

Baptist and Reflector

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News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

WMU told true service leads to the cross

No compromises were offered. No concessions were made available.

Women attending the 1980 Woman's Missionary Union House Party in Nashville last weekend heard that the footprints of service lead to the cross.

They were told that the sign of true service is the towel — the towel which Jesus used to dry the feet of the disciples.

"It is not easy to follow Christ in real discipleship," Bob Wakefield, missionary to Singapore, told the women Friday night and Saturday. It takes, he explained, a desire for your spirit to rise up and meet His spirit. It takes a denying of self which includes giving frustrations, sins, goodnesses, moods, and every part of life to the Lord. "If you are able to be the witness for Christ which He chooses you to be, you need to give Him your whole life," Wakefield said.

"The cross of Christ is not easy," he warned repeatedly. "It means giving up my life and nothing less than that. What does it cost?" he asked. "If you choose to follow Jesus, the footprints will lead to the cross. If you are not willing to die for Him, you will never follow Him far enough to know where the footprints lead."

He explained, also, that the great commission is not in going, but in discipling as we go. "I don't have to live in a particular place to put the cross where it belongs," he said. "Being a missionary does not involve the location of the body in a particular place. It involves the location of the heart wherever you are."

In his closing message Sunday morning, Wakefield emphasized that when God speaks to Christians, "we have to know who He is, where He wants us to go, and when He wants us to go. But we do not have to know why." The secret to successful witnessing, he said, is knowing "about whom you preach."

The Missouri native serves as a dorm parent in Singapore to missionaries' children. When he returns following furlough, he will begin work in establishing churches in the country. A graduate of Union University in Jackson, he served as a pastor in Medon before appointment by the Foreign Mission



HOUSE PARTY SESSION — Massey Auditorium at Belmont College was filled as women from across Tennessee gathered for the 1980 WMU House Party last weekend. Malvie Giles leads the singing, joined on the stage by Mrs. C.E. Hawkins, Mrs. Robert Gay, Miss Mary Jane Nethery, and Mrs. M.L. Garrett.

Board.

Mrs. Charles Hawkins, missionary to the Phillipines, told of her formative years in Dickson, Tenn. and her call to missions. Her husband is a bookstore manager, and she is in church and home work. She urged the attenders to be doers of the word. "It is easy to read God's word and then shut our minds to it," she warned.

Meditations at each of the four sessions were brought by Mrs. M.L. Garrett, former

missionary to Rhodesia. Mrs. Garrett based her remarks on the disciplines of submission, service, simplicity, and solitude.

She reminded the attenders that if the sign of true submission is the cross, then flowing from true submission is service. "The sign of true service is the towel," she explained. "Jesus is the example of true service. Service is not acting like a servant. It is being a servant."

Nine acts of service which she said Chris-



LET THEM KNOW — Malvie Giles, concert artist from Magnolia, Ark., pleaded with attenders at the WMU House Party to let the world know about their Saviour.

tians could incorporate every day included: the service of 'hidingsness', or serving without recognition; active helpfulness; guarding others reputations; permitting self to be served; common courtesies; hospitality; listening; bearing one another's burdens; and sharing the word of life.

Archie King, TBC director for Brotherhood work, told the women that "We can't be a proper representative of Jesus Christ and not care about people's needs." Explaining the ministry of the disaster relief program, King said the foundation of the ministry comes from the churches and the people in the churches who are willing to serve.

Malvie Giles, concert artist from Magnolia, Ark., led the music and brought special musical worship at each session. She received a standing ovation following a mini-concert she presented on Sunday morning.

Registration at the conference, which was held at Belmont College, reached nearly 1,200, according to Mary Jane Nethery, state WMU executive director. Tennessee president Mrs. Robert Gay presided at the meetings.

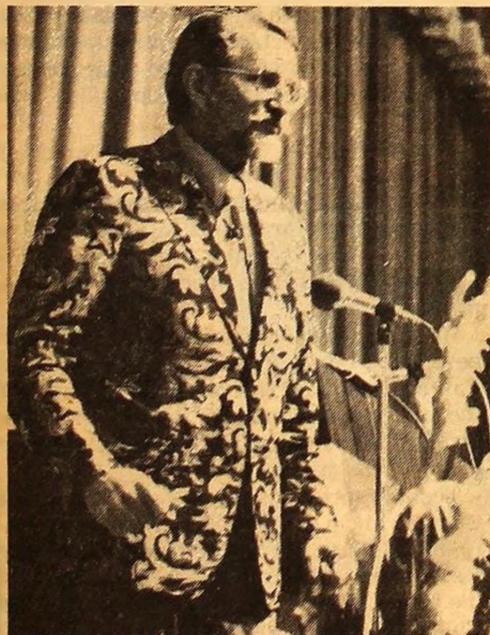
Hotel rooms booked in Johnson City

There are no more hotel or motel rooms available in Johnson City for the 1980 Tennessee Baptist Convention, according to John Perkins, chairman of the committee on arrangements for the convention.

Perkins said the six lodging facilities within the city limits are completely booked. He urged Tennessee Baptists to make reservations immediately with facilities in towns near the convention site.

The committee for local arrangements said the hotels and motels in the cities around Johnson City are within a few minutes drive of the convention center. They also emphasized that ample parking will be available at Freedom Hall Civic Center.

Reservations should be made directly to the hotel. Dewey Kerr, a member of the committee for local arrangements, is arranging transportation from Freedom Hall to several motels. Anyone interested in this service should contact Kerr in Johnson City.



FOOTPRINTS OF SERVICE — Bob Wakefield, missionary to the Philippines, told the women that the footprints of service lead to the cross. He urged them to deny themselves and give their all to Christ.

Loudon County Baptists vote no to Tennessee brewery location

The Executive Committee of Loudon County Baptist Association has adopted a resolution opposing the proposed establishment of a brewery for Coors Beer in Vonore, Tenn.

Action by the Loudon County group came in support of a similar resolution passed by sister Sweetwater Baptist Association earlier this summer. (See Baptist and Reflector, June 25).

Coors Brewery, Golden, Colo., is considering locating a brewery near the new Tellico Lake or at a site in Virginia.

Glen Melton, director of missions for Loudon County, told the state paper that the executive committee adopted the resolution unanimously and asked each church in the association to adopt a similar resolution. There are 37 Baptist churches in Loudon County with 11,943 members.

"We heard what Sweetwater Association had done, and we felt we should join them," Melton explained. "Part of the lake is in our county." The Little Tellico Dam is just across from Lenoir City, where the Loudon County associational offices are located, and most of the lake is in Loudon County.

Bennie Creel, director of missions in Sweetwater Association, said his association had received no response from a registered letter they sent to Coors Brewery asking the company not to locate in east Tennessee.

Asked what the association has planned if the brewery decides to locate in east Tennessee, Creel said, "We will just have to wait and see. There are some options left, and I would hope that we would try to do something."

There are 70 Baptist churches in Sweetwater Association. Creel said no other evangelical group in the city had been contacted by the Baptist group in an effort to gain support.

Hurricane Allen slows; church property harmed

CORPUS CHRISTI, Tex. (BP)—South Texas Baptists were wind-blown and rain-soaked, but prayerfully glad Hurricane Allen lost some strength before slugging ashore Aug. 10.

Even though the first hurricane of 1980 was not as destructive as predicted, it did cause widespread flood, wind, and tornado damage. At least two deaths in Texas have been credited to the storm, at one time called the second strongest hurricane of the century.

The storm drew disaster relief units from four state conventions: Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Mississippi, in what was said to be the first such cooperative venture.

Tennessee's disaster relief team was asked to be on "standby" by officials of the Brotherhood Commission and civil defense organizations. Had the hurricane turned northward as expected, tornadoes would have probably occurred in some areas of the

southeast, and the relief van would have been assigned there.

Archie King, TBC Brotherhood director, said that the van was prepared and loaded, and crews were enlisted and ready to leave by Aug. 7, if needed.

The storm, however, was not as bad as predicted. It stalled offshore for more than 12 hours, losing part of its potent punch. When it moved ashore, it took a less heavily populated path. Even at that, it set off heavy flooding in some sectors, touched off tornadoes across South Central Texas, and its wind—even though diminished—caused some damage.

Only two churches—Primera Iglesia Bautista in Flower Bluff and Gardendale Baptist Church—were extensively damaged. The Baptist Student Center at Del Mar College also was damaged. Other churches received slight water damage from heavy rainfall.

Further down the coast, in the Rio Grande Valley Association, the same was reported: little damage to Baptist properties. The only reported destruction was to the Santa Rosa Mission where the roof was blown away.

In Harlingen, two Baptist institutions, Valley Baptist Medical Center and Valley Baptist Academy, escaped with minor damage. The medical center was without power or water for a short time and a temporary building was unroofed at the academy.

Further upstate, tornadoes spawned by Allen touched down in Bishop, San Marcos, and Austin.

As the hurricane moved toward Texas, disaster relief units from Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Mississippi moved into place to help feed and provide other aid to the storm's victims. In the immediate aftermath, the Louisiana unit was stationed at the National Guard Armory in Robstown, and the Mississippi unit served at Morgan Avenue Baptist Church in Corpus Christi.

Heavy flooding caused problems in the Robstown-Bishop areas and three of the units—Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana—were stationed there to feed evacuees and provide other relief.

Accreditation extended to nursing program

Union University's two-year associate degree nursing program has received a reaffirmation of accreditation from the National League for Nursing.

The college received the news following a standard evaluation of its nursing program which occurs every eight years. The New York nursing organization serves as the accrediting agency to ensure high educational standards are maintained, said vice-president for academic affairs, Hyran E. Barefoot.

When the associate program was established at Union in 1962, it was the first two-year program in Tennessee and one of the first in the Mid-South. Graduates are eligible to take the State Board Test Pool Examination for licensure as registered nurses.

Union's recently-established bachelor's degree nursing program will be considered for accreditation in 1982 after it has graduated two classes of students. In June the college graduated a pilot class of 13 nurses under the advanced program.

Both nursing programs have been approved by the Tennessee Board of Nursing.

Tennesseans engage in efforts of evangelism in Ivory Coast

Ten Tennessee Baptist leaders are participating in a special evangelistic effort during August and September on the Ivory Coast of west Africa.

The men were invited by the Foreign Mission Board to participate in witness training, revivals, visiting, and retreats outside the city of Abidjan. These men are going in four groups, with each group staying about two weeks.

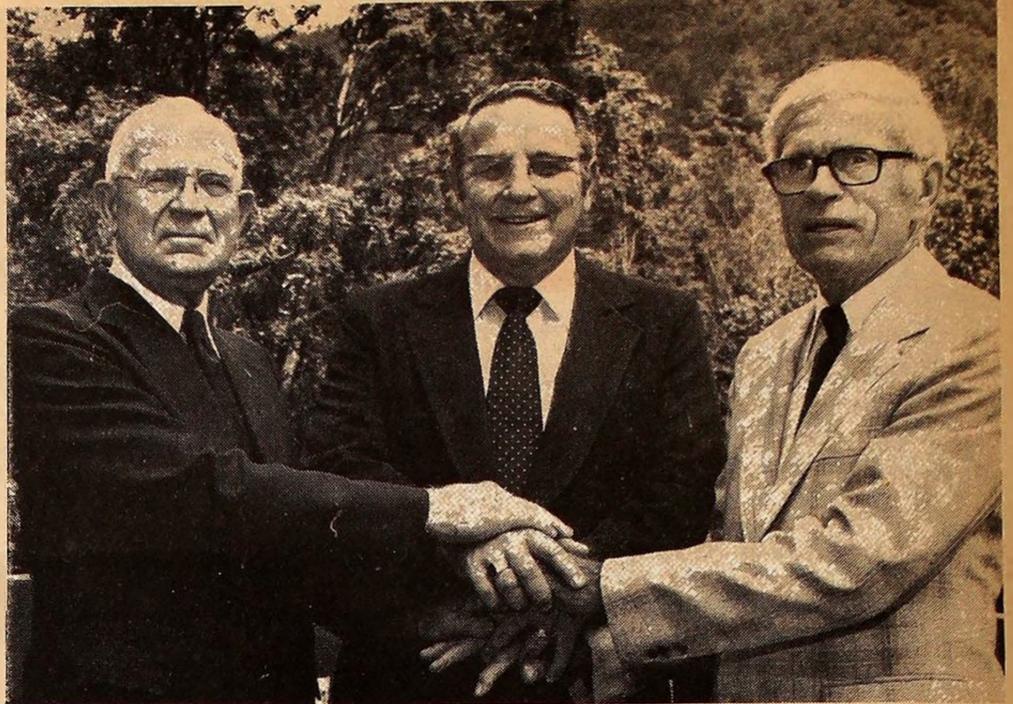
Participating the first week were: Ted E. Davis, director of missions, McMinn-Meigs Association; and Robert Woody, pastor, Blue Grass Baptist Church, Hendersonville. Luther Carlisle, director of brotherhood and youth, Shelby County Association; Ansell Baker, pastor of First Baptist Church, Athens; and Robert W. Parker, pastor of Cherry Road Baptist Church, Memphis, are involved in the ministry this week. From Aug. 28 through Sept. 26, those scheduled to participate are: John H. Franklin, pastor of Everett Hills Baptist Church, Maryville; Horace L. Genoe, director of missions for Chilhowee Baptist Association; Glenn Grubb, pastor, Madison Avenue Baptist Church, Maryville, (Aug. 31-Sept. 12); and Paul Williams, pastor of Englewood Baptist Church, Jackson; and Malcolm McDow, director of the state evangelism department, (Sept. 14-26).

