

Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 147/No. 43/October 28, 1981

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

Liability relieved on Belmont Plaza

TBC's \$500,000 guarantee dropped as occupancy passes 95 percent

The Tennessee Baptist Convention has been relieved of its \$500,000 liability related to the 1980 sale of Belmont Plaza, because the Nashville senior adult facility has reached 100 percent occupancy.

The official notification of the dissolving of the liability came in a letter to Tom Madden, TBC executive secretary, from W. Neill Fox, vice-president of First American Bank of Nashville, which had handled the sale to Belmont Plaza Inc., a group of Baptist lay people.

The 123-unit facility had been constructed by the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation with a \$5-million bond issue and held a lease on the property. However, when the facility was completed in February 1979, it was discovered that the TBSC had no operating funds to open it for occupancy.

Messengers to an April 4, 1979, called session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention voted to sell the facility "to relieve the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation as an agency of the Tennessee Baptist Convention from all liability on said lease."

At the 1979 convention in November of that year, the messengers voted to authorize the sale to Belmont Plaza Inc. The final details of the sale were approved March 13, 1980, by the TBC Executive Board at a called meeting.

Under the provisions of the sale, which was officially closed May 15, 1980, the state convention agreed to assume two liabilities related to the transaction.

The TBC assumed a \$500,000 financial liability which would be phased out as Belmont Plaza apartments were rented. When 65 percent of the apartments were rented, this liability would be reduced to \$300,000; 75 percent to \$200,000; 85 percent to \$100,000; and at 90 percent occupancy, this liability would be dissolved.

The Executive Board also agreed to put \$175,000 in a reserve escrow account with First American Bank during the 25-year loan. The convention will earn interest on this reserve fund. In the event of default of the project, the investors (Belmont Plaza Associates) have signed documents that the convention will be reimbursed for this \$175,000.

Herb McCarthy, president of Belmont Plaza Inc. reports that the senior adult facility is not only 100 percent occupied, but also that the facility has 150 individuals on a waiting list.

The construction of Belmont Plaza, which is located adjacent to Belmont

College, was approved by the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation on Dec. 2, 1976. Ground breaking ceremonies were held on the site April 17, 1977.

The first public announcement of the financial plight of Belmont Plaza came when Wade Darby, TBC executive director, told the Executive Board Dec. 12, 1978, that he and the TBSC directors had understood that income from the bond sale would provide operating capital for up to 18 months. However, in November — as the building was nearing completion — this was discovered not to be true.

A special Belmont Plaza Committee was authorized at a February 1979 called Executive Board meeting. This committee presented its report to the April 4, 1979, called state convention, at which the messengers voted to sell the facility to relieve the TBSC of its liability.

An enlarged committee, authorized by the called convention, sought various ways to fulfill the convention's action, and presented the proposal from Belmont Plaza Inc. at the November 1979 state convention.

The economic condition related to the bond market required that some changes be made in the proposal approved by the 1979 TBC. These conditions, which were approved by the Executive Board in March 1980, included the TBC assuming the \$500,000 phased-out liability and the \$175,000 reserve escrow account.

The success of the marketing by Belmont Plaza Inc. has now officially relieved the state convention of the \$500,000 guarantee.



STATE CONSULTANTS GATHER — Consultants to the Sunday School department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention listen to Dennis Coniff, adult program section consultant at the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, as he answers questions about the board's "8.5 by 85" program. The consultants met Oct. 22-23 at the TBC building in Brentwood.

Legal Services drops suit against hospital's project

Legal Services of Middle Tennessee has dropped a lawsuit against Baptist Hospital of Nashville, which had delayed the hospital's \$46-million renovation project.

The lawsuit was filed by Legal Services in Chancery Court on Aug. 11, after the organization had failed in its attempts to have the Tennessee Health Facilities Commission reverse its granting of a "certificate of need" for the renovation.

The dropping of the lawsuit means that work on the first phase of the hospital project may begin as early as March 1982, hospital officials said.

Stewart Clifton, Legal Services attorney, announced Oct. 22 that they had "agreed to enter a voluntary non-suit in the case against Baptist Hospital and the Tennessee Health Facilities Commission."

Reasons given for dropping the lawsuit were that the hospital "has enlisted the services of a number of new surgical residents who can help provide health care for the needy," the hospital's plans to begin an internal medical residency program in affiliation with the University of Tennessee Medical School, and the

hospital's intentions "to staff an obstetrical clinic in 1982, one of the purposes of which will be to provide care for low-income expectant mothers."

