. The Royal Service magazine featured it on its cover in sampler form. Inside, directions for making the sampler in counted cross-stitch were given. Although I had never tried that particular type of needlework, I decided to make the sampler, as I'm sure many other women throughout the convention did.

Each day for weeks, I relaxed by picking up the bright-colored strands of embroidery floss and pains-takingly adding a few more stitches to the design. All the while, I would meditate on Isaiah's words, until they were indelibly imbedded in my mind. The prophet spoke to me across the centuries! Just as I needed patience to finish my sampler, I needed it to solve problems, great and small, every day.

I remembered Hannah Smith's comments on the verse in her great book, *The Christian's Secret of A Happy Life*. She wrote that the eagle's wings on which the Christian mounts are surrender and trust. To overcome our difficulties, we must surrender them to the Lord, then trust in Him to resolve them in His own time and His own way.

When I finally finished my sampler, I hung it over my piano. When I am tired, lonely, or perplexed, I find a double solace in a few moments at my keyboard: the music, and the majestic words of Isaiah.

Mrs. Foote is the wife of William A. Foote, pastor of Merton Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis.



Foote

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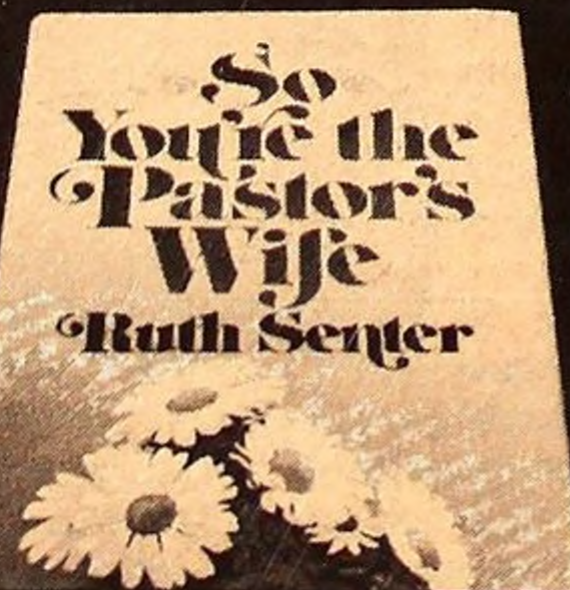
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## Other state conventions meet; take action

### Ohio Baptists look at 25-year advance

DAYTON, Ohio (BP) — The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio celebrated its 25th anniversary and honored the man who has led them throughout the quarter century.

Ray E. Roberts, executive secretary of the convention during its entire history, was honored at a dinner and special program. The churches in Ohio presented a love offering of about \$6,000 to Roberts, who retires April 1, 1980. Tal D. Bonham, evangelism director for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, has been elected to replace Roberts and will go to Ohio in January to work alongside Roberts for three months before taking administrative direction.

The 750 elected messengers adopted a \$3 million budget, of which nearly \$2 million is expected in receipts from Ohio churches. Thirty-eight percent of Cooperative Program income, or \$758,435, will go to Southern Baptist Convention world ministries through the Cooperative Program.

The convention adopted resolutions on world physical and spiritual hunger and took up \$1,100 in a spur of the moment offering for hunger. Another resolution urged Baptist families to sponsor families of Vietnamese refugees.

The resolution on hunger criticized the government of Cambodia for policies that have "led to that starvation in their land." It lauded the American government for attempts to provide food for them and called for immediate United Nations action to feed the starving.

There were no resolutions on doctrinal questions, but in the convention sermon, John T. Tollison, area missions director for Cleveland, reaffirmed loyalty to the "inspired, unshakable, infallible" word of God and disputed the claim of Moody Monthly magazine that Southern Baptist unity "seems to be cracking" over what constitutes scriptural truth. Tollison said he perceives no split in the Southern Baptist Convention.

T.J. (Jack) Tichenor, retired pastor living in suburban Cincinnati, was re-elected president.

In 25 years, the convention has grown from 39 churches with almost 10,000 members to 452 churches and 111 missions, with close to 125,000 members.

### New England prepares for convention status

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. (BP)—The Baptist General Association of New England adopted a 1980 budget that includes a special fund to assist in preparation for convention status by 1982 and re-elected Marion Hayes, pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Providence, R.I., as president during its annual convention.