McDow said the men will work in villages surrounding Abidjan, the capital of the Ivory Coast. The population of the country stands at

about 7-million, with the population of Abidjan at over 500,000.

Southern Baptists have between 40 and 50 churches and mission points in the country with about 5,000 Baptists. There are 30 Southern Baptist missionaries in the country.

The Tennesseans will be working with missionaries Roy and Connie Vandiver and James and Jerelen Darnell.



CONTINUING LEADERSHIP — Ted Huckaby (center) will become the director of missions for Knox County Baptist Association, succeeding Clarence Jett (right), 1973-80, and Lawrence Trivette, 1944-73.

Ted Huckaby views role as new Knox Co. director

Ted Huckaby believes every Christian is on a mission. And further, he is convinced that the local association must get into the hands of the local churches the tools which will make Christians more effective in reaching people for Christ.

The Knoxville pastor will have an opportunity to put his philosophies to work later this year as he assumes the missions directorship of the 157 Baptist churches and the 91,000 Baptists which comprise Knox County Baptist Association. He will become the third director of missions to serve that association in the past 36 years.

Lawrence Trivette led the work beginning in 1944. He served until 1973 when Clarence Jett began leadership. He will retire this December.

The search committee, which named Huckaby to the post last week, has coined the terms foundational, transitional, and visional in describing the ministries of the three men. Trivette was Knox County's first full-time director. He launched numerous ministries, including Western Heights, a type of goodwill center.

Jett told *Baptist and Reflector* that his ministry had been aimed at updating and upgrading the ministries already established in the county. His main thrust of energy lately has been directed at establishing a spiritual retreat center at Camp Ba-Yo-Ca.

One place Huckaby feels Baptists can win more people to Christ is in the inner city. He sees the energy shortage and the major

renovations which are occurring in many cities as factors which will move churches and people back to the downtown areas.

"We are going to have to determine to be there when the people start coming back," Huckaby told *Baptist and Reflector* following his election last week. He pointed out that churches in the association such as Bell Avenue, McCalla Avenue, Calvary, Fifth Avenue, and Fort Sanders are providing ministries to people in the inner city.

Within the ministry to inner city residents, Baptists will need to develop an interrelated social and evangelical witness, Huckaby stated. "This will be uniquely evangelical and mutually supportive. You cannot perform one ministry to the exclusion of the other." One strength which could be used in all phases of inner city work is the use of the 5,000 Baptist students attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Huckaby is determined to advance the local church. "I have always felt that the hub and heart of the organizational structure of our denomination is the local church. It must remain as the autonomous body." He also sees the local church working with the association, state, and national convention, mutually assisting each other in sharing Christ. The association's responsibility, he said, is to share the plans, promotions, and programs of the convention with the local churches. "This places the association's ministry in a strategic position of being the focal point of local church interest and convention concerns."

One medium he wants to see expanded is the ministry through local television programming. He wants to utilize area churches and bring more programs to Knoxville like "At Home With the Bible," produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

Huckaby will have a unique chance to reach people for Christ in 1982 when the World's Fair comes to east Tennessee. As chairman of the special committee for the fair, Huckaby knows that many Knox area Baptists will be a part of the mission effort.

The new director-elect is a native of South Carolina and a graduate of Furman University in that state. He has been in the ministry for 25 years and in 1963 was commissioned by the Home Mission Board as chaplain for the United States Air Force. He has served eight churches. Two of the longest tenures were at Oakwood and John Sevier Baptist churches, both in Knox County. Also, he has been extremely active in associational work, leading committees and participating in numerous activities.

Lawyer 'performs' for new jury

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—Former attorney Kendall Moore no longer practices law, but he will still be facing juries.

The difference is that the new panel will be the music juries that all voice students in Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's school of church music must face at each semester's end to test their vocal achievement.

The Louisville native says he realized that God had something other than law in store for him when, "I found that I was obtaining much more fulfillment and satisfaction from my church work than I was from my law practice, that I wanted to spend more time at my church and less time at my office."

Now a master of church music degree candidate at Southern, Moore says he is often questioned about the change he made, but he has no regrets.

"The statement that I received from many of my colleagues was, 'I wish that I had the courage to make the change,'" he says.

"The change" for Moore was a drastic one since he had no previous training in music and was entering a graduate school of music. "I'm in my third year of a two-year program," he says, laughing.

A graduate of Kentucky's Kenyon College and the University of Kentucky Law School, Moore is confident that he can use his previous education to help people solve their problems—a principle that led him to both the law profession and to Christian ministry.

Belmont's English institute gives boost to international

By Bobbie Durham

Antonio Carg is glad he heard about Belmont College. An engineering student at Vanderbilt University, he arrived in Nashville optimistic about his future studies. But, quickly, he learned he did not have the grasp of the English language which he thought he possessed.

Someone told him about a special institute where he could go and obtain instruction which would make him confident in his ability to communicate. He enrolled at the school's English Language Institute where he studied for seven weeks. Now he has returned to graduate school more capable of success in his chosen field of study.

The English Language Institute began at Belmont in the fall of 1977. It developed from a concept created by Frances Clark and Harriet Wilkins, who both served as instructors of English language classes in the Nashville Adult Education Program.

While Mrs. Clark was teaching in the adult program, she discovered that she had two types of students in her classes. The first kind, she recalled was minimally literate in his or her own country. They were taking the class because they wanted to learn how to survive in this country. Some were serious students, but several used the class as a social outlet, Mrs. Clark said. The second type was the more serious student, usually enrolled at George Peabody College or Vanderbilt University in Nashville. "Many of them had come to this country to study and found their English was not sufficient to get along." It was difficult to meet the varied needs of the classes, she said.

At the same time Mrs. Clark was teaching, the Joint University Center at Vanderbilt/Peabody was conducting a study to find out how many international students were in the Nashville area and what their needs were. The study revealed that many persons desperately needed instruction and help in mastering the English language.

From the study, Meharry College in Nashville agreed to establish a special program. At the end of the first year, Meharry discontinued its leadership role.

Mrs. Clark said at that time she and Mrs. Wilkins approached officials at Belmont and requested them to host the institute. They agreed, and a new home was found for the English Language Institute.

The program is unique in its approach to teaching what is considered one of the most difficult languages in the world. Mrs. Clark recalled that through her many months of observation and teaching, she found most instruction is geared toward grammar, reading, and writing of English. Her program is directed toward the spoken word, utilizing

pattern practice drills and the use of imperatives. "It was very revealing to me when I discovered that the phrases Americans use easily are the very phrases which cause the most problems for international students," she said. This method of teaching called "Action English," incorporates a basic vocabulary which the students encounter every day after they leave class, she explained.

She knows of no other institute in the nation which uses this concept as a total curriculum.

Students learn about the institute from limited advertising in the international community and from registrars in schools throughout Nashville.

They sign up for a seven-week module, with many taking up to three to four modules per year before they acquire the ability to speak English easily. The institute is funded from the students' tuition which ranges from \$325 to \$600 for a seven-week term.

There is a teaching staff at the school of three full-time faculty members, including Fay Kilgore, coordinator, Kevin Bowden, and Pam King. Candice Sanders, who teaches an international English course at Belmont, also teaches at the institute. Complementing the staff are five core teachers and some part-time help.

Miss Kilgore explained that some of the students are verbal, but cannot read or write English. When they enroll, they are given a test which places them in a particular level of learning. Additionally, they are required to take at least two hours of lab a week.

It would appear with such an ideal program, the students should have no problems. But they do, Miss Kilgore lamented.

The students feel lonely and displaced. Many of them have absolutely no family or friends in the United States. "Some students are reluctant to come and say, 'I am lonely.' But many come and are so lonely that ask us if we know an American family with whom they can go home."

The faculty of the institute is working toward the day when they will have a host family for every student enrolled in the program. "Right now we only have enough families for those who are the most insistent about wanting one," she explained.

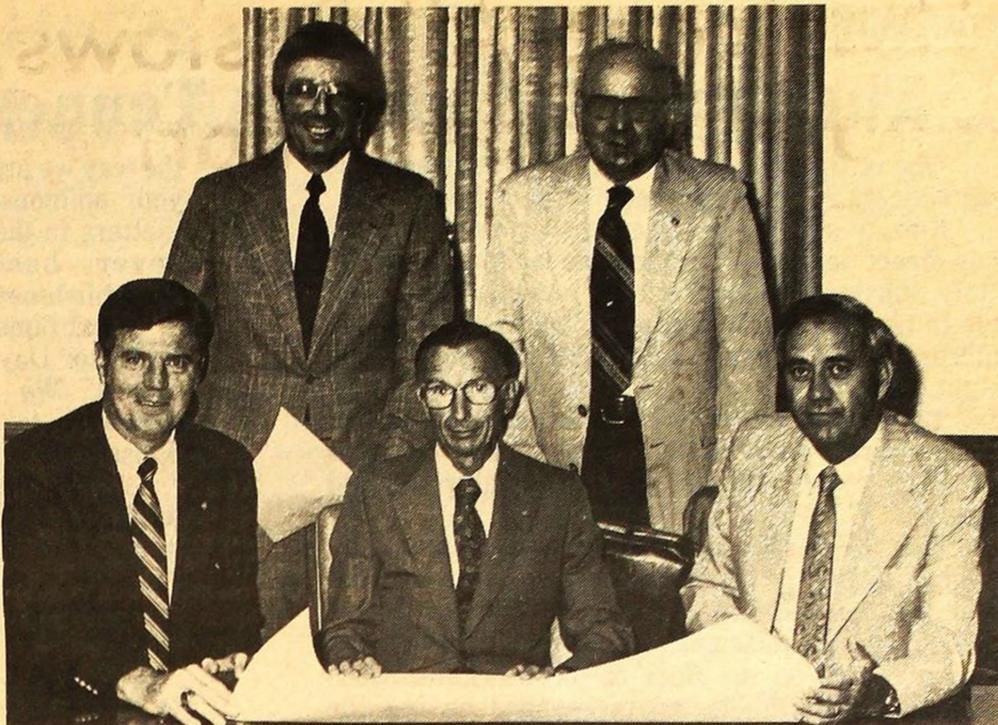
Mrs. Clark added that the institute is much more than a teaching opportunity. "It is a mission opportunity with students who are very open to learning about our culture. This would include our religion," she said. "We want them to meet our people and be exposed to Christianity. We do not violate anyone's religion, but many of our students come to this country with no religion."

Baptist families have the opportunity to adopt a student for a short term. They can either have the student in their home occasionally or may want to arrange for the student to live in their home for the seven-week period, Miss Kilgore said.