The statement continued, "We are satisfied that the level of services to needy patients will increase to the extent that a continuation of litigation is not appropriate."

A statement issued at the same time by Tom Schlatter, Baptist Hospital attorney, noted these three additions to the hospital's care of indigent patients. "These new programs have been in the planning stages for a long time, one of them for as long as almost three years."

The project will involve the demolishing of the old East Wing, which was built in 1924, and replacing its 398 beds in new east and west wings. The South and Ford buildings will be renovated to expand the hospital's radiology, laboratory, other support services, and the obstetrics unit which will be increased by 29 beds. The hospital presently has 724 beds, making it the largest hospital in Nashville.

Construction was originally planned to begin in July 1981, but the Legal Services' appeals and lawsuit had forced that date to March 1982.

The proposal had been approved Dec. 17, 1980, by the Health Facilities Commission.

Later, Legal Services of Middle Tennessee filed an appeal with the commission, charging that Baptist Hospital discriminated against minorities and the poor in its admission policies and charity care program. After four days of hearings in April and May, the commission unanimously upheld its earlier decision.

David Stringfield, hospital executive vice-president, said the current year's charity care budget is \$800,000, which "is of appropriate size for an institution which receives no funds for care of the indigent from the government, the church, or any other source."

He added that last year the hospital provided \$6-million in free services to the community.

Man mugs retired missionary

MEMPHIS (BP) — Olga Oliver Berry, a 79-year-old emeritus Southern Baptist missionary, apparently has recovered satisfactorily from injuries received during a mugging and robbery.

Mrs. Berry, who worked with her husband, William H. Berry, for 41 years in Brazil, said the incident occurred Oct. 9 at 10:25 a.m. near the entrance of the Berrys' retirement quarters at the Wesley Highland Towers in Memphis.

She said her assailant struck her sharply in the small of the back as she approached her doorway and sent her sprawling on her face. He grabbed her purse and fled to a waiting automobile.

"I screamed and he turned back to look at me," said Mrs. Berry, adding her assailant was a tall man but that she did not see him well enough to identify him for investigating police. She was treated and released at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, apparently suffering nothing more serious than bruises.

But, she said, the shock lingers on. "It's had an effect on me. I don't like to dwell on it, but it's there in the back of my mind. The Lord was good to me."

The Berrys, who retired from mission service in 1963, did not lose much money, she said, but did lose a checkbook and credit cards.

UT to open graduate studies at Nashville Baptist Hospital

NASHVILLE — The College of Medicine at the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences will open a new program for graduate and continuing medical education at Nashville's Baptist Hospital next year, officials of the hospital and the university announced this month.

The formal educational affiliation between the hospital and the UT College of Medicine will initially include a general internal medicine residency program beginning next July and expanded continuing education opportunities for middle Tennessee physicians. Additional electives and clerkships for medical students may be added later.

"We were pleased to respond positively to a request from Baptist Hospital to establish a residency program in Nashville," said James Hunt, UTCHS chancellor. "This affiliation creates a new educational base for our College of Medicine in keeping with the concept that the UT College of Medicine is a statewide college with a responsibility to help meet the health care manpower needs of all parts of the state.

"Through Baptist Hospital's support of this program, the UT College of

Medicine is able to expand its graduate medical education program without additional state support," Hunt said.

In addition to its home campus in Memphis, the College of Medicine operates educational programs in Knoxville, Chattanooga, and Jackson.

"Through the UT residency program, Baptist Hospital will become more directly involved in medical education at a very high level," said C. David Stringfield, executive vice-president of the Baptist hospital. "The residency program will give us an opportunity to make a more direct contribution to the training of physicians who may work in the middle Tennessee area."

Robert L. Summitt, dean of the UT College of Medicine said the internal medicine residency will address a need for additional primary care training in the middle Tennessee area. "We are looking forward to this relationship with the Nashville Baptist Hospital and to fostering the quality of the internal medicine residency as well as other programs later on."

James Gibb Johnson, associate dean for graduate medical education at UT, said he hopes the internal medicine program will attract as many as 12 residents the first year — four in each of the three years of the program.

UT plans to develop a separate surgery residency program later and will expand its Nashville operation as the need arises, Johnson said.