Elected messengers adopted a 1980 budget of \$915,000, including an anticipated \$142,380 from association churches. Twenty percent of the association income is designated for world mission causes through the national Cooperative Program.

Of the local revenue, \$9,277 represents a challenge budget for funds to organize as a convention. If the 1982 constituting goals of two associations are met, New England would be the 36th state or area convention within the Southern Baptist Convention.

Leaders unveiled plans for "Good News New England" that will include a media blitz as have other "Good News" campaigns. In March, Virginia Baptists will furnish Sunday School growth experts to the 50 New England congregations and will send musicians and evangelists for a Good News Crusade. Probe teams and youth groups from Virginia and other states will conduct church growth activities in the summer that will lead to a projected 20 new congregations.

New England Baptists also are asking Virginia Baptists to supply retired pastors to lead the new congregations for three months to a year.

### Kansas-Nebraska Baptists elect host pastor, woman

GREAT BEND, Kans. (BP)—Kansas-Nebraska Baptists elected the host pastor and the first woman since 1947 to offices during the annual meeting of the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists.

Doyle Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Great Bend, Kans., was elected president and Mary Jo Robertson, mother of six, from Kansas City, Kans., was elected recording secretary. She is the first woman officer since 1947.

Messengers to the convention adopted a \$1,763,016 budget for 1980, including \$971,004 in anticipated income from Kansas-Nebraska Baptist churches. Of the local income, 22 percent is designated for world missions through the national Cooperative Program, an increase of one percentage point over the current year.

Messengers adopted resolutions supporting President Carter's handling of the situation during the tension created when Iranian students seized the American embassy in Tehran with 62 American hostages.

They also supported political activity in Kansas that is trying to raise the legal drinking age from 18 to 21. While maintaining a position favoring total abstinence, the resolution said messengers supported actions that would limit the use of alcohol.

### Minnesota-Wisconsin elects lay president

MADISON, Wis. (BP)—Baptists in the Minnesota-Wisconsin Southern Baptist Fellowship elected layman Charles Dunning, a chemist with Kimberly Clark Paper Co. in Neenah, Wis., as president during their 10th annual meeting.

The 109 messengers adopted a \$777,918 budget of which \$135,581 will come from Minnesota-Wisconsin churches. Of that, 25 percent is designated for world mission causes through the national Cooperative Program.

Messengers learned their membership had grown to 10,310 in 67 churches and 23 chapels, including 14 begun this year, and were urged to begin work in the 114 counties in the two-state fellowship that still had no Southern Baptist work.

The fellowship anticipates up to 40 volunteers from Texas next summer in a Mission Service Corps project, where the volunteers will give one or two years to help grow and establish Southern Baptist work in the area.

### Illinois Baptists adopt hard hitting resolutions

HERRIN, Ill. (BP)—Illinois Baptists adopted a host of hard hitting resolutions and re-elected their president, Joe Bob Pierce, to a second term at the annual meeting of the Illinois Baptist State Association.

Messengers adopted a budget of \$5,413,927, including an anticipated income of \$3,220,000 from Illinois Southern Baptist churches. Forty-one percent of the Illinois income is designated for world missions causes through the national Cooperative Program.

A resolution on inflation asked churches to surrender plans for unnecessary and costly construction and use the financial resources instead to help the poor. A resolution on aging called on Christians to honor and provide for aged parents and asked the state legislature to review provisions for licensing for homes for the aged. An energy resolution called on Illinois Baptists to develop a new ethic of energy consumption in which conservation is esteemed and waste is disdained.

Another said many increasing costs of health care are artificially inflated from exorbitant profits, from arbitrary limitations on medical school enrollments and from ill-founded malpractice suits. It affirmed the right of everyone to basic health care and urged restraint in the use of insurance-covered benefits.

### Va. Baptists want taxing of para-church groups

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (BP)—Virginia Baptists elected V. Allen Gaines, pastor of Parkview Baptist Church in Newport News, as president, and called for para-church groups to pay taxes on their business enterprises that compete in the marketplace.