"We have some of the sharpest, wealthiest students in the world here on our doorstep," Mrs. Clark observed. "A Tennessee Baptist family can speak a word for Christianity while that student is in the United States. A student won to Christ here can go back to his own country and be listened to. He can share a witness among his fellow countrymen which we could not share."

The institute could use somewhere between 100 and 200 families each year to help the students.

Whether he comes from Uruguay, Salvador, Egypt, France, Finland, or Germany the international student will not have the entire message that the English language has to offer if somewhere along the line he does not hear, "Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."



DISCUSSING CAMPAIGN — Discussing the \$4-million Carson-Newman College Campaign plans are (seated, left to right): J. Cordell Maddox, president; Harry D. McNeeley, chairman of the Board of Trustees; and Calvin S. Metcalf, vice-chairman. Standing are: Rob Clark, director of development, and R. H. Bible, chairman of the board's development committee.

Carson-Newman trustees approve funds campaign

JEFFERSON CITY — At a special called meeting Aug. 15, the Carson-Newman College Board of Trustees approved the launching of a multi-million dollar campaign for the east Tennessee Baptist college.

The campaign, which begins this fall and concludes in the summer of 1983, has a base goal of \$2.5-million and a challenge goal of \$4-million. Demonstrating their united support of the action, the trustees voted to lead the way by launching an immediate campaign among themselves.

"The action taken today by our Board of Trustees is representative of their faith and support of Christian higher education," said C-N President Cordell Maddox. "It is imperative that we be both bold and aggressive in our campaign so that we can insure the future of this great institution which has a rich heritage of 130 years."

"As we implement our campaign we will be seeking out those who share our faith and belief in the necessity of schools like Carson-Newman College. A positive investment in Christian higher education and young lives is truly one that has everlasting influence."

Among the priorities of the campaign will

be the enrichment of the college's academic program as well as retirement of the \$1.6-million bonded indebtedness on the new music building which will be completed this fall.

Included in the priorities will be renovation of the existing campus-wide energy system to make it more cost efficient. Completion of the fourth floor of the Henderson Humanities Building, which was opened in 1977, is also planned.

Also in the list of priorities are the development of additional recreational and playing facilities, intramural facilities, and tennis courts.

Rounding out the immediate priorities is the renovation of the ground floor of Stokely Building for use as a Student Activities Center.

Structured into the multi-million dollar effort are a series of campaigns among the myriad of Carson-Newman's constituencies. Also incorporated into the plan will be a national alumni campaign along with the solicitation of foundations, corporations, and businesses. There will not be an organized campaign among Tennessee Baptist churches.

The campaign approval came as the result of an in-depth study concerning the college's strengths, weaknesses, and aspirations for the future. Carson-Newman Director of Development Rob Clark, along with other members of the administrative and development staff, have developed a campaign plan which he believes will challenge the many friends and supporters of Carson-Newman to a new level of commitment.

Clark, who will direct the campaign, stated, "We are prepared to implement the most extensive campaign ever conducted at Carson-Newman. This campaign will involve the total college community while at the same time seek new sources of funding."

Shelby Association names minister to Indo-Chinese

Shelby Baptist Association, Memphis, called James L. Kellum to serve as minister to the Indo-Chinese.

Kellum's ministry will be in cooperation with the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and Temple Baptist Church in Memphis.

He joins the associational staff following service as a missionary in Manila, Philippines. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Schlafer retires from Fifth Avenue

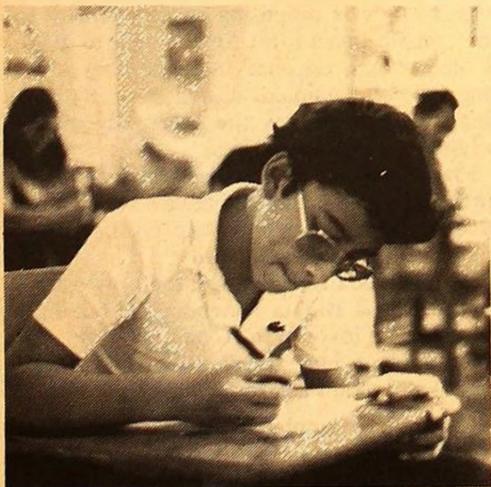
Frederick Schlafer, pastor of Fifth Avenue Baptist Church in Knoxville for the past 15 years, has retired from the active pastorate. He was honored by church members and friends at a special reception last month and was presented with a monetary love gift.

While in Tennessee, Schlafer has served on the Board of Trustees for Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, and East Tennessee Baptist Hospital in Knoxville. He was also on the Knox County Executive Board. He presently serves as a member of the Baptist Sunday School Board and is president of the Knox Area Bible Fellowship.

During Schlafer's leadership in Knoxville, the church membership voted to remain in an inner city area and carry on a ministry. The church now provides child care for the area, Bible clubs, and a youth program for the community.

Other pastorates have included the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Paducah, Ky.; Woodlawn Baptist Church in Birmingham; First Baptist Church in Paducah; and Lebanon Baptist Church in Lebanon, Ky.

The Schlafers plan to remain in Knoxville where he will be involved in counseling and supply work.



'MY FAVORITE CITY' — Juan Carlos Mejia, a resident of El Salvador, takes a 'final exam' at Belmont's English Language Institute last Friday. The class was asked to write an essay in English on 'My Favorite City.' Juan's favorite city may be Nashville, since it was here he learned to speak English.

EDITORIAL

The task of informing Tennessee Baptists

One of the great principles of Baptist belief is the concept of "soul competency in religion."

Simply stated, this means that every person has direct access to God and the leadership of His Holy Spirit. Likewise, each individual is responsible to God for his thoughts and deeds. There is no hierarchy or different degrees of standing in the sight of God.

This concept carries over in our operation of local church government. In a church business meeting, every member has an equal voice and vote.

This democratic principle had a great influence as Baptists began to organize into associations and conventions to carry out their collective ministries and missions. Important decisions are always made on the floor of these organizations with each church-elected messenger having the right and responsibility to debate and decide the issues.

This method of trusting the members and messengers to make proper, Spirit-led decisions places a tremendous burden on Baptists. If our people — whether in a business meeting at a church, an association, or a convention — are to make the best possible decision, they must be thoroughly informed about our needs, our crises, our problems, and our opportunities.

As a part of our denomination's desire to have an informed membership, we have devised a system of Baptist state papers. The Baptist and Reflector is one of 34 such publications that are affiliated with 34 state and regional conventions throughout the United States.

The Baptist and Reflector is committed to the honored Baptist axiom, "Tell the truth and trust the people."

The Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention has established guidelines which insure that we have complete editorial freedom. We gladly accept this freedom of the press and will seek to fulfill it in concert with the best standards of editorial responsibility.

We readily admit that the Baptist and Reflector is not perfect nor infallible. We do, however, seek to present an accurate and complete picture of the work and interest of Tennessee Baptists as possible.

You as our readers also have the freedom and responsibility to control, command, and condemn

the way we attempt to fulfill our ministry. We value your opinions. We will always maintain an open "letters to the editor" page to make sure that we never become too protective of the "establishment" or Baptist tradition.

Next Sunday will be observed as "Baptist and Reflector Day" in many churches throughout Tennessee. We take this occasion to recommit ourselves to the highest ideals of Baptist journalism.

As we do, let us urge you to join us in this effort to inform Tennessee Baptists of what God is doing in our state, our nation, and around the world by sharing the Baptist and Reflector with the members of your church.

Automobile expense

Most Tennessee Baptist churches are aware that their pastors must use their automobiles in their ministry by visiting the sick, tracking down inactive members, calling on prospective members, and attending meetings. Because of this, these churches often provide an "automobile allowance" in the church budget.

We are pleased that this is being done, but we would express two concerns.

(1) Many churches lump this travel allowance with salary and parsonage allowance as part of his total compensation. In reality, this allowance is simply a reimbursement of money spent in performing his expected ministry.

In truth, an inadequate travel allowance actually REDUCES his "salary," since he must use his own money to make up the difference between his travel allowance and the actual cost.

(2) This brings us to our second concern. Most of a pastor's travel is made in his automobile. The cost of gasoline is approximately 60 percent higher than last year. Other car expenses have likewise increased.

A concerned congregation will make sure that the automobile allowance item in the church budget has been adjusted accordingly.

We are encouraged that a few churches are providing an automobile (either owned or leased by the church) for the pastor.

Several other churches have started paying their pastor a specific amount per mile traveled on church business.

Cicero's comment



By the editor

Cicero had watched intently the televised national conventions of the two major political parties, so you can imagine my excitement when I was invited to attend a debate of two presidential candidates.

My enthusiasm was somewhat diminished when I arrived and discovered that the debate was not between Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan, but between O. Ray Torr and Rip L. Flagg.

The debate was sponsored by SPOIL, the Society to Push One Issue Legislation, to determine which presidential candidate is the "most Christian."

Only two prospective presidents appeared, and Cicero realized that these two's main purpose was to convince the SPOIL officials that "I am more Christian than any other candidate."

O. Ray Torr brought no surprises when he announced that he was in favor of voluntary prayer in public schools — and even in private schools.

Rip L. Flagg responded that he was even more committed, because he was in favor of "involuntary" public school prayer — twice a day.

Not to be outdone, Torr reacted by asserting that he felt that school prayers ought to be recited on Sundays, Saturdays, holidays, and during the summer recess.

Both candidates took a hard line in opposition to abortion.

Flagg received a standing ovation when he announced that he supported "right to life" for the unborn, babies, children, youth, adults, and elderly — "unless, of course, they are criminals!"

O. Ray Torr, not to be outdone, declared that he too was for capital punishment — so strongly that he advocates the defendant be strapped in an electric chair during his trial and executed when the verdict is announced.

The two candidates agreed in the necessity of military preparedness and quick attacks on foreign nations. Flagg wanted to attack Afghanistan. Torr "one-upped" him by pushing for the use of atomic weapons on Afghanistan — except on Sunday.

Rip added that he was in favor of human rights for all people — so long as they use their freedom to become Christians and pay homage to America as a Christian nation. "Otherwise, they should be shot," he declared.

O. Ray Torr said that he was concerned that America was not "as Christian" as it once was, so he was proposing an amendment to the Constitution's First Amendment to make it read, "Congress shall make no laws affecting the establishment of evangelical Christianity that endorses the inerrancy of the original Bible manuscripts."

Flagg said that Torr's amendment did not go far enough. "We should have a law that only evangelical Christians can be elected to public office!" he exclaimed.

Both candidates expressed their opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment, but said they were in favor of full, complete rights for women — as long as they stayed in their places and didn't ask for any rights.

Rip L. Flagg pointed with pride to his voting record, receiving a 110 rating out of a possible 100 evaluation by SPOIL. It seems he voted twice on several moral measures.

Flagg added that if he was convicted of taking bribes or kickbacks while serving as president, he would pay a tithe of that amount to his church.

Cicero had to head to the printers to get this issue printed before SPOIL had decided which was the "most Christian" candidate.

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 82,479

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The Universal Good News



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.

Aiding servicemen

Dear editor:

Greetings from the Indian Ocean. The Baptist and Reflector is often an oasis in the middle of such a hot place.

I have an area of concern that I would like to pass on to pastors and their churches. I'll begin with Tennessee, my home state.

As a chaplain in the U.S. Navy, I have often been embarrassed by how few of our Baptist sailors who attend services aboard ship. Very few attend Bible study, even though we represent the largest Protestant denomination.

When I do discover our Baptist members, I learn a few more sad facts. Many of the first-timers never bother to move their membership to local churches near the military installation where they are stationed. They generally receive no instruction as to the difficulty of being a Christian in the military. Even if they are recognized and praised when they appear on Sunday morning in uniform, they are often forgotten after they depart.

Pastors and church members should remember there are two types of military that they can make a lasting impression upon:

(1) The military that attends your congregation from some nearby post or base. This person needs to be invited to homes, loved, and assisted in becoming an active member of that church.

(2) The individual that grew up in your church. In many cases the pastor is new and doesn't know the person. He appreciates letters, bulletins, and Christian books. He should be encouraged to join a local church, attend services on base or off base, and to read heavily from the Bible and other Christian literature.