Paul McNabb, a consultant with the Division of Infectious Diseases at the Mayo Clinic and assistant professor of medicine at the Mayo Medical School, will be program director for the Nashville-based residency.

A native of McMinn County, he is a graduate of Memphis State University and the UT College of Medicine. He completed a residency in medicine and a fellowship in infectious diseases at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine before joining the staff there.

Marjorie Saunders, PR pioneer, dies

DALLAS (BP) — Baptist public relations pioneer Marjorie Saunders, director of public relations for Baylor University Medical Center from 1945-1976, died Oct. 20.

Following retirement from Baylor University Medical Center in 1976, Miss Saunders was a free-lance public relations practitioner, working with Texas Baptist public relations, World Evangelism Inc., and others.

She earned an LL.B. degree from the Jefferson University School of Law in Dallas and practiced civil law before serving with Baylor. She organized the American Association of Blood Banks and was its executive secretary for 10 years.

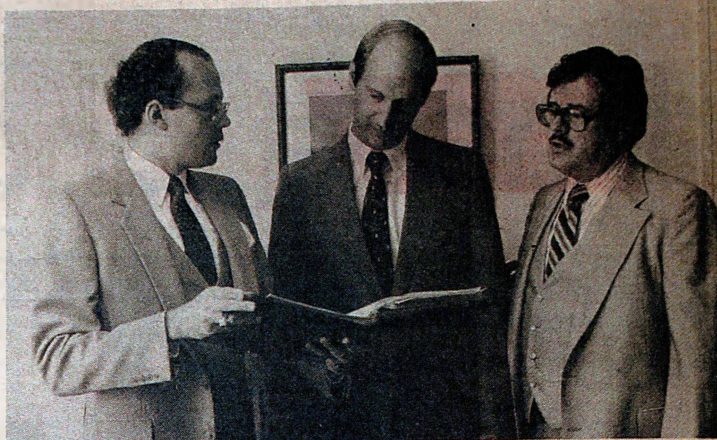
At the annual session of the Baptist General Convention of Texas in 1976, she was given the annual communications award of the BGCT Public Relations Advisory Committee.

She was a member of the Baptist Public Relations Association and an accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America.

Mrs. Riddle succumbs

Hollavene S. Riddle, wife of Coy A. Riddle, died recently at her home in Orlando, Fla., home.

Mrs. Riddle, 63, died Oct. 11 after an extended illness. Riddle is a former pastor of several east Tennessee churches. Their daughter Joy is the wife of Kenneth Clayton, pastor of First Baptist Church, Crossville.



ALUMNI CAMPAIGN — Discussing plans for Belmont College's alumni fund campaign are (from left) Randy Smith, Steve Horrell, and Randy Moser.

Belmont College alumni launch \$150,000 drive

The Alumni Association of Belmont College, Nashville, has announced the beginning of a year-long campaign to raise \$150,000 for the association. The goal is the largest such goal ever set by the Belmont alumni group. The association wanted to recognize 30 years of progress at Belmont as a Baptist college and give the alumni an opportunity to be a part of Belmont's continued growth and progress.

Executive Director Randy Moser says that "while this goal is small compared to what other colleges and universities raise, Belmont is only 30 years old, and this is a significant goal for such a young alumni association."

A number of programs and plans have been developed in order to reach the goal. Randy Smith, president of the association, says, "We are calling on all our alumni, churches, friends, and associates to be a part of this effort."

Steve Horrell, president-elect, is chairman of the program. Horrell outlined seven ways that the goal will be met. He said, "We plan to seek individual contributions, matching gifts from corporate and business givers, a deferred giving program is being set up, a Bel-

mont Centennial Club will be established consisting of those who make certain minimum contributions annually, a Belmont Alumni Cookbook is being prepared to go on sale Dec. 5, and an antique sale is scheduled for the spring — in addition to a cruise April 18-25, 1982."

Smith feels that Belmont College is currently experiencing some of the greatest days in its history. The enrollment is record-setting, a new student center has just opened, and the faculty and course offerings are expanding. Smith said, "The Alumni Association wants to do its part to see that these good days continue for Belmont and that Belmont remains a viable educational force in this region."

One goal of this drive is to increase the percentage of alumnae who give to Belmont.

Due to President Reagan's slashing of budgets, much of the federal government's charitable and philanthropic funding will have to be absorbed by the private sector. The Belmont Alumni Association hopes to increase the involvement of the individual alumnae in giving to Belmont in order to lessen the impact on Belmont of President Reagan's cuts, Smith added.