Messengers to the 156th annual meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia adopted a resolution asking para-church groups to publicly disclose the source and expenditure of their funds before they are forced to by state and federal regulatory agencies; and decrying persons using their Christian faith for capital gain, especially by politicizing certain theological positions. No agency or individual was specifically named.

Messengers adopted a \$9.25 million budget for 1980, including \$3,525,000 for world mission causes through the national Cooperative Program. After short debate, the messengers voted to retain the three-and-one-half percent budget allocation to the University of Richmond.

Other resolutions: opposed the calling of a constitutional convention because of the threat it would pose to all religious and civil liberties; supported human rights; supported President Carter and urged him to seek the release of American hostages held in Iran through peaceful means that will preserve the integrity of the nation.

The messengers had prayer for peace and the Iranian situation and collected a world hunger offering of \$2,500 from among themselves.

### Michigan Baptists meet; name woman vice-president

ROYAL OAKS, Mich. (BP)—The Baptist State Convention of Michigan elected Howard Clark, pastor of First Baptist Church, Guinn, Mich., as president, and named its first woman vice-president.

Mrs. Fern Dannelly of Midland, Mich. is the first woman to serve Michigan Southern Baptists in any major office other than recording secretary.

The convention was highlighted by dedication of a \$250,000 four-apartment complex, the brainchild of former SBC President Owen Cooper which will house mission volunteers in Michigan to work with the state staff. That would include furloughing foreign missionaries, Mission Service Corps volunteers and others.

In other action messengers donated \$400 to world hunger and participated with Baptist Student Union members in a "Read-the-Bible-Through" effort to raise money for summer missions and kick-off the 1980 Southern Baptist emphasis on reading the Bible through.

The convention adopted a budget of \$1,762,712, with 25.5 percent going to world missions through the national Southern Baptist Cooperative Program.

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## Citizen's Corner

By Jerry M. Self  
Public affairs and Christian life consultant

Three weeks ago in Memphis, the Tennessee Baptist Convention passed a resolution opposing violence. Specifically, the activities of the Ku Klux Klan, the Neo-Nazis, and the Communist Workers Party were cited. Unfortunately, we are seeing a resurgence of the KKK and their blatant racism coupled with acts of violence. Curiously these ugly displays of racism come at a time when we are learning to be more subtle, sophisticated, and insidious in acting out class hatred.



Self

Now then into such an environment intrudes the daily news of a few Muslims whose actions endanger what positive race relations may exist. The threat to the lives of American hostages in Iran is tragic. Beyond their lives are other threats to Christian endeavors. Mission efforts in Muslim countries are being hurt. Foreign student programs sponsored by Baptist Student Unions are jeopardized.

For the most part, Americans do not know what the Shah has done. We cannot understand why he should not be left to suffer from cancer in peace. We are uncertain what the United States' relation to Iran has been in the past. Until recently, we have been unaware of the large numbers of Iranian and other Muslim students attending our schools.

We do know that Americans are being held hostage, if they are still alive, and we know that is not right.

But neither is it right to blame those in our communities simply because they are the same color, speak the same language, share the same religion, or have the same nationality stamped on a visa as the Ayatollah Khomeini.

Hatred hurts us all, no matter who is the target.

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**READING BIBLE HELPED HIM LEARN LANGUAGE** — As Benin Baptists held their first national gathering, Philip Djossou (center) testified in French how Christianity had helped him master the national language of his French-speaking West African country. Before becoming a Christian and reading the Bible daily, he could hardly read. Synphorien Tella (at left) translated for the 36 representatives of the French- and Yoruba-speaking churches from all over Benin. M. Avoisse (at right) also addressed the group.

## UNIFORM SERIES

Lesson for Sunday, December 9, 1979

# Christ: source of full life

By Hyran E. Barefoot  
vice-president for academic affairs,  
Union University, Jackson

Basic Passage: Colossians 2:1-23  
Focal Passage: Colossians 2:6-15

In the previous lesson it was noted that heresy was being taught among the believers in Colossae. In this section of the letter Paul deals more specifically with the heresy and delineates some of its teaching.

He warns the Colossians about heresy and denounces it soundly, but Paul did not make the mistake of majoring on denunciation. He did not build his gospel upon the negative but chose rather to take primarily a positive approach.