Chap. Richard T. Roney
USS Comte de Grasse (DD 978)
FPO NY, NY 09566

Minister marriages

Dear editor:

I was amazed to read ("Clergy divorce rise likely unless churches help out." July 16) that clergymen today feel that they don't have "a book" on clergy marriages.

I understand the unique position held by clergymen in our society, for my father was a minister for more than 50 years. He and my mother were married for 55 years when she died.

They had problems, perhaps more than most ministers today. They raised eight children during the Great Depression and World War II years. But they had a book to live by — it's called the Bible.

Pauline Roberson
Rt. 6, Box 137
Cookeville, TN 38501

Pro-life amendment

Dear editor:

It was with great joy that I responded to the news that the Southern Baptist Convention in June condemned abortion and called for a "human life amendment." Christians have for too long been silent concerning this great sin, the legalized killing of children before birth, and hopefully many are now realizing their duty to stop the slaughter of the innocents.

I am a member of Tennessee Volunteers for Life which is the state affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee. I encourage my church, Belmont Heights Baptist Church of Nashville, as well as all others to take advantage of the excellent speakers bureau offered by TVL. Across the state, TVL provides speakers to churches, clubs, and schools, gearing the presentation to the age of the group. The basic message is the same, however, the undeniable human life of the

pre-born and our responsibility to stand up for their right to life.

Paul Barnett, a doctor of internal medicine, heads the speakers bureau, which is composed of five people who are willing to come to any group to present the pro-life story.

I encourage my fellow Baptists to take advantage of the opportunity to invite these speakers to their Sunday School classes or wherever. Hear their arguments. Then, join with them in working toward the day when the unborn child will enjoy the same protection of our laws as the born.

Some children die by chance; no child should die by choice.

Bill Shelton
1900 Acklan Ave., Apt. 4-11
Nashville, TN 37212

One-sided lesson

Dear editor:

Whether your own personal view of eschatology supports the "pre," "post," "a," "non," or some other theory, our literature ought to be careful not to take one stand at the total exclusion of the consideration of all others. This should be so especially by the editors of the Home Bible Study Guide which targets as its main audience the laypeople of our churches.

Under the authorship of Betty Hassler, director of adult education at First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex., the Home Bible Study Guide for July 1980 carried an article entitled "How to Respond to the Second Coming."

Ms. Hassler confuses the "rapture" with the "second coming" throughout the article.

So far as I can determine by reading and studying the article, I deem that she supports the post-millennial view of eschatology, a view with which I disagree, yet I support her right to hold to it so long as she gives credit to the reader to realize that there are other views contrary to hers and does not exclude consideration of them in such an article as I have cited.

Winburn C. Davis
133 Virginia Ave.
Livingston, TN 38570

I have read carefully the article (Lesson 3), and it is my opinion that, if the writer espouses any eschatology view, it is amillennial in her references that the judgment of the righteous and unrighteous will occur at the same time.

She makes only one reference to the "rapture," and it is consistent with what I understand as the premillennial concept. (editor)

By grace through faith

Dear editor:

In the Aug. 13 issue, the author of one letter "declared" that "Catholics are NOT Christians" because some of their beliefs are wrong. Yet Jesus tells us (John 3:16) that whosoever believes in Him HAS everlasting life.

Thanks be to God that He does not require us to be right on every point of theology. None of us would pass the test.

This is not to deny that many Catholics are lost — and many Southern Baptists, too.

I am privileged to know some Catholics who have been saved by grace through faith alone, whose commitment to our Lord would put many of us to shame.

Let us not alienate those whom we should love as brothers and sisters in Christ.

John O. Stevenson
Box 3649, Station B
Nashville, TN 37235

Hollis calls Christ's church best hope for saving family

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — Christ's church is still by far the best institution to provide leadership for saving the family, said Harry Hollis, director of family and special moral concerns for the Christian Life Commission.

Hollis told participants at Home Missions Week at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center that some groups and individuals are taking advantage of the family to promote themselves and their causes. He warned Southern Baptists about mercenary authors who take advantage of family needs to sell simplistic books to satisfy their own greed and of television performers who exploit family fears to raise money for their own institutions.

"We must tell these people to stop using the family and start loving, helping, and celebrating the family," Hollis said.

"In this election year hundreds of candidates throughout the nation may try to play politics with the family. We must tell these politicians that there are too many broken homes and hearts to play politics with the family.

"Our hope for solving family problems and finding joyful fulfillment in family life lies in

Jesus Christ. The church of Jesus Christ can avoid the pitfalls of manipulation and of self-serving treatment of families by following in the footsteps of Jesus."

Hollis encouraged Southern Baptists to use the Bible as a test for orthodoxy in dealing with families. "The Bible says if someone does not provide for his relatives, especially for members of his own family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever," he stated.

"Perhaps all of us should examine ourselves in relation to the heresy of neglecting our families. If Christians are going to take the lead in facing the challenges to family we must first make certain Jesus Christ is reflected in our homes and hearts."

Hollis called on Southern Baptists to become involved in frontiers of family leadership in such areas as biomedicine, aging, parenting, family enrichment, social justice, the sexual revolution, and family evangelism. He added that developments in biomedicine which will have a radical impact on families include genetic engineering, extensive prolongation of life, memory enhancement and memory editing, new pressures to practice euthanasia, and possibly the cloning of human tissues.

"Not everything scientifically possible is morally permissible," Hollis said. "Christians must get involved vocationally in biomedicine so we can affirm science's search for truth and insist that what is discovered is used responsibly."

Hollis also called on church members to use the family as a laboratory for learning justice. "Justice is still being denied to many today," he said. The resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan is an indication that discrimination is very much alive and sick in America.

"The new racists have traded their white sheets for button-down collars and their crude racial slurs for sophisticated theories of racial inferiority, but their racism is still a sin."

"We must develop colorblind families and families who give attention to such issues as economics, energy, hunger, peace, and violence," Hollis added.

Cities spotlighted in upcoming congress

ATLANTA — Problems and opportunities unique to the nation's cities will be in the spotlight during the National Congress on Urban Evangelism, Nov. 20-22 in St. Louis, Mo.

The congress is planned "to assemble persons from all segments of Southern Baptist Convention life and initiate dialogue concerning the evangelization of America's urban centers," explained Dale Cross, director of metropolitan evangelism strategy for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

Speakers will be John Havlik, director of evangelism education and writing for the board; James Earl Massey, national radio pastor for Church of God in Anderson, Ind.; Bill Pinson, president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.; and Jimmy Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth.

"We also want the participants to focus on thoughtful analysis of 24 concerns which face the cities and then produce creative new strategy responses to these concerns," Cross added.

A goal of the strategy sessions will be "to produce, in book form, the 'output' of the congress so that it will influence and energize a more effective evangelization strategy for the urban centers of America," Cross said.

The congress will be sponsored by the Home Mission Board, Missouri Baptist Convention's department of evangelism, and St. Louis Baptist Association.

Personal perspective

BY TOM MADDEN
TBC executive secretary

My mother was an invalid for several years before she died. Confined to a wheelchair, and acquainted with much suffering, she claimed as her favorite verse Phillipians 4:11. "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." I, too, have drawn upon this verse heavily in the intervening years. Several lessons drop out of this marvelous passage.

One is that contentment may be achieved independently of outward circumstances. It is to be remembered that Paul wrote Phillipians from a Roman jail. If contentment depended upon wealth, health, and appearance, Paul would have been miserable. He certainly had none of these things. Our Lord said that life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.

Yet another lesson that can be drawn from this is that commitment is primarily a Christian grace. The carnal world is basically concerned with what belongs to them. Paul was not concerned so much about what belonged to him, but to whom he belonged.

A final lesson is that contentment is something to be learned and to be practiced. Paul said I have "learned."

I went to a camp as a youth, and heard Porter Bailes speak. Speaking on the theme of contentment, he used the bed at camp as an illustration. He said the first night he spent in the crude cabin in the rustic bed, he slept fitfully. He resisted the bed. He said the second night he endured the bed, and the third night he accepted it and welcomed it. One can resist the inevitable adjustments in life, or he can endure them and accept them claiming God's grace to match them.

I read where a person asked William Booth why he was so radiantly happy all the time when physically and financially speaking he had nothing to be happy about. His answer was a classic, "A long time ago I made up my mind that God would have all there was of William Booth."



Madden

Southern Baptist leads BWA Youth Committee

By Jim Lowry

NASHVILLE—Sunday School Board employee Bob R. Taylor recently was elected as the first Southern Baptist in 30 years to head the Youth Committee of the Baptist World Alliance.

Taylor, consultant in youth ministry coordination in the board's church administration department, will serve a five-year term heading the 140-member committee, which



BOB R. TAYLOR
BWA youth chairman

represents 120 countries. He is a member of First Baptist Church, Nashville.

Robert S. Denny, who retired as executive secretary of the BWA this year, was the other Southern Baptist to serve as youth committee chairman.

According to Taylor, overcoming and adjusting to worldwide cultural differences is one of the obstacles facing members of the World Youth Committee as it seeks to harness the energies and interests of youth of the world.

Taylor said his responsibilities as youth committee chairman include maintaining a communication system among Baptists concerning youth work and coordinating evangelism and training efforts.

Another of Taylor's responsibilities as World Youth Committee chairman, will be the planning and carrying out the Baptist Youth World Conference scheduled for 1983 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Taylor says about 5,000 persons are expected to attend the Youth Conference, which is held only every five years.

When dealing with youth around the world, the work is sometimes hampered by the differences which exist in the agreement of what age groups constitute youth. Some of the

African countries include persons up to age 35, compared to the Southern Baptist junior and senior high youth definition.

In a few years, today's youth will be world leaders, Taylor said, so it is important to keep them informed now, so they can base future decisions on responsible information.

During his term as youth committee chairman, Taylor will work with Betty Smith, conference coordinator for the Baptist World Alliance in Washington, D.C. She is serving as interim youth associate while a search committee looks for a full-time youth associate.

Taylor says Southern Baptists should benefit from his additional responsibility especially in terms of information shared with ministers of youth on available programs and opportunities for ministry.

"I think we can help Southern Baptist youth ministers get a glimpse of world needs in the next few years, by doing a lot of things to involve churches and youth in meeting needs around the world," Taylor said.

"A few years ago a concept was presented to the Youth committee to pair up churches with other churches around the world," he explained. "It is not set up yet, but I would like to see it implemented through our Foreign Mission Board in the next few years, so Southern Baptist churches can become involved with churches in communities around the world.

"I believe Southern Baptists can extend our influence to help other Baptists who are not as strong as we are, by sharing ideas, approaches, and techniques," Taylor said. "It will also broaden the perspective of Baptist youth and strengthen denominational ties.

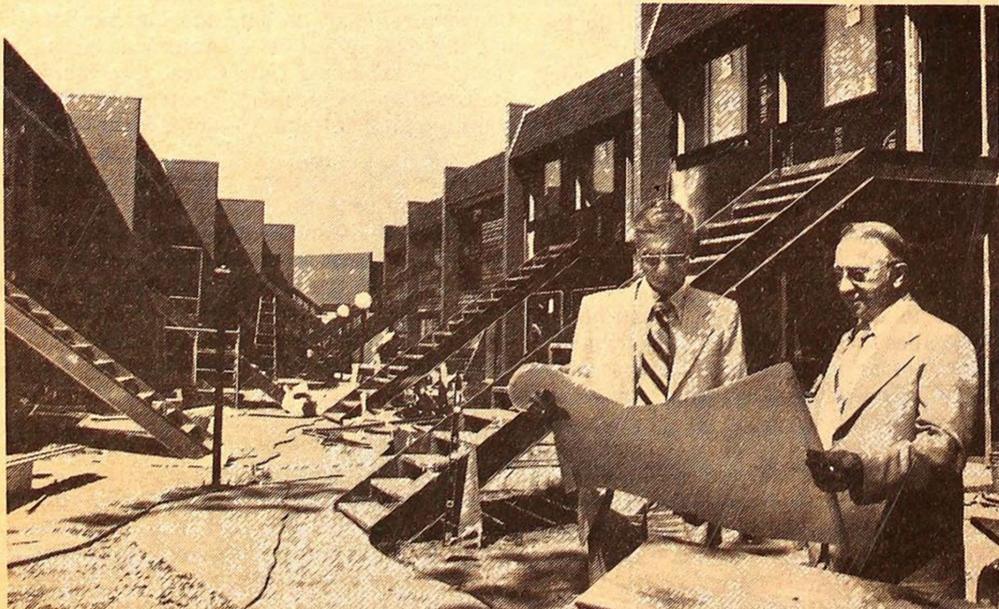
"We are going to strive to alert the world community to needs, such as hunger, drought, and loneliness, and then see what we can do to meet those needs," he said. "This is an exciting position, and I feel like we'll be able to do exciting things to make the work grow and touch a lot of youth with the gospel."