MTSU BSU ministers to evacuees

Members of the Baptist Student Union at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro aided city officials and Red Cross workers following the evacuation of nearly 300 persons from a one-square-mile downtown section of the city Oct. 21.

"It was a tremendous opportunity to minister," Jimmy Joseph, director of the college's BSU said. "We had about 20-25 students to help."

According to Joseph, the people were evacuated late that afternoon following the discovery of propane gas leakage from a nearby railroad tank car. The evacuees, two-thirds of which Joseph said were 65 or older, were relocated to Murphy Center, the school's athletic building.

When the students volunteered their services to the Red Cross, the workers explained they had all necessary equipment and food to aid the displaced group. What they did not have, however, was entertainment.

The students then set up equipment for the BSU's recently-formed musical group, Common Bond. The group played for the evacuees for over four hours,

sometimes splitting up for duets and solos.

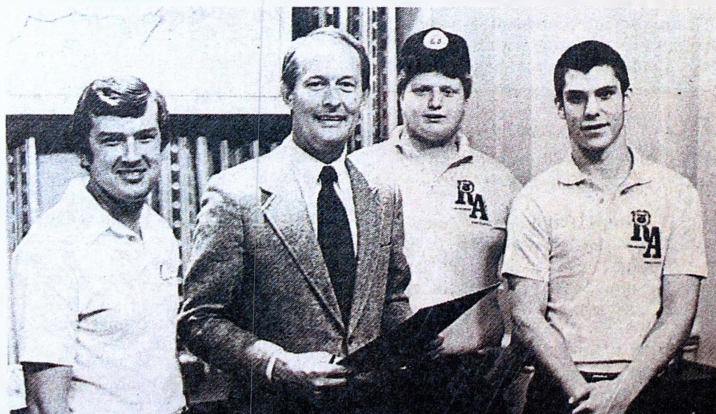
Common Bond member Donna Wells, an MTSU sophomore, said the people were "tired and scared. Yet, when we would stop for a break and talk with them, they seemed just as concerned about us as we were about them."

Joseph said the group "provided a context for the other students to minister." Non-singing BSU members sat talking with the townspeople in an effort to relax them.

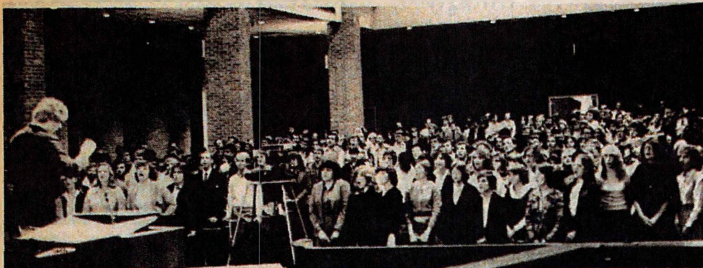
When Common Bond exhausted its repertoire, Miss Wells said that the people began to request hymns. The group sang the requests until the people were told it was safe to go home about 12:30 that night.

Once it was over, the students helped to load the people back on the school buses that had brought them to the center. The last of the evacuees left the gym at about 12:15 a.m.

"Everything we did that night was totally impromptu," Joseph said. "I was really proud of the way the students handled the situation."



RA WEEK — Tennessee Governor Lamar Alexander proclaimed Nov. 1-7 as Tennessee Royal Ambassador Week in 1981. Pictured with Alexander are (left to right) Kenny Raines, program assistant for the Tennessee Baptist Brotherhood department; Andy Cotten, state RA secretary; and Joey Lambert, state missions activity leader.



STATE BSU CONVENTION — LaCount Anderson, a Chattanooga musician, leads members of Tennessee Baptist Student Unions in song during their annual fall convention, held Oct. 23-25 at First Baptist Church, Chattanooga.

Brotherhood Commission approves new organizational structure

MEMPHIS (BP)—Trustees reduced the organizational structure of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, named three area directors, and elected officers to second one-year terms in a meeting at the Hotel Peabody.

The new organizational structure calls for three service areas: Brotherhood program, support, and business. Former divisions of Royal Ambassadors and Baptist Men's work were incorporated into Brotherhood program services.

Trustees approved the recommendation of Executive Director James H. Smith to name Norman Godfrey, associate executive director, as director of Brotherhood programs and services; Jack Childs, director of the marketing department, as director of support services; and Lynette Oliver, business director, will lead business services.