It is possible for religion to be built principally upon denunciation of some other group and to make one's gospel consist of what not to do and what not to believe. The best corrective of wrong behavior is the admonition to that which is right behavior, and the best corrective of wrong belief is the proclamation of the truth. Thus, Paul chose to present the supremacy of Christ and not merely the shortcomings of his opponents.

### Life in Christ 2:6-7

The Christian life has its beginning in one's acceptance of Christ. This involves the understanding of who He is and what His significance is. There is the intellectual acceptance of the fact that the Jesus about whose life and death we know is the promised Messiah (or Christ) and that He has been exalted to His proper place as Lord. These titles reflect the true Christian teaching which the Colossians had received and believed. But Christian faith is more than the acceptance of certain precepts or propositions about Christ. It involves a life lived in relationship with Him. We live as ones united with Him and deriving our life from His. The metaphors used by Paul are drawn from agriculture and carpentry: "rooted and built up in Him." They are probably intended to suggest the fixity of the sustaining faith in Christ ("rooted") and the conduct which rests upon it which should always be growing toward perfection, like a house in progress.

### Warnings Against False Teaching 2:8

In Colossians 2:4, Paul first made direct reference to the fact that false teachers were

at work in Colossae trying to lead believers astray by beguiling speech. In 2:8 he returned to the theme of the false doctrine and made a brief attack on the philosophy of the heresy. Even here he did not make the nature of the new doctrines plain, but that would not be necessary to the Colossians since they would be very knowledgeable of these strange doctrines and could quickly fill in the hints and allusions which Paul did make. He did draw these clear ideas about the teaching: (1) the false teachers are man-stealers whose purpose is to entrap innocent souls and drag them off into slavery to new ideas; (2) to effect this capture they employ a philosophy that is built upon empty speculation, probably trying to make the gospel more acceptable to men of culture and intelligence; (3) the philosophy is according to human tradition; that is, it is built on hearsay that is passed from one man to another; (4) it is according to the elemental spirits of the universe or rudiments of the world, which probably meant the spiritual beings who presided over the stars and through them guided the destinies of men; (5) it is not according to Christ and has no real relationship to Him.

### The Fulness of Christ and the Fulness of the Believer 2:9-15

In order to keep the Colossian Christians from embracing such deceptive ideas, Paul chose to present one central truth, the supremacy and adequacy of Christ. Thus his basic statement is, "For in Him the whole fulness of deity (or Godhead) dwells bodily." The fulness of God's essence dwells in Christ bodily. This is not a reference to the incarnation but rather to the idea of full reality. The false teachers believe that Christ represented God but in an imperfect manner so that His presentation needed to be supplemented. Paul stated emphatically that there is nothing in God's nature which is not fully present in Christ.

The idea of the fulness of Christ leads him logically to dwell on the full salvation which Christ brings to His believers: "And you have come to fulness of life in Him." (R.S.V.) There is this all-sufficiency of Christ because He is the head of all spiritual powers. In verses 11-15 Paul described in detail the fulness that we possess in Christ. (1) We have a circumcision that is not material in nature but spiritual, which consists in the putting off of the body of flesh, that is, of the whole carnal nature. (2) We have a baptism that indicates a burial with Him. These words are explained in Romans 6:4 where baptism is represented as the repetition of the experience of Christ. (3) We share a resurrection with Him from the dead. (4) We have a new life which involves the forgiveness of all our trespasses. (5) We are the recipients of the cancellation of the legal demands of the law. By His death Christ has destroyed the law, under which man stood condemned. Paul stated this in dramatic imagery as the law being nailed to the cross. (6) We have a leader who has engaged all hostile powers in battle and has triumphed victoriously over them.