SBC Foundation elects William Crook president

NASHVILLE — William E. Crook of Nashville was elected president of the Southern Baptist Foundation's board of directors during its July meeting.

Crook succeeds J. Thomas Bryan, a Nashville physician, who retired from the board in June after 13 years as director.

Crook is owner of a chain of retail food stores in the Nashville area. A member of the Tennessee Baptist Executive Board, Crook is on his second term as a director of the foundation, which invests funds for individuals and agencies for the benefit of the Southern Baptist Convention.



APARTMENTS NEARING COMPLETION — Union University vice-president for business affairs Bob Elliott, left, and Robert Craig, president, check construction progress of the college's 12 additional student apartments in Jackson. Sixty women will be housed in the facilities, increasing the women's occupancy to 439 and the total resident population from 640 to 700. A Sept. 1 occupancy is planned.



BELMONT GETS CHALLENGE GRANT — The Kresge Foundation of Troy, Mich., has awarded Belmont College a challenge grant of \$125,000. The grant will go toward the fund raising campaign for a new \$2.3-million student center. Already under construction, the center is expected to be completed in early 1981.

Scripture needs no defense, SWBTS president declares

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—A warning against "gearing up on some crusade to defend the Bible," has been sounded by the president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Russell Dilday Jr., speaking at the annual student conference at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, said discussions about the Bible have been a "hot item among Southern Baptists for the last two years," and added, "God's word will stand. We should stand by the Bible, but we do not always have to be on the defense."

Dilday told the 3,019 participants they should place first priority on allowing God to use them to win the world to Jesus Christ.

He warned the students against efforts to support a single interpretation of Scriptures. "As Christians we all have the freedom of interpretation as long as that interpretation does not violate the great truths of the Scripture," he said.

Dilday called the Bible a human and divine book. He said he believes all of the Bible is inspired by God, but that the personality and experience of each writer is evident through his writing.

He attributed some inconsistencies in the Scriptures to reflections of personality differences among the authors. "I'd be suspicious if all the reports were the same," said Dilday.

"Like a watch, we must judge the Bible on the basis of what it is intended to do," he said. "The Bible is not a book of science, and the criteria by which we judge infallibility is not the same as that by which we judge science."

Dilday emphasized Christians' ultimate authority "must be the sovereign God whose authority is revealed in Jesus Christ, communicated through the Bible and confirmed through the Holy Spirit within us."

Alaskan Baptists elect Allen Meeks

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (BP) — Allen Meeks, interim executive director-treasurer of the Alaska Baptist Convention, has been named executive at the 35th annual meeting of the convention.

Meeks was unanimously elected by the 225 messengers attending the meeting at Faith Baptist Church in Anchorage.

Messengers also approved a budget of \$855,415, of which some \$317,000 will come from the 69 churches and missions of the convention. Also, messengers restored cuts made in an austerity move in 1979 to the convention's contribution to the national Cooperative Program.

Last year, the contribution was cut from 29 to 25 percent, but this year, the cut was restored and augmented, going to 30 percent.

Meeks has been a staffer of the convention since November 1964, when he was named director of religious education. He became interim executive in February 1979, succeeding Troy Prince, who resigned, citing health problems.

Meeks, a native of Arkansas, moved to Alaska in 1960, and was on the staffs of Sunset Hills, Jewel Lake, and First Baptist Churches, all in Anchorage.

He is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Blount to direct WMU expansion

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — Evelyn Blount, assistant to the education division director of Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention, has been named director of its National Enlargement Plan.

The WMU executive board adopted the plan last January. It will be formally launched in 1981.

In her new job, Miss Blount will have the responsibility of training a select group of approximately 110 women who will be known as STARTEAM. They will travel throughout the United States and contact pastors and key women in more than 11,000 Southern Baptist churches which have no WMU. They will interpret the purposes of WMU, and will give guidance on how to organize.

A native of Georgia, Miss Blount is a graduate of the Woman's College of Georgia (now Georgia College at Milledgeville), and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Before coming to WMU in 1973, Miss Blount was Actsene director for Georgia WMU. She has also served on church staffs in Kentucky and Alabama.

R.T. Roberts to serve McDonald congregation

Members of Antioch Baptist Church, McDonald, called R.T. Roberts as pastor recently.

He is a former pastor of Big Springs Baptist Church, Cleveland; Forest Hills Baptist Church, Florence, Ala.; Grace Baptist Church, Morristown; First Baptist Church, Calhoun; and New Market Baptist Church, New Market. Most recently, he has been in evangelism full time.

The new Bradley County pastor has been active in denominational work, serving as chairman of evangelism committees in Jefferson County, Tenn., and in Alabama; moderator for McMinn Association, and president of the Nolachucky Baptist Pastors' Conference.

Roberts is a native of Corryton.

Baptist art leader stays busy in retirement

By Renee Wash

FORT WORTH, Tex. (BP)—Rachel Joy Colvin sees masterpieces on blank canvasses and grand statues in lumps of clay. And 40 years ago she realized the great possibilities of using visual communications to spread the word of God.

So, with the creativity of an artist, Colvin molded the art departments of two Southern Baptist organizations: first at Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham, Ala., and then at the Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth.

Colvin just retired as head of the Radio and Television Commission's art department after 40 years of Southern Baptist work to concentrate on the kind of art she has loved since she was a little girl—the fine arts of painting, sculpting, and calligraphy.

She came to the commission in 1960 from the art department she had pioneered in 1940 at WMU.

While at WMU, Colvin did everything from writing and directing pageants to designing magazines. She created posters, offering envelopes, and other promotional materials for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions and the Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions.

She also did the photography and layout design for the first church bulletins sent through the Baptist Bulletin Service when it was first established in 1945. Approximately 1.4-million bulletins are now distributed weekly.

As a summer job before she went to WMU, Colvin was a "staffer" at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center in North Carolina.

"Working at the hotel desk, you really get to know people. I guess that's why I never put the top leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention on a pedestal," Colvin chuckled. "I was around when they didn't have any clean towels or had run out of hot water."

After 20 years in the WMU art department, which by then had accumulated a larger staff, Colvin felt it was time for a new challenge. Paul Stevens, then president of the Radio and Television Commission, offered her the chance to start an art department for the commission. Stevens was skeptical when she accepted—probably because it was on April Fool's Day.

When Colvin started her new job in August 1960, she must have felt like she had stepped back in time. As she had done at WMU, she started from scratch.

"I started out making posters for the 'The Baptist Hour,' and 'Master Control,' at that time the only radio programs produced by the Commission. Then I did the layout and cover designs for their magazine *The Beam* and began designing brochures for programs as more and more were produced," she said.

Colvin is best known in Fort Worth for her design of the 29-foot bronze and copper panel of Christian crosses in the reception area of the Radio and Television Commission building.

Now that both art departments are running smoothly, Colvin said she wants to take some time out for her fine arts interest. As well as painting and sculpture, she does research on traditional calligraphy and plans to further develop her skill in "beautiful lettering."

"I enjoy commercial art, especially the work I've done for religious agencies, but I guess my first love will always be fine art," Colvin admitted. "From the time I was a little girl back in South Dakota, lying on the floor behind a big rocking chair, drawing with my colored crayons, art has made me happy."

Colvin began her art career as a young girl. Her elementary school teachers immediately recognized her genuine talent for any kind of art work. Even the other children would come around her desk to see what she was drawing.

"I never really understood why they all wanted to see my pictures. I just knew I loved to draw," Colvin said.

Even now she still does not give herself full credit for the many beautiful works of art she has created.

"Many pieces of work I do are created through me by another source much greater than myself," Colvin said. "I start out with an idea, but as I work, something else takes over. The projects I undertake don't always turn out as I had imagined they would, but the final product is often more beautiful than I had originally pictured it. I honestly believe most of my ability to create works of art comes from God."

She applied that belief to a commitment for a career in religious organizations. Though her jobs have been demanding, she enjoys the extra benefit of developing close Christian friendships.

Famous people she has met, photographed, and designed awards for as a result of her work at the commission include Billy Graham, Ladybird Johnson, Bob Hope, and astronaut Jim Irwin.

Because of her friendship with Irwin, Colvin took up flying and earned her pilot's license when she was 56 years old.

"I've never been one to sit back and watch," she laughed. "I just love life."

After all, Rachel Colvin's middle name is Joy.



PIONEER BAPTIST ARTIST — Rachel Colvin retired last month after 20 years as head of the art department of the SBC Radio and Television Commission. The previous 20 years, she led the art department for Woman's Missionary Union in Birmingham, Ala.

HMB offering passes \$15.5-million goal

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—The 1980 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions surpassed its goal for the first time in four years, William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the Home Mission Board, has reported.

Tanner told participants at Home Mission Week at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center the offering reached \$15,562,470.80 as of Aug. 11.

Tanner added giving was 0.4 percent above the \$15.5-million goal. The projected total for the 1980 offering is \$16.2-million. "I am grateful Southern Baptists responded so well," Tanner said. "I don't think it's too much to say that God is blessing."

The last time the offering reached a goal was in 1976 when it exceeded the \$9.5-million goal by 1.6 percent. The offering annually provides about one half of the board's operating budget.

The additional funds insure missionary

salary increases and new missionary appointments, according to Leonard Irwin, director of the board's planning section. He said the board will provide \$2-million in missionary salary increases in 1981 in an attempt to keep up with inflation.

"The money will also insure appointment of 33 new missionaries in 1981," he added.

This year's offering emphasis was delayed by a late Easter date and a snowstorm which blanketed parts of the southeast on the opening Sunday of Home Missions Week further slowed giving. Because of the delays, Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of the Woman's Missionary Union, wrote a letter to each pastor requesting him to do "something special" to promote the offering.

In a telephone interview, Weatherford said: "I really didn't have enough faith that we would reach the goal after the bad weather, so this really encourages me."

"Response to the offering is an indication of increasing interest in missions at home, she said. With Saudi Arabia allocating several million dollars for Islamic missions in the United States, Weatherford added "home" missions has become "foreign" missions. "We are very slow to grasp this concept that those who need to hear the gospel are not just in foreign countries."

Irwin said despite troubled economy, "recession did not keep down the giving. I believe it says to us the churches are concerned about giving."

Carson-Newman tops annual giving goal

JEFFERSON CITY — J. Cordell Maddox, president of Carson-Newman College, announced that the college exceeded its annual giving goal of \$300,000 by \$31,000, a 56 percent increase over the previous year.

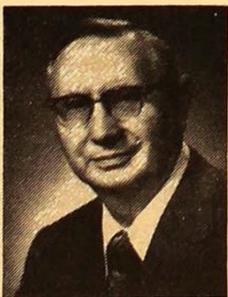
In addition to the annual fund gifts, the college received gifts and grants totaling \$1.8-million from foundations, corporations, businesses, churches, and the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

"We are elated that the college has surpassed this goal," remarked Maddox. "Having realized this achievement is a tribute to the continued support of our alumni and friends as well as an intense effort of our development staff."

Stigler to return to native state

W. Leonard Stigler, retired evangelism director for Ohio Baptists, will be moving to his native state in late September.

Born in Ripley, Stigler was pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Nashville, from 1946-56. While in Tennessee he served on the boards of trustees of Belmont College, Baptist Hospital in Nashville and the Baptist Sunday School Board, and as moderator of Nashville Baptist Association.



Stigler

Other pastorates were in Kentucky and Oklahoma, and he has led revivals in 15 states.