Brotherhood program services include Baptist Men, Pioneers, Crusaders, associational Brotherhood, Brotherhood administration, and general editorial services.

Within support services are public relations and marketing, graphics, mer-

chandise, and periodical services.

Business services include accounting, comptroller's office, and building maintenance.

Elected to second terms as trustee officers were Jack Knox of Germantown, chairman; James Gardner of Blytheville, Ark., as vice-chairman; and Fred Harris of Hatch, N.M., recording secretary.

In other action trustees declined to adopt a charter and bylaws setting up a national fellowship of Baptist men. They did establish a committee to determine ways of involving men in Southern Baptist activities.

The committee, composed of trustees, agency staff members, and state Brotherhood leaders, was instructed to meet twice annually with concerned Baptist laymen to identify concerns and develop ways to involve lay people.

Trustees heard a progress report for constructing the Glendon McCullough Conference Center and agency offices and empowered a building committee to proceed with construction within budget limitations of \$160,000.

Carson-Newman passes base goal for Vision '80 fund raising drive

JEFFERSON CITY — In less than 12 months Vision '80: Carson-Newman's Campaign for Greatness has reached its base goal of \$2.5-million.

With over \$2.6-million in gifts and pledges received to date, upcoming campaigns (Morristown, Tri-Cities, Chattanooga, Knoxville, among the advisory board, and a national alumni effort) are expected to push the already history-making campaign beyond its challenge goal of \$4-million.

"Results of this campaign are a testimony to the caliber of the campaign leadership supporting this institution," remarked C-N President Cordell Maddox. "In our 131-year history there has never been a campaign staffed with so many volunteers. Over 1,000 of our alumni will be actively working in the forthcoming national alumni campaign. In addition, 273 volunteers have been engaged in campaign efforts to date. The response has been tremendous," concluded Maddox.

Campaign gifts and pledges to date include: trustees/former trustees, \$1,100,000 (base goal of \$500,000);

faculty/staff, \$177,000 (base goal of \$75,000 and challenge goal of \$110,000); Jefferson County, \$980,000 (base goal of \$350,000); and \$400,000 from the top leadership of the alumni campaign.

To be funded from the Vision '80 base goal of \$2.5-million are the following projects: new music building (\$1,000,000), academic program enrichment (\$700,000), scholarships (\$300,000), and ongoing support (\$500,000).

The challenge goal of \$4-million would provide funding for these additional programs: energy system (\$250,000), Stokeley Building Student Center (\$400,000), expansion of Henderson Hall (\$250,000), scholarships (\$200,000), academic program enrichment (\$200,000), and intramural facilities (\$200,000).

Urgent Upper Volta needs announced

James Cecil, volunteer services overseas consultant for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, recently announced the urgent need for several volunteers with specific skills to serve with the Upper Volta Hunger and Relief Project.

The project, co-sponsored by the FMB and the Tennessee Baptist Convention, is in immediate need of blocklayers, as only one is serving for the October-December period. An additional five to ten blocklayers are needed for November and December.

Other immediate needs include a civil engineer to work on the dam being built at the Sanwabo project site, welders, someone who speaks French to help with interpreting, and a French-speaking logistics person to serve for six months.

A homebuilder is needed for a four-month period, to oversee the construction of quarters for longer-term volunteers.

Difficult to locate, but needed each month, are a maintenance supervisor; a chaplain; three bulldozer operators, as the machine needs to be in 24-hour-a-day operation; and truck drivers/supervisors.

The project, now in its second phase, will help to relieve the hunger situation in the Sanwabo, Upper Volta area, beginning with the building of a dam to catch rainy-season water for dry-season use. The program also includes the teaching of farming and livestock-raising techniques; evangelism and church growth; and literacy work.

Home Mission Board adopts record budget

ATLANTA (BP)—Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board adopted a record \$40.5-million budget for 1982, established a memorial fund honoring the late Cecil B. Day of Atlanta, founder of Days Inns, Inc., and established additional guidelines for its church loans division recently authorized to issue church bonds for local churches.

Directors also named a new assistant director for its interfaith witness department to handle relations with other Christian groups in America, promoted two current staff members, and appointed 40 missionaries to join the 3,097 home missionaries serving throughout the United States, its territories, and Canada.