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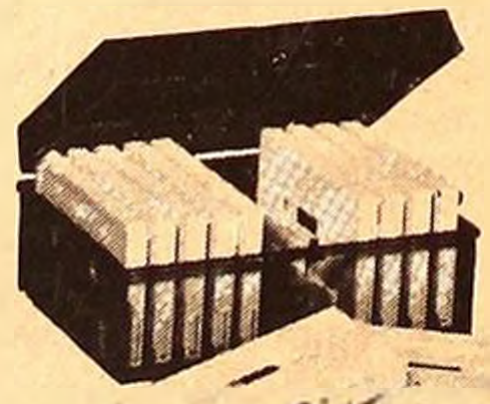


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M	Y	M	E	S	S	E	N	G	E	R
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E	R	L	E	A	L	E	V	E	L	D
D	E	A	D	S	T	Y	E	N	D	S

"Hide thy face from my sins" (Psa. 51:9)



## LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Sunday School lesson for December 9

# Authentic revival needed

By George Lewis McGlothlin, pastor  
First Baptist Church, Huntland

Basic Passage: Malachi 1-2

Focal Passages: Malachi 1:2a, 10-13; 2:8-9, 13-14, 17

Theodore L. Cuyler was once preaching on the subject of revival. He said that the greatest need of that day was for "sermons in shoes."

The problem in the fifth century B.C. was that the people held to religion in theory, but they seldom let it affect their everyday lives. The need is still great in America for "sermons in shoes" as we move toward the 21st century. The prophet Malachi, who indeed was a messenger from God, indicated why revival was needed in Jerusalem and everywhere else as well.



McGlothlin

Revival was needed because the people questioned God's love.

In Malachi 1:2, the people asked, "Wherein hast thou loved us?" God's people had strayed so far away from Him that He had to get their attention through a bad year of crop failure, as is implied in Malachi 4:1. Sometimes, God has to get our attention by allowing things to happen that would focus our eyes on Him and His love. However, when the prophet delivered God's message, "I have loved you," the people questioned that love. Like so many people today, difficulty in life caused them to doubt God's care for them. Their eyes were closed to the many evidences of His love.

A Christian Endeavor meeting was in progress in a small town in Wales when a timid young Welsh girl arose. She was so nervous she could only utter one short sentence: "Oh, I do love Jesus!" That was the beginning of the great Welsh revival.

Perhaps God's people questioned His love in order to divert the attention from the real problem. The Lord was asking, "Do you love Me?" The more we affirm our love for Him, the more we will realize His love for us.

Revival was needed because public worship had become a burden.

Malachi 1:13 says, "Behold, what a weariness it is!" The leadership had come to the point of thinking that public worship was a burden. They were not the only ones. In time, the people as well thought the same. A sure sign of spiritual illness is when we no longer look forward to worshipping with other believers.

There was an announcement on a church bulletin board. It read, "This church is the gateway to heaven!" Summer came. The following words were added: "Closed for the summer!"

The Israelites of Malachi's day could have cared less about public worship. To a person who is not right with the Lord, public worship is indeed a burden. Is worship at all the services of your church a burden or a blessing to you?

Revival was needed because the preachers let the people do whatever they wanted.

Malachi 2:9 tells us that the priests "have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law." The paraphrase, *The Living Bible*, sheds even more light on verse 9. It says,

"You let your favorites break the law without rebuke." What an indictment that was on the religious leaders of that day!

Even in our time, there is a "don't rock the boat" sort of attitude. It makes no difference what a man believes as long as he is loving. Jim Jones was one of the most loving individuals in our country at one time. But who would commend him now? No one! Is it possible that our deep-seated beliefs determine our future actions? Yes!

During my time in seminary, I served as pastor of a small congregation in southern Mississippi. The people, most of whom were from a Catholic background, wanted to start selling plates, cards, and other items to raise money for the church. I sought to show the people that God's pattern of operating His church was through Christian giving of tithes and offerings. They started selling the things after I told them that God would not bless actions that are contrary to His Word. Rebuking them took God's courage, but they would not listen. It was sad to watch the offering drop by \$200 a week from the point when they started their money-raising plan.

There is only one way to do God's Work—His way! God's law applies equally to all of His people. Failure to abide by it brings about greater problems. When the crops failed, even the priests suffered!

Revival was needed because marriages were falling apart.

Malachi 2:14 says, "Yet ye say, wherefore? Because the Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant." Divorce had evidently become commonplace among God's people of that day. Even in our country, no longer is it just the unsaved getting divorced. Rather, many Christians are also parting ways. God states emphatically in Malachi that He "hateth" divorce. Although a person can receive God's forgiveness for divorce, it is not His will for His people.

Was the need of revival real in the fifth century B.C.? Yes! Is the need of revival just as real today? Yes! We need it for the very same reasons they did.