Prior to his retirement in 1976, he was secretary of evangelism and stewardship for the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio for 17 years.

Since retirement, Stigler has been active in interim pastorates, pulpit supply, and preaching revivals, and he hopes to continue this service in Tennessee.

He is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky; and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Stigler's address after Sept. 24 will be 5517 Branberry Heights, Brentwood, TN 37027.

Allen supports Carter's denial of conversation with Falwell

WASHINGTON (BP)—Former Southern Baptist Convention President Jimmy Allen has sided with the White House in its claim that evangelist Jerry Falwell "fabricated" a conversation with Jimmy Carter.

Falwell, according to a taped account, told an "I Love America" rally in Anchorage, Alaska, in March of a conversation he had with Carter: "We had breakfast with the president about a month ago and we were discussing national defense and all these things, and I asked the president, 'Sir, why do you have practicing homosexuals on your senior staff at the White House?'"

Falwell did not attribute it to Carter, but his next words inferred that the president responded, "Well, I am the president of all the American people, and I believe I should represent everyone."

That conversation never took place, according to Allen, now the president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, who was at the January meeting. "I was present all the time the president was in the room, and he (Falwell) did not ask that question," Allen said. "That simply was not said."

The taped account of the Anchorage meeting was secured only recently by Bob Maddox, Carter's special assistant for religious liaison, who released it to the press with the statement that Falwell's question and Carter's answer "never took place."

Falwell, spokesman of a political organization of evangelicals devoted to electing Ronald Reagan as president, said the White House is trying to discredit him by making an issue of the incident, which he claimed was intended only as an anecdote.

In a prepared statement, Falwell said: "My Alaska statement was not intended to be a verbatim report of our conversations with President Carter. Instead, my statement was intended to be, and was, an honest portrayal of President Carter's position on gay rights."

Maddox' office denies that Carter approves of the homosexual lifestyle as insinuated by Falwell's statements.

"Anecdotes that do not tell the truth certainly ought to be avoided in any pulpit that I know of," Allen said. "I don't know that the person sitting in the crowd can tell the difference between that kind of anecdote and the facts. He ought to stick to the facts."

Our People and Our Churches . . .

PEOPLE...

Mark Douglas was scheduled to be ordained to the gospel ministry earlier this month at West LaFollette Baptist Church, Campbell County. Preaching the ordination sermon was Douglas's grandfather, Bill Douglas of Jacksboro. The younger Douglas has been called as pastor of a church in Williamsburg, Ky.

After having served as treasurer of Dyer Baptist Association for the past 31 years, Guthrie Dotson is relinquishing his duties. He has been an active member of First Baptist Church in Dyersburg, where he has served as a Sunday School teacher and deacon and in numerous other capacities. The Dotsons are moving to California to join their son.

In Dyersburg, First Baptist Church ordained Steve Gaines to the gospel ministry. He is serving as assistant pastor and youth director at First Baptist Church in Milan. Gaines plans to enter Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex. this fall. Raymond Boston is pastor at First Church in Dyersburg.

East Maryville Baptist Church, Maryville, named J.C. Reed as pastor emeritus recently. Reed was pastor of the East Maryville congregation from February 1961 until July 1980. He is currently senior adult director at Madison Avenue Baptist Church in that city. Reed was given a plaque commemorating the special honor.

Mrs. John Conkin was honored recently by members of Manley Baptist Church in Morristown for her many years of service as an associational Sunday School worker and associational primary leader in the church training work of the association. She began her efforts as primary Sunday School worker 29 years ago and added the training position one year later. She also served simultaneously on the Nolachucky Association's Vacation

Four Union centers offer six classes

JACKSON — Six Bible classes leading to the diploma in pastoral ministries or Christian leadership will be offered through four Union University seminary extension center locations this fall semester.

Registration for the classes, which will be conducted in Huntingdon, Adamsville, Martin, and Jackson, will be held the second week of September.

Dean of Religious Affairs Bob Agee said classes will meet one night each week for 13 weeks. Up to eight semester hours of work may be transferred from the program to Union for college credit.

Curriculum recommended by the Seminary Extension Department of the Southern Baptist Convention will serve as curriculum for the center. Regular college entrance requirements are being waived for the three-year program, Agee added.

At the college in Jackson, Dean Doster, minister of education at Jackson's Englewood Baptist Church, will teach "Evangelism" on Monday nights. Matt Tomlin, pastor of First Baptist Church, Selmer, will teach "Public Worship" on Tuesdays, and Gayle Alexander, pastor of Alamo First Baptist Church, will teach "New Testament Survey" on Thursdays.

At the Shiloh Center in Adamsville, "Old Testament Survey" will be taught on Tuesdays by Hoyt Wilson, pastor of Lexington's First Baptist Church.

At the Carroll-Benton Associational Mission Center in Huntingdon, John Pippin, pastor of Medina First Baptist Church, will teach "New Testament Survey, Part I," on Tuesdays.

"Evangelism" will be offered on Thursdays at the Weakley-Beulah Center in Martin. Serving as instructor will be John Adams, pastor of First Baptist Church, McKenzie.

Bible school team. She has witnessed Sunday School enrollment growth from 7,165 to 10,372; and the VBS grow from 37, enrolling 2,509 to 43, enrolling 5,393. Growth in the church training section has gone from 27 unions, enrolling 1,742 to 39, enrolling 3,194.

Graceland Baptist Church in Memphis is scheduled to ordain Tim Logan to the music ministry in special services next month. Logan is minister of music and outreach at the church. E. Lowell Adams is pastor.

Buffalo Trail Baptist Church, Morristown, licensed George F. Husk into the gospel ministry earlier this summer. He plans to enter Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, this fall. Ron Jones is pastor.

Members of Speedway Terrace Baptist Church in Memphis will participate in an ordination service for Tommie D. Webster on Sunday, Aug. 31. A former minister of music, education, and youth at Speedway Terrace, he serves presently on the staff of Kensington Baptist Church in Memphis as minister of music and youth. The candidate's former pastor, Jack May, will deliver the ordination sermon. Webster received his undergraduate degree from Memphis State University and is a student at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis. Ray Gilder is pastor at Speedway Terrace.

Buffalo Trail Baptist Church, Morristown, ordained Mark Horner as a deacon last month. Pastor Earl McCosh, pastor of Grace Baptist Church in that city, brought the charge. Ron Jones is pastor.

Harmony Baptist Church, Cumberland Association, ordained Carney Elliott, Robert Nichols, and Harry Tolleson Jr. as deacons recently. Virgil Allison is pastor.

Burch Cooper observed his 50th anniversary in the ministry last month. On the special day, he preached at his home church of Double Springs in Athens.

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Bristol, held deacon ordination services for Douglas Neal Saul, Donald Bennett, and James R. Anderson. L.F. Valley is pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bowman were honored earlier this month on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. A reception, given by their children and grandchildren, drew more than 200 friends. The Bowmans are members of Oak Grove Baptist Church in Chattanooga. Douglas Adams is their pastor.

Tennessean Greg Powell has been elected president of the student body at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Powell, Brainerd Baptist Church, Chattanooga. Earlier this summer, he served as youth pastor at a retreat for the young people of Brainerd.

REVIVALS...

A July revival at First Baptist Church in Carthage was led by F.M. Dowell, former director of evangelism for Tennessee Baptists. Bill Blankenship led the music. Seven were added by baptism and one by statement. Several other professions of faith and rededications were made during the week. Jere H. Plunk is pastor.

Harmony Baptist Church, Cumberland Association held revival services recently with John Rushing serving as evangelist. Rushing is pastor of Pleasant View Baptist Church in the same association. There were 12 decisions. Virgil Allison is pastor.

In Campbell County, several laymen conducted a crusade at the Campbell County High School football stadium. There were 101 decisions, including 37 professions of faith, 57 rededications, and seven other decisions. E.B. Toles, Rome, Ga., brought the

messages. Ralph Cordell is director of missions for the association.

Bill Stafford, Cleveland; Jerry Gllsson, Jack Custer, Jerry Spencer, and Mark Gold, all from Memphis, spoke at a brush arbor revival at Parrans Chapel Baptist Church in Bolivar last month. There were 42 public decisions, including 10 professions of faith and 32 rededications. Doug W. Baker is pastor.

Third Baptist Church in Nashville held a tent revival recently with David Clark serving as evangelist. Roger Rickbaugh led the music. There were three professions of faith and several rededications.

Brookhill Baptist Church, McMinn-Meigs Association, reported 15 rededications, two professions of faith, and two for baptism from their recent revival with Terry Williams. Bill Sutton directed the music. R.B. Bryan is pastor.

Pond Hill Baptist Church, Athens, was led in revival services by Charles Cassady, pastor of the Rockview Baptist Church, Niota. There were seven additions, including two by letter and five for baptism. Dillard Brown is serving as interim pastor.

Bethlehem Baptist Church, Indian Creek Association, held revival services with evangelist Cloy Marbutt. The church reported six professions of faith, nine rededications, and one dedication to full-time Christian service.

CHURCHES...

Members of First Baptist Church in Kingston approved the construction of a family life center addition. The building will cost approximately \$450,000 and will provide 12 classrooms, Sunday School offices, kitchen facilities, and a large fellowship area. The structure will also accommodate dressing rooms for recreational purposes, a basketball court, and music and drama rooms. Gary Marsh is pastor.

Special dedication services were held last month at Snow Memorial Baptist Church in Johnson City for the church's new steeple and church sign. As a part of the sign, the original Snow Chapel Baptist Church bell is included. The church was built in 1893, and the bell was built into the belfry. C.W. Jones, interim pastor at Snow Memorial, led the service and delivered the dedication sermon.

Members of Concord Baptist Church in Chattanooga had a Wednesday night supper consisting of soup and crackers earlier this month, in order to send money to the Southern Baptist program of world hunger relief. Bob Segrest is pastor.

Dedications services are scheduled to be held on Sunday, Aug. 24 for new facilities at First Baptist Church in Jackson. Duke McCall, president of the Baptist World Alliance and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, is the scheduled guest speaker. The congregation entered the new facilities earlier this spring. The complex was built at a cost of \$3.5-million. Trevis Otey is pastor.

LEADERSHIP...

Raymond Smith resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church in Doyle.

Williams Blevins was called as interim pastor of Tusculum Baptist Church in Greeneville. He is on the faculty of Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City.

Beulah Baptist Church in Kingsport called Howard King as interim pastor.

First Baptist Church in Erwin called William Purdue as interim pastor. Purdue is director of the Bible school at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City.

Devotional

God's creatures

By Grace Everett Sims

Suddenly, shrieking sounds of hostile birds broke the silence of a beautiful spring morning. I looked from the window and saw angry birds attack another one in mid air. The victim fell to the ground at the feet of our doberman pinscher! After commanding the dog to drop his charge, I ran to investigate.

A beautiful young owl lay injured on the ground. I carried his near lifeless body to the porch and placed it on the windowsill.

I heard similar noises again just outside the window. Surely, these birds would not attack a dying one, I mused. When I opened the door to rescue the little creature, he was gone. Then I saw him perched on a nearby limb! He was dazed and wobbly. I watched him move from branch to branch underneath the foliage, ignoring the threats of the other birds.

Seven different species of birds had denied the philosophy of the "birds of a feather" theory and banded together to conquer. Birds who had only weeks earlier fought each other over scattered seeds were now working together. Some of these were the beautiful cardinals whose brilliance against the snow had formed unforgettable scenes.

Some events in the Bible flashed in my mind. I thought of the priests, in their beautiful scarlet robes, and the Sadducees who often opposed their teaching, banding together to destroy, not a predator, but the One who came to save them.

There were others, however, who joined together for the purpose of building: rugged fishermen and a tax collector.

I felt afresh my need for being a part of a group of people whose strength is greater than mine. In my church, the combined talents, resources, and spiritual maturity can accomplish a mission far greater than my own. Personal and vocational differences stand aside when common goals are diligently sought. Being a part of such a group is a privilege.

There are the cardinals whose ordered lives add color and brilliance to our gatherings. The gesturing mockingbirds bring their cheer. The song birds call forth our worship and praise. The robins give encouragement. The blue jays lend strength, and the little sparrows point out the right course. Each one has a vital role. All are needed.