The 1982 budget of \$40.5-million is an increase of \$3.6-million (9.9 percent) over the 1981 budget of \$36.8-million. Most of the income, almost \$30-million, will come from the denomination's Cooperative Program unified budget plan and the annual Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions.

Although it is the largest budget the mission agency has ever adopted, Home Mission Board Vice-president Leonard G. Irwin said the increase barely kept up with the cost of living. Irwin pointed out the agency's budgets for 1975, 1976, and 1979 were actually greater in buying power if adjusted for inflation.

In creating the Cecil B. Day Memorial Fund, HMB directors expressed appreciation to Mrs. Day and other members of the family for "their continuing concern and support of home missions."

Although board officials will not disclose the amount of the gift in keeping with the wishes of the Day family, HMB President William G. Tanner said it was the largest estate contribution ever made to the Home Mission Board, and one of the largest ever given to a Baptist agency.

Tanner said the estate will be invested in short-term securities under a plan approved by the board, with the interest used to support the work of the Home Mission Board.

Tanner also announced record contributions this year through the Annie Armstrong Offering, with \$18,143,226 received as of Oct. 21, exceeding the 1981 goal by five percent.

In his annual report, Tanner said he is convinced Southern Baptists are standing on the threshold of the two most important decades of the twentieth century.

"It may well be that the towering issue of the final fifth of this hundred years will be world survival," Tanner said. "A creeping fear of utter extinction has bur-

rowed into the secret depths of our collective nature."

In this kind of world, Southern Baptists have accepted the greatest challenge the denomination has ever considered in its Bold Mission Thrust plan to proclaim the gospel of Christ to every person in the world by the year 2000, Tanner said. "Bold Mission Thrust is not just another glib cliché, but rather a living, viable concept with real 'bite.'"

In an effort to help Baptist churches find additional financial resources to establish new churches and missions and improve existing churches, the directors approved additional guidelines for the church loan division's plan to issue church bonds.

Board members authorized the loans division to set aside up to \$1-million to purchase 20 percent of a church's bond issue provided that the interest return on the bonds be equal to the interest rate on current church loans (currently 13 1/2 percent with three points discount). The HMB loans division would not buy more than \$100,000 in bonds from any single church.

When the division's investment in church bonds reaches the \$600,000 level, the bonds would be offered for sale to the general Baptist public at face value.

In other actions, the directors elected Richard W. Harmon, curriculum development coordinator for the SBC Sunday School Board's Sunday School department, as assistant director for American Christianity in the interfaith witness department, effective Dec. 7. Harmon will succeed C. Brownlow Hastings, who is retiring as assistant director for Roman Catholics and Orthodox after 10 years on the staff.

Phillip B. Jones, formerly planning researcher, was promoted to associate director of the research division; and Michael D. Robertson, assistant director, was promoted to associate director of the special mission ministries department.

Directors also voted to consider helping financially sponsor a Bold Mission — New Orleans evangelistic effort before the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans, June 15-17, 1982, adopted resolutions expressing appreciation for two staff members who died last summer and seven who retired, and presented service pins to 23 employees who have served 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 years, representing 370 years of service to the board.

Three employees received 30-year pins: W. Wendell Belew, director of the missions ministries division; Peter Chen, associate in the interfaith witness department; and Ella Keller, secretary in the promotion department.

Mrs. Hubert Terry dies in Robbins

Mary Elizabeth Terry, wife of Robbins' First Baptist Church Pastor Hubert Terry, died Oct. 23 as a result of a massive brain hemorrhage.

Mrs. Terry, 39, was a native of Robbins. She is survived by her husband, two daughters, a son, and two grandchildren.

EDITORIAL

The significance of God's mercy

The Bible relates many of the wonderful attributes of God. He is perfect, holy, righteous, good, just, faithful, long-suffering, loving, and merciful.

In our human minds, it is impossible to grasp the full meaning of these significant words. However, our experiences and our Scriptural studies will at least provide a glimpse of the glorious nature of God.

Perhaps there is no greater passage on the mercy of God than that found in Lamentations 3. The Prophet Jeremiah had sought to proclaim God's warnings to Israel, but instead of receiving the honor due God's spokesman, he suffered ridicule, threats, and imprisonment.

In the early verses of this chapter, Jeremiah believes he has even been forsaken by God. Then the tone of this passage completely changes when the depressed prophet recalls the mercies of God.

Jeremiah recognized that regardless of the problems of life, he can have hope because of God's mercy (Lamentations 3:21). A person must have hope in the

face of crucial circumstances, and this hope springs in the heart of a believer in a merciful God.