Jonathan Edwards preached his great sermon, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God." Revival was stirred in the church and throughout the surrounding communities. But why did it happen?

For three days, Edwards had not eaten a mouthful of food; for three nights he had not closed his eyes in sleep. Over and over again, he had been saying to God, "Give me New England! Give me New England!" When he rose from his knees and made his way into the pulpit, they say he looked as if he had been gazing straight into the face of God. They say that before he opened his lips to speak, conviction fell upon his audience.

God help us to be a daily "sermon in shoes" like Jonathan Edwards! God help us to see authentic revival come!

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## Interpretation

# Pearls of plain talk

By Hershel H. Hobbs

"...Study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands." 1 Thess. 4:11

In verses 11-12 Paul anticipates the problems which grew out of a misunderstanding about the Lord's return (cf. vv. 13-18). So before explaining the nature of this event he exhorted his readers to avoid certain abuses growing out of this misunderstanding. He repeats in writing what he had told them in person while with them (v. 11c).

"Study" may better read "aspire." It is the first of four infinitives: "to aspire to be quiet...to do...to work." "To aspire" means to be fond of honor. This should lead them to live quietly. This infinitive may mean to be still, at peace, or silent. It is used of desisting from discussion (cf. Luke 14:4; Acts 11:18; 21:14). All these meanings may apply here. Apparently, the church was restless and talkative about the second coming of Christ, which disturbed the peace of the fellowship (cf. 2 Thess. 3:6ff.).

"To do your own business" means to practice your own things or business. Nosy

busybodies can disrupt the fellowship of a church (cf. 2 Thess. 3:11). "To work with your own hands" suggests that some had ceased working and had become troublemakers as they thought the Lord's return was near. If so, why work?

They were to earn their own living and not sponge upon the generosity of others. Thus they would gain the respect of non-Christians. The outside world watches Christians. So in all affairs of life they should live above reproach. No follower of Christ should live a life which denies his profession of faith in Christ.

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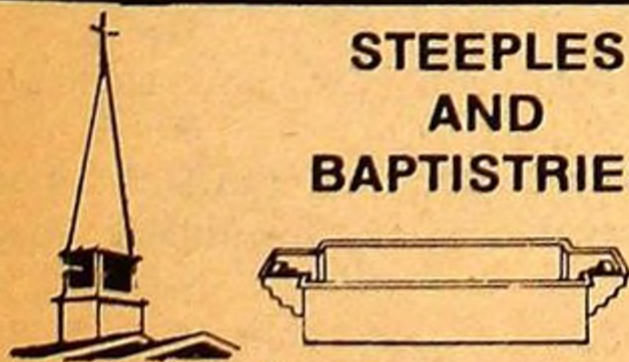
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# Mission luxuries turn to basics as inflation cuts into service

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Is \$8,700 too much to pay for a missionary's car? Not when you consider some missionaries pay as much as \$15,000.

A \$15,000 car would be a luxury item for most people, but for Southern Baptist missionaries in Uruguay, because of import duties and other charges, it is only a no-frills Chevette or Volkswagen stationwagon. Inflation in that South American country was nearly 28 percent in the first five months of 1979, compared with 15 percent in the same period of 1978.

The cheap car can be purchased in Taiwan where inflation hasn't climbed so steeply. For \$8,700 you can buy a four-cylinder, four-speed Ford stationwagon with no air conditioning, no radio, and stick-to-you vinyl seats.

Inflation is everywhere. For most Americans, salaries are not increasing as fast as the cost of goods and services. Gasoline has reached or surpassed the dollar-a-gallon mark, home mortgage interest rates are at an all-time high, money is tight, and there is no good financial news in the forecast.

But missionaries overseas would gladly swap their foreign inflation for the U.S. rate. Consider these facts: bacon in Okinawa is \$4 a pound; a wringer washing machine in Guatemala costs \$995; a head of lettuce in Taiwan goes for about \$4; chicken for four people costs about \$8 in Italy; a box of corn flakes in Ghana is more than \$7; gasoline in Korea is about \$4 a gallon; a used piano costs \$800 to \$1,000 in Singapore; in Thailand, a small can of shaving cream is \$4.