Such a grouping of God's people can help me overcome obstacles to Christian growth. They can help remove the barriers that separate from the presence of God. Together, we are helping each other. We become builders of beautiful structures that rise from the "rock of salvation," builders of bridges to help other persons span the gulfs of separation.

I want to be involved in a ministry that extends beyond my limitations. "For we belong to God as His fellow-workers; you belong to God as His field to be tilled, as His building to be built" 1 Cor. 3:9 Williams Translation.

Mrs. Sims serves as WMU director and works with the Laotians on Sunday evenings at Belmont Heights Baptist Church, Nashville.

New associate degree given accreditation

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — The associate of divinity degree, offered by New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary for students who do not hold college degrees, has been given full accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, J. Hardee Kennedy, vice-president for academic affairs of the seminary, announced.

The first A. Div. degrees awarded at the seminary were presented at spring graduation ceremonies. Formerly, the seminary awarded diplomas for students who participated in the program.



Mrs. Sims

BIBLE BOOK SERIES

Lesson for August 24

Implications of Paul's Gospel

By C. Stephen Byrum, assistant professor
Chattanooga State Community College
Pastor, Lookout Mountain Baptist Church

Basic Passage: Galatians 2:11-21
Focal Passage: Galatians 2:11-21

In observing the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, we have come to understand that beyond the significance that is placed on the symbolic meaning of the elements, that there is the additional symbolic meaning that is attached to the meal itself. The fellowship, the service of one another, and the joy of being joined in common belief are earthly indications of the kind of special intimacy which the saved will have with Jesus Himself when His kingdom is restored.

Such an emphasis on a situation which involves eating together has deep-seated cultural antecedents. In almost every ancient culture known to man, the act of eating together has carried the strongest overtones of acceptance, equality, and mutual human respect. The Old Testament is filled with incidents which depict this emphasis, and even Jesus when He was describing the acceptance of His salvation spoke of standing at the door knocking, and if He were invited, He would "come in and sup" with that person who had accepted His message.



Byrum

This understanding provides the context for coming to grips with the events of the lesson's focal point. Paul has recalled in 2:1-10 the way that he had fought for and eventually gained the acceptance of his message of salvation to the Gentiles by the leaders of the church at Jerusalem. Now, in 2:11-21, he extends the history of the debate by describing a second historical incident. This description not only gives a further insight into the independence of Paul's apostleship, but it also provides a moment of the highest instruction in true Christian faith that is every bit as profound for the modern church as it was for Peter when Paul leveled his aim on him.

Paul recalls Peter's having come to Antioch. Upon his arrival he participated in a meal with the new Gentile converts. Notice carefully all of the symbolic significance that would have been attached to this act. It was not simply a friendly gesture, but was rather a high-powered, forthright statement of Peter, the figurehead of the Jerusalem church, accepting these new converts without qualification.

But then a watchdog group of Jewish Christians appeared on the scene. They had not been able to excise the orientation to the old Jewish laws and customs from their new faith. Back in the safe confines of Jerusalem they may have intellectually agreed on the need to preach to the heathen, and there may have even been times in Hellenistic areas when Gentiles could worship in their temples, but the idea of eating with them took matters too far! One of the strongest prohibitions of the Pharisaic order was against eating with heathens. They might be given handouts at the backdoor, but they would never be allowed to sit on the front porch.

But before a drama of confrontation could be enacted in which Peter would have had an exceptional opportunity to proclaim the all-inclusiveness of Christ's love, out of fear he quietly "drew back and separated himself" (v 12) from the meal with the Gentiles. Peter continued to be plagued by the cowardice of that garden moment when he had denied Christ—in a real sense, in this moment, he had denied Christ again! And this same time, to make matters worse, other Jewish Christians including Barnabas immediately followed his example and withdrew their fellowship.

Can you imagine the emotional intensity of that moment? The guilt that must have raced through the heart of Peter and the others who had withdrawn. The pompous piety that must have swelled within those who had come from Jerusalem and saw their intimidation winning. The embarrassment and shame, the dehumanization, of the poor Gentile Christians left at the table. And, the rage burning in Paul before the hypocrisy ("dissimulation"—v 13) of the moment as he realizes that all of his efforts among the Gentiles may be about to be totally nullified.

In situations of emotional intensity like this many people have the tendency to look down and be quiet, but not Paul! As Peter had acted publically, now Paul acts publically; as Jesus held Peter in question about the first denial, now Paul holds him in question about this second denial. And in Paul's rebuke one of the most eloquent and moving statements of Christian faith comes forth. Verses 15-21 powerfully speak for themselves and should be read again and again. Until they sink into the heart fiber of Christianity, Christianity does not have the heart of Christ.

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

Lesson for August 24

Restoration under Ezra

By John H. Tullock, Chairman
Department of Religion and Philosophy
Belmont College, Nashville

Basic Passage: Ezra 6-7
Focal Passage: Ezra 7:6-16

As we saw in last Sunday's lesson, Nehemiah was a political leader of the Jews who applied religion to life. He also dealt with the practical matters of making the city defensible against its enemies by rebuilding the city walls and restoring its gates. At about the same period of time, the priest Ezra was leading in a religious revival.

The exact relationship of these men to each other is somewhat hard to figure out since the books that bear their names rarely mention things that they did in cooperation with each other. What is more important, however, is that both men played a vital part in preserving the Jewish people in a time when they were threatened from every side by those who would swallow them up. For his part in this effort, Ezra has been called the "father of Judaism."



Tullock

Judaism was the name given to Israelite religion after the Babylonian exile since most of the survivors of that exile were from Judah and thus were called "Jew," the short form of "Judahite."

A prepared vessel (7:6)

When the LORD sets about to do something, He does not do it haphazardly. Ezra was "a scribe skilled in the law of Moses" (1:6 RSV). This means that he had spent years copying the manuscripts, carefully seeing that they were correct in every detail. As a result, he would have been far above average in his knowledge of what the Scriptures said. In his time, the Scriptures consisted largely of what we know as Genesis through Deuteronomy. Not only had God prepared a man to do His work but He also had been working to prepare the way for Ezra—namely, He had been preparing the heart of the Persian king to make him willing to assist Ezra and those who would go with him to Jerusalem.

A prepared people (7:7-10)

Not only was the Lord at work with Ezra but He was working on those who would go with Ezra. The time (either 458 B.C. in the reign of Artaxerxes I or 398 B.C. in the reign of Artaxerxes II) was right and a group of the people was ready to follow Ezra's leadership.

There were lay people as well as priests, Levites, singers, gatekeepers, and temple servants. This list is an interesting commentary on how Jewish families preserved traditional roles of service, even though their families had left Jerusalem well over 100 years before. Even though they were away from the temple, priests still functioned, probably as teachers; levites (a lower order of priests), singers, gatekeepers, and temple servants still kept up the family tradition and were prepared to return to that function in the temple once they returned to Jerusalem.

"The good hand of God was upon him" (7:9) and them as they set out on their journey to return to their native land. Probably no better

qualified man could have been found to serve as leader than Ezra, a devout student and a dedicated teacher of the "law of the Lord" (7:10).

A prepared way (7:11-16)

As has been observed above, the Lord was making other preparations for this journey. Ezra had the ear of the king, who in turn wrote a letter for Ezra to carry that gave him both protection and support for his journey and the work he was to do in Jerusalem.

First, Ezra was able to take with him anyone he chose and who was willing to go with him (7:11-13). Thus he was able to persuade qualified helpers to go with him with the King's blessings.

Secondly, he was authorized to investigate religious conditions in Jerusalem and presumably to do whatever needed to be done to correct them (7:14).

In the third place, Ezra was given all the support he needed. This was of two kinds: one, the king himself furnished a large amount of gold as his own contribution to Ezra's work; and two, Ezra was authorized to collect whatever monies he could from the Jews in Persia to further aid in financing his work. Thus a heathen king was used by the Lord to preserve His people in a time of trouble.

What happened? (8-9)

Unfortunately, our lesson text does not really deal with the matters suggested by the title. To find this out, we must read Ezra 8-9 as well as Nehemiah 8-9. Ezra's works brought a great revival of religion, a renewed allegiance to the law of the Lord, and the beginning of a tradition of oral interpretation of Scripture that expanded greatly in the years ahead.

By the time of Jesus, oral tradition would be regarded by many as being on par with Scripture itself in its importance. We must not let our prejudices about oral tradition, however, obscure the fact that Ezra was God's man for a crucial period in Jewish history, for it was through godly men like Ezra that the Jews would survive.

Doctrine class set by Shelby, Union

A free course on Baptist convictions will be offered in Memphis this fall as part of Union University's continuing education Bible study program.

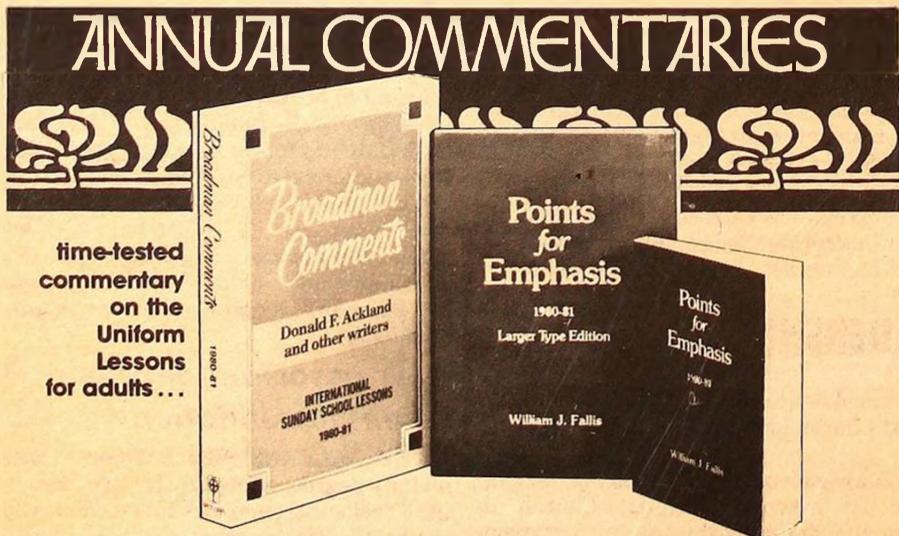
The Thursday morning class, "Studies in Baptist Beliefs," will be a resumption of the program offered in partnership with the Shelby County Baptist Association, which is funding tuition for the course. David Irby, associate professor of religion at Union, will serve as instructor for the class.

The course will meet at 9:30 a.m. from Sept. 4 to Dec. 18 at Cherry Road Baptist Church. Although no regular college credit is offered, three units of continuing education credit will be awarded by Union University.

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

S	H	E	R	O	B	E	S	S	P	A
P	E	N	T	E	C	O	S	T	C	H
I	R	A	N	S	T	R	Y	T	H	E
T	O	T	S	O	T	O	S	O	N	
E	D	E		P	A	L	M	S	L	I
				H	A	T	E	T	R	A
P	E	R	I	S	H		M	O	I	R
E	V	E	N	T		A	V	U	L	A
N	I	L		E	A	G	L	E	P	A
L	E	E		R	O	E		U	R	G
S	M	A	L	L	E	R		A	L	O
I	E	S		A	N	A	C	C	O	U
N	N	E		W	A	S	T	E	D	T

"The rod and reproof give wisdom" (Prov. 29:15).



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LIFE AND WORK SERIES
Lesson for August 24

Christian relationships

By James M. Porch Jr., pastor
First Baptist Church, Tullahoma

Basic Passages: I Peter 2:11 to 3:12
Focal Passages: I Peter 2:13-17, 3:1-4, 7-9

God created man capable of many relationships. Through Jesus Christ, human beings form their best bonds with each other. Such contracts and affinity enable persons to be more complete and also eliminate alienation and loneliness. Two of the most basic relationships are the ties with society in government and the fusion of marriage. Simon Peter's instruction on these two topics clarifies two areas of potential problems not only for the early church, but for all generations of Christians.