God's mercy also preserves us. "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed" (3:22a). Not only are we able to withstand our enemies, but also God's mercy protects us from the wrath and judgment of God. A sinless God has every right to destroy us because of our sin, but His mercy allows us to live and have the opportunity to repent and believe.

Jeremiah noted that God's mercy is dependable; they "fail not" (3:22b). God is not fickle. Anytime we need His mercies, we can always depend on their availability.

Another characteristic of God's mercies is that they are never depleted. Jeremiah reminds us "They are new every morning" (3:23). This means that no matter how much of God's mercy you must use today, His cup of mercy is full to the brim for whatever tomorrow may bring. God's mercy is never less than full and complete.

The Apostle Paul also recognized the significance of God's mercy. In the early chapters of Romans he discusses the theological implications of God's wrath, mankind's sinfulness, salvation's necessity, God's supreme love, and then he comes to the "therefore" of chapter 12. Paul pleads with us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God — and the basis of that plea is the mercies of God (Romans 12:1).

Yes, we have a merciful God. For this, we can be grateful. And as children of God, we must heed Jesus' command, "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful" (Luke 6:36).

THEY GROW AROUND A DISREGARDED BIBLE



CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 83,295

Alvin C. Shackelford, Editor

Charlie Warren
Associate Editor

Steve Higdon
Assistant Editor

Eura Lannom
Advertising, Subscriptions

Martha Buster
Production Assistant

**Baptist
and
Reflector**

Established 1835
Post Office Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027
Telephone: (615) 373-2255

Published weekly except New Year's week by the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention at Brentwood, Tennessee 37027. Subscription prices: \$4.60 individual; clubs of ten or more, \$43.30; church budget, 7.1¢ per family per week when sent to 50 percent or more of church homes. Second class postage paid at Brentwood, Tennessee, and at additional mailing offices.

Space forbids printing of resolutions and obituaries. Advertising rates on request.

Member of Baptist Press (BP) news service of the Southern Baptist Convention.

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention
Tom Madden, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Charles D. Earl, chairman; Roy Miller, vice-chairman; Harold Allen, Raymond Boston, Stanley Brumfield, E.E. Carrier, C. Ed Harris, James Hatley, Fred Kendall II, John Laida, Murphy Martin, Rudy Newby, Donald Pharris, Dennis Pulley, Jerry Songer, Fred Steelman, Matt Tomlin, and Osta Underwood.

Cicero's comment



By the editor

"Cicero, I'm calling you on one of my eight telephones to let you know that I have discovered my spiritual gift," announced my caller who identified herself as Barb Tung.

Between the time that I said "hello" and six minutes later when Barb paused to take a breath, Cicero learned that my caller had been troubled for years about what was her "gift."

"All my life I heard pastors preach about talents — you know: five, two, and one become 10, four, and none. I have been admonished time and time again to discover and to develop my God-given talent," she continued. "But I did not know what my talent was, UNTIL..."

She paused, overcome by emotion, giving me an opportunity to ask, "Until?"

She resumed our one-sided dialogue, "Until last Sunday when our pastor, Frank Lee Blount, preached about a church being the body of Christ. Using 1 Corinthians 12, our pastor noted that we are members of a church, just like there were members or parts of a body."

I tried to interrupt to note that I was familiar with that passage, but Barb blazed on.

"Right there in the service, it dawned on me that the part of a body that is my best talent is my tongue."

"You're the tongue of the body of Christ?" Cicero inquired.

"Why not?" Barb Tung asked. And not waiting for my answer, she prattled on, "I don't mind telling anyone off — in fact, I enjoy it! I will gladly tell everything I know — and even some things I have only heard about — and even a few things I just imagine."

Hearing of this commitment to tell all, Cicero was afraid to say anything but "Oh."

Barb hurriedly added that as a lifelong Baptist, she felt the use of her talent fulfilled one of the tenets of Baptists. "I am very strong on the Baptist principle that the people have a right to know," she avowed.

With no encouragement and a short pause for breath, she rattled on. "My talent was apparent very early in my life. At the age of six months when most children are merely saying 'DaDa,' I was saying 'DADA, isn't that lipstick on your collar?'"

She noted that in elementary school she always got an "F" in deportment, under the section "talks incessantly." As a high school senior, she was voted "most talkative" by her classmates.