How do missionaries and Southern Baptists cope with these financial challenges? Worn-out phrases like "bite the bullet" and "tighten

the belt" are getting more usage, but they are not solutions.

One answer lies in the attitudes and ingenuity of Southern Baptists at home and missionaries overseas. Some folks are changing their eating habits—using less meat and more fresh vegetables and fruits. Car pools are springing up in overseas settings as well as in the States.

An opportunity for Southern Baptists in the United States to help ease the crunch abroad is through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions. Sponsored and promoted by the Woman's Missionary Union, this year's goal is \$40.5-million, over half the annual operating budget of the SBC Foreign Mission Board. The other major source of income is the denomination's Cooperative Program budget.

The first \$32-million will go to operating expenses, a recent departure from the original use of the offering, which provided missionaries with the tools, literature, land and buildings with which to work. But inflation has eaten up a greater percentage of the offering each year, and now the majority of it must be used to meet operating expenses for the board's 3,000 missionary force.

Since its inception, the offering, named after missionary to China Lottie Moon, has raised \$405,722,945. This year's goal is 12.6

percent more than the nearly \$37 million raised last year.

At the Foreign Mission Board, inflation is causing problems too. In the 10-year period between May 1969 and May 1979, inflation rose more than 96 percent. During approximately the same time, missionary personnel increased more than 22 percent. The two factors combined show a need for a more than 140 percent increase in budget just to maintain the increased number of missionaries and their work, according to Winston Crawley, director of the board's overseas division. But between 1968 and 1978 Southern Baptist giving to foreign missions rose only 118.5 percent. "This is not bold financing," Crawley said.

"In order to be bold we must do more than just keep up with inflation and increased missionary personnel—and we're not even doing that now," he said. "Our whole problem is a matter of priorities—how important Southern Baptists think missions work is. Statistics indicate missions is losing ground in importance with Southern Baptists."

"At present we are not having to turn away potential missionaries because we don't have the money to support them. But we're gradually taking away the materials for them to work with. We can't reach the world for Christ if all we have to work with is 3,000 missionary voices."



**LOTTIE MOON LETTER DONATED—** Mrs. Elsie Harrison of Beaver Dam, Va., and Thomas W. Hill, secretary for communications for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, discuss the contents of an 1894 letter written by Lottie Moon. Mrs. Harrison donated the letter and a bookmark with a Chinese inscription to the FMB's Jenkins Memorial Library and Archives Center. They were sent to her husband's grandmother, a teenage friend of Lottie Moon.

## New York Baptists get gift of song

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (BP)—New York Baptists, meeting in the same city where they organized as a convention 10 years ago, received the gift of a song, and re-elected Wallace A.C. Williams, pastor of Milton Baptist Church, Milton, Conn., as president.

Ken Medema, popular Christian musician and composer, wrote a new song, "We Belong" especially for the 10th annual meeting of the Baptist Convention of New York in Syracuse and will designate the royalties from its publication to mission work in the convention, according to Jack P. Lowndes, executive secretary-treasurer.

Lowndes and Paul S. James, executive secretary-treasurer emeritus, were both recognized for their five years of leadership in the convention that covers Southern Baptist work in New York, northern New Jersey and western Connecticut.

Elected messengers adopted a \$1,470,575 budget for 1980, including an anticipated income of \$357,718 from the 230 churches and chapels in the convention. Twenty percent, or \$71,540, of the local income is designated for world mission causes through the national Cooperative Program.

The budget included, for the second year, a line item designation for world hunger of \$500.

Messengers adopted resolutions that urged Southern Baptists to greater personal sacrifice to confront the spiritual challenge of the 1980s and that urged Southern Baptists to sponsor the resettlement of a refugee family.

## Married couples encouraged to work out marital conflict

By Linda Lawson

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—When a married couple says they've never had a disagreement, they are lying, have a poor memory, or one partner "has been made a zero in the relationship," Clark Hensley told 250 couples attending the first weekend Fall Festival of Marriage.

Hensley, director of the Mississippi Christian Action Commission, was one of five panelists who answered questions on issues including conflict and church involvement. The questions were submitted by conference participants.

The event, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's family ministry department, was built around the theme "Celebrate Marriage!" and included a variety of interest conferences on topics such as communication, money management, and nurturing a marriage.