Porch

The Christian relationship to the state
(I Peter 2:13-17)

Every group of people must have the structure of some government. No aggregate of persons can survive by granting total license to each other. Peter was in agreement with Jesus and Paul that Christians were expected to live together as obedient and useful citizens.

The attitude of the Christian citizen must be conditioned by his voluntary choice to subject himself to the authority of the state. He was expected to line up under government rule in a similar fashion to a soldier lining up under an officer. The success of a military operation greatly depends on the soldier's respect and trust for his commander. Such is even more crucial to the Christian in relation to the state as his submission is to be voluntary. He is called to accept civil authority and intentionally support government ordinances.

Peter presented no case here for blind obedience. Two worthy reasons were shared. First, the term "for the Lord's sake" appeals to a motivation above the desire for personal selfish recognition. Second, the apostle was mindful of those who refused to accept the truth about Christians. He thus stated that recognition of secular authority muzzled or silenced those who would use Christians' rebellious acts to degrade the faith.

The Christian's liberty, even if it was partial, was to be used in an ethical manner. Never should outward obedience be a deceptive means or covering for wrong. Such a facade would be manipulation of freedom for selfish purposes. Finally, Simon strongly urged the believers toward a positive social lifestyle. Give respect and esteem to all men. Maintain a continual loving tie with Christian groups. Live in reverence to God. Recognize with respect the King, even Nero.

The Christian's relationship in marriage
(I Peter 3:1-7)

Scripture passages of kindred subjects need to be studied together. Just as four gospels are needed to complete the mosaic of Jesus' life, so Paul's instruction on marriage in Ephesians 5 and Colossians 3 should be studied in conjunction with this lesson on marital relationships.

Women in the first century generally lived in a dehumanized state. Married women had no independent status and were regarded as property of their husbands. Peter wanted to help correct this tragedy. Also, he desired to give guidance to Christian wives who were married to unbelieving husbands. Such a wife had already taken a bold step by changing her religion. She had been freed by the gospel, but guidance was needed in preventing her new

spiritual liberty from damaging her marriage.

The guidance given to husbands spoke firmly of the necessity that marriage be recognized as a reciprocal relationship. When Peter and others dared to comment on the duties of husbands, they were taking a bold and even daresome step.

The fisherman turned apostle encouraged wives to deliver their message by the example of a lovely life in deference to speaking. Wives should adopt the theme of modest dress and shun artificial adornments and gaudy apparel. The wives should not heed the call to masquerade.

Peter's style of giving balanced guidance in his epistle comes through again. After presenting certain prohibitions, he focused attention on more positive methods of marital relationships.

The quality of the calm and controlled spirit of the wife was emphasized. The apostle illustrated his point by directing wives to consider the example of Sarah and her continued respect for Abraham.

Peter gave less space in writing to the subject of husbands. However, the content is ample to instruct the male spouse in a Christ-like relationship to his wife.

Primarily, Peter's message was one intended to correct a perspective—how a husband is to clearly see his wife and acknowledge her existence. Her weakness was only physical. As a recipient of grace she was equal. Thus Peter clarified the limits of her difference and highlighted the value of her equality. Such understanding was essential for a vital devotional life.

Summary statement on Christian relationships
(I Peter 3:8-9)

Peter ended the section on relationships in a comprehensive statement on desired unity in the Christian experience. He pleaded for rational agreement on major issues, shared feelings on a wide range of emotions, expressed affection, and courtesy. Ever mindful that his initial readers were a threatened majority, he appealed to their spiritual maturity in forbidding revenge and admonishing them to return good for evil.

BSSB, other groups to promote Responsible Energy Sabbath

NASHVILLE—The Baptist Sunday School Board is among some 40 religious organizations nationwide that have designated Oct. 18-19 as Responsible Energy Sabbath.

The observance, designed to initiate a year-long effort by major religious groups, is planned to demonstrate that solving energy problems is a major priority for the religious community. The project will culminate in October 1981, with major events to mark Responsible Energy Sabbath II.

J. Ralph McIntyre, director of the church and staff support division, said the board's involvement with the project began in January 1980 with the White House consultation on "Religion and Energy in the '80s."

At that meeting McIntyre told the inter-religious group that Southern Baptists "have a vision of presenting the good news of Jesus Christ to all people, everywhere by the year 2000. We call this Bold Mission Thrust.

"Commitment to such a vast enterprise demands our maximum stewardship. Vast sums of money can be re-directed when good management of energy resources is seriously undertaken. This will allow us to accomplish our first, God-given, major task of sharing Christ with the entire world."

During the special Sabbath event, congregations will be asked to commit themselves to an energy-related project of their choosing. Suggested project options, ranging from conservation measures for church buildings to aid for persons burdened

by energy costs, are included in a brochure being mailed to every Southern Baptist church.

According to McIntyre, "There are 275,000 houses of worship in the Christian and Jewish communities. "If even minimal conservation efforts were put into effect by these groups, that would be a great thing.

"Conservation has got to be a part of our consciousness," he continued. "We're responsible for the proper use and stewardship of God's gift of energy to us. It is a religious, moral issue. The more we spend on utility bills, the less we have to spend on missions work."

A new energy resource book, available from Baptist Book Stores in mid-November, is *A Church Energy Handbook* by Jerry Privette.

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Virginia Baptists host encampment for blind

By Tim Nicholas

WEST POINT, Va. (BP)—Imagine a weekend of camping in total darkness. Imagine going swimming, canoeing, and hiking without being able to see a thing.

It happens every summer at a unique camp for the blind held at Virginia Baptists' Camp Piankatank for Royal Ambassadors.

In 1972 the Virginia school for the blind and deaf asked Mike Haywood, a Southern Baptist home missionary who is youth and family services director for Virginia's Peninsula Baptist Association, to develop a camping program for its students.

The first summer's one-day outing was so successful that it was expanded the next year to three-day youth retreats. This summer, the program will include several three-day campouts.

Haywood says the camp experience benefits the sighted counselors as well as the blind participants because it exposes young people to work with the visually handicapped.

Haywood's program usually includes 20 to 30 blind people ranging in age from four to 49, with the majority ages 14 to 20, along with a slightly larger number of counselors. Haywood doesn't use the word "counselor" in camp because the goal is to relate to each person on that individual's level.

"We do a bit of everything," he says, "ranging from swimming at a pool, with a little teaching thrown in, to canoeing. Campers spend about two hours each day in a canoe, one blind in front and a sighted in back."

The blind campers also practice archery. They feel the target, string their bows and stand close enough to the target so they can hear the thud of the arrow. The counselor tells them where they hit.

"The only embarrassment," says Haywood, "is sometimes they outshoot the counselors."

A scuba enthusiast, Haywood also invites members of his scuba club to the camp to share underwater experiences. "In the

shallow end of the pool," he hastens to add. Blind campers play "Siamese softball" with a beeping ball donated by telephone company retirees called the Telephone Pioneers. Using a T-ball stand, the batter hits the ball off the stand and then takes the counselor's hand to run. Everyone on the field holds a hand except when at bat.

The program also includes a discovery time called "Touch Tour" where each counselor brings something unusual. Highlights have been a six-foot black snake, homing pigeons, and a human skull from an archaeological dig.

"We'll take a hike and try to catch a crab or a turtle," adds Haywood. "There's a talent show, and we have a creative worship service on Sunday morning, with devotionals during campfires. The most important thing is the interaction of our Christian young people with

the blind young people." Hand-picked counselors start meeting in December to plan for the summer camps. Haywood now has a core group of about 15 experienced counselors. For 90 percent of the first-time counselors, the camp is their first experience with blind persons.

Skip Butler, counselor for the Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind in Richmond, notes that some of the counselors are not familiar with the needs of the visually handicapped.

But Butler gives the camp high marks. "They (the blind campers) come back really enthused about the program."

Hitting a bull's eye or paddling a canoe are experiences the campers will not soon forget.

Adapted from the July issue of World Mission Journal.

Americans United session to view Christian political movement

WASHINGTON, D.C.—With the new role of religion in politics providing the backdrop for this year's national elections, that subject will dominate discussions at the annual conference of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, according to Executive Director R.G. Puckett.

"The unprecedented political involvement of different elements of the religious community is no doubt going to influence the outcome of national elections this fall," Puckett said. "What effect this new development will have on church-state separation and religious liberty is something we must examine closely."

Speakers at the AU National Conference and Legal Seminar will address several aspects of that subject Sept. 24-25 in Silver

Spring, Md. Reflecting an overall theme of "Liberty And Justice For All," the gathering will feature discussion of such issues as the Christian political movement, the public school prayer controversy, and government involvement in church activities.

Among the speakers will be James Dunn, director of the Texas Christian Life Commission, an affiliate of the Southern Baptist Convention. Dunn will talk about "Religion in Politics: 1980."

Also addressing the gathering will be John Higgins, deputy general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, who will discuss guidelines for teacher employment in church-related schools.

Jay Wabeke, president of the Michigan AU chapter, will address the conference on the battle against parochial school aid in Michigan.

Other speakers will be Jimmy Allen, head of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. A member of the board of trustees and former president of Americans United, Allen will examine the history and future of religious freedom.

Charles Bergstrom, executive director of the Office for Governmental Affairs for the Lutheran Council in the USA, will talk about the school prayer controversy.

Harold Carter, pastor of the New Shiloh Baptist Church in Baltimore, Md., will address the subject, "Freedom: A Black Perspective."

One significant new feature of the conference/legal seminar will be the Madison-Jefferson Religious Liberty Awards Dinner. At that event at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn L. Archer will be presented the first annual Madison-Jefferson Religious Liberty Award. Archer was executive director for 28 of the first 32 years of Americans United, the nation's largest nonsectarian religious liberty group.

Foundation

When one equals ten

By Jonas L. Stewart

It is almost like a miracle. One can place assets with the Tennessee Baptist Foundation and know that they will multiply in benefits for the Lord's work until Jesus comes.

A widow places \$1,000 in trust with the income to be paid to a Tennessee Baptist college. Within a few years that \$1,000 will have earned and paid to the school another thousand. The original amount will still be there and will reproduce itself again and again 10 times and more.

Many people couldn't give \$10,000, but by establishing such a trust fund with one thousand, they will have given more than \$10,000 as the years pass. Some do it while they live. Others do it through a will.

For information on a trust fund to provide income forever to your favorite Christian cause, write Tennessee Baptist Foundation, P.O. Box 347, Brentwood, Tn. 37027.

BSSB names Padilla to aid language unit

NASHVILLE (BP) — Concepcion (Chuck) Padilla will join the Baptist Sunday School Board as general field services consultant in the church programs and services language unit Sept. 1. Padilla is currently on the staff of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California.

The language unit is responsible for editing adult Sunday School materials in Spanish and other languages.

Padilla will organize and implement a field service program utilizing Spanish materials available to Southern Baptist churches on the Spanish church literature order form, according to Alcides Guarjardo, supervisor of the language unit.

The Texas native also will assist churches in developing strategies for reaching the more than 20-million Hispanics living in the United States.

Padilla has worked on the California staff since 1969—as church growth consultant 1969-1976 and, since 1976, as associate director of the Sunday School department. He is a graduate of Texas A & M University, College Station, and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

WMU conferees give to world hunger

RIDGECREST, N.C. — Participants at the Woman's Missionary Union Conference at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center here gave \$4,648.84 to world hunger in observance of the Southern Baptist Convention's World Hunger Day on August 6.

According to Tim Hedquist, assistant to the treasurer and director of financial planning for the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, this offering will be divided equally between the Home Mission Board and the Foreign Mission Board for hunger relief.

Medicare Supplement Information

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SUBJECT: NEW CHANGES IN MEDICARE THAT AFFECT YOU

Dear Medicare Member:

The Social Security Administration has recently announced certain changes that were made in the MEDICARE program — changes which will directly or indirectly affect every MEDICARE member.

If you do not fully understand what benefits are payable under MEDICARE, please return the attached card at once so that we may furnish this vital information about the changes in MEDICARE, along with a detailed description of a privately sponsored MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE PLAN.

We will also furnish you with information about a program designed to help relieve the MEDICARE member funeral expense. Do you know that Social Security can help pay funeral expense? This important information will be furnished without cost or obligation.

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