"While conflict in marriage is inevitable," Hensley said, "it is a part of growth."

Joe Hinkle, secretary of the family ministry department, said one goal of Christian couples should be to "work out conflict so that everybody wins."

In response to a question on how a wife should handle a husband's demand that she choose between her vocation and her marriage, counseling center president James Kilgore said, that rather than making a choice, "This is a good place to start negotiating. Marriage partners should be tough negotiators."

Kilgore, president of the Northside Counseling Center, Atlanta, and a former Southern Baptist pastor, said a marriage is in trouble when one spouse puts the marriage on the line in a conflict. "The need is to work out the conflict," he said.

On church involvement, panel members said priorities should be God first, family second, and church third.

Janice Siler, a pastoral counselor at North Carolina Baptist Hospital's School of Pastoral Care, said her family studies church and family events and places them on a calendar to avoid conflicts.

"If we have a family event on our calendar and another event conflicts with it, we use it as a chance to witness for our family (life)," she said.

In a Saturday morning address, Wallace Denton, professor of marriage and family life at Purdue University, said every couple should give serious attention to marriage enrichment.

"One hundred percent of us can stand having our relationships improved," said Denton. He said couples who work at appreciating each other, responding, touching, remembering, and expressing love will have more successful marriages.

"Sometimes if we were a little more active in expressing our love, it would carry us over some rough times," Denton said.

Kilgore told the group that couples who practice their Christian faith have a much lower divorce rate. "Getting closer in line with God, we get closer in line with each other," he said.

Dick Waggener, consultant in the family ministry department and coordinator of the conference, said he hoped one outcome of the weekend would be that couples realize "It's okay for Christians to go for help in their marriage. Go to someone competent and go to someone Christian," he said.

## T-shirt speaks of U.S. prosperity

By Patsy Eitelman

KOUDOUGOU, Upper Volta (BP) — Bicycling to the post office, I saw a small, malnourished boy standing beside the road sporting a wide grin and a T-shirt, evidently a U.S. cast-off, that boldly declared: "I lost 90 pounds in 9 weeks."

The fact that neither he nor those around him had any idea what the shirt said only increased my amusement.

The more I thought about this encounter, though, the less funny it became. This boy and his shirt are a sad picture of the paradox that exists in the world between the "haves" and the "have nots."

Does it seem strange that the "haves" are preoccupied with cutting calories while the "have nots" wonder where their next meal is coming from;

—That the "haves" are overeating themselves to death while the "have nots" face starvation and malnutrition;

—That the "haves" are worrying about abortion, prolonging life, and growing old, while the "have nots" know that many of their children will never survive through infancy;

—That the "haves" are constantly demanding higher wages, more benefits, and lower prices while the "have nots" despair of ever having a salaried job or enough money to support their families?

Missionaries in developing nations are faced with these contradictions each day, but they are seldom so vividly portrayed as in this boy and his T-shirt.

Patsy (Mrs. Ray) Eitelman is a Southern Baptist missionary to Upper Volta.

## HISTORICALLY FROM THE FILES

### 50 YEARS AGO

The Tennessee Baptist Convention meeting at First Baptist Church, Union City, elected J.T. Warren, president of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, as its president. J.G. Hughes, pastor of First Baptist Church, Union City, and F.C. McConnell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, were elected vice-presidents. Fleetwood Ball, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lexington, was named clerk, and N.B. Fetzer, Nashville, statistical secretary. It also re-elected O.E. Bryan, Nashville, treasurer.

Central Baptist Church, Bearden, dedicated its new building. C.L. Hammond was pastor.

### 25 YEARS AGO

Henry Guy Jackson was named associational missionary for Stone and Riverside Associations. He was currently serving Dyer Association in a similar position.

P.B. Baldrige was appointed director of the Christian Family Counseling Service for the Nashville Baptist Association. Baldrige would also serve as pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Nashville. The counseling service was a new venture by the Nashville association and co-sponsored by the SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta. Baldrige was a member of the faculty of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, Ky.

### 10 YEARS AGO

First Baptist Church, Knoxville, observed its 125th anniversary. The church was the mother of 35 other congregations in and around Knoxville.