Barb said that in order to make the best use of her talent, she has put a telephone in every room of the house — including both bathrooms and the hall closet. "I understand that Christians are to use the talents at all times. Why, I even talk in my sleep!"

"But," Cicero interrupted, "aren't spiritual gifts supposed to help other people? How will your 'gift of gab' aid others?"

Barb Tung seemed somewhat disturbed at my question. "I will be performing a great spiritual service by relieving the rest of the congregation from the temptation to gossip — since I will be doing it first and best!"

GUEST EDITORIAL

Small retirement benefits

By C.R. Daley, editor

"Western Recorder," Middletown, Ky.

Why is the retirement outlook for so many Baptist ministers so bleak?

Earlier retirement plans offered to churches and ministers were designed for an economy unlike that of today. A large majority of churches and pastors did not take advantage of any plan and those who got into a plan failed to upgrade their plan as the economy changed.

The Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention was chartered in 1918. Its first plans, however, were not widely accepted. The first somewhat effective plan came in 1938 when state Baptist conventions began to take part. This plan called for small annual payments into a retirement fund over a period of 25 years in order to have a retirement income of \$2,000 a year. The maximum salary on which contributions were made was \$4,000 which was a high salary for pastors in 1938.

Though this salary base for retirement benefits soon became woefully inadequate, somehow the \$4,000 figure became fixed in the minds of many and when salaries exceeded \$4,000, the payments into annuity were only on the first \$4,000. Consequently, more than half of the churches and pastors participating in the plan today are doing so on this \$4,000 salary basis.

This explains why Southern Baptist annuities are so small. A minister participating on this basis for 25 years can expect only \$2,000 annual retirement pay or \$166 a month. That won't pay the medical bills for some retirees to say nothing of housing, utilities, food, etc.

The Annuity Board has been fully aware of the inadequacy of these early plans and have closed them to offer better plans. Presently the recommendation is for churches to contribute to retirement plans at least 10 percent of the total salary of every staff member. Even this figure is rapidly becoming inadequate though most churches have not arrived at the 10 percent figure.

One of the main reasons retired Baptist ministers' annuities are so low is that they are based on the actual contributions paid into the plan. Old Plan A called for a total payment of only \$50 a month from the minister, the church, and the denomination. One puts little in, one gets little back.

The Annuity Board is dedicated to offering churches and ministers a more adequate plan. Let us hope churches will be ready to take advantage of such a plan.

A personal viewpoint

Prayer victory in Korea

By Charlie Warren

Worn out cliches concerning prayer hang in our homes and churches. "Prayer changes things." "The family that prays together stays together." "Seven days without prayer makes one weak."

While many of us talk about prayer, few of us ever unleash the full power of it.

I'm convinced the success of the Nashville Baptist Association's evangelistic project in Korea (see Baptist and Reflector, Oct. 21, page one) is the result of the unleashed power of prayer.

For Korean Baptists, the concept of prayer does not hang on the walls. It permeates the Christian walk. They gather at 5 a.m. in their churches each morning to begin the day in conversation with God. Not only do they thank God before each meal, they also pause to pray each time they enter their sanctuaries, their homes, or even Baptist committee meetings. Several of the 54 Korean churches that participated in the recent crusade had held all night prayer meetings in preparation, boldly claiming the limitless power of God.

Korean Baptists were not surprised when almost 3,000 of their countrymen responded to the gospel of Jesus Christ. They had already claimed the victory.

As a participant in the effort, I saw the power of prayer firsthand. After the first morning of sharing the gospel through personal evangelism, I had not seen anyone respond to the good news. Other teams that went out from the Yong Ahn Baptist Church, Pusan, were rejoicing over the spiritual decisions they had seen. I rejoiced with them, but quietly wondered if I was spiritually inadequate for the task. I had been praying about the project for weeks, but perhaps my prayers were too superficial.

After lunch, we divided into new teams. I still had the same Korean interpreter, but I had two new "deaconsesses" from the Pusan church. During the first visit, I noticed one of the deaconsesses was silently praying the entire time we were presenting the gospel. I should not have been surprised when the woman we were visiting responded and invited Jesus Christ into her life.

Reflecting, I remembered that the Korean deaconess had accompanied one of the more "successful" teams that morning.

Throughout the afternoon, I observed that woman of prayer. Each home we went into, she would greet the people warmly, then begin praying as the gospel was being presented. Five adults, three of them men, responded that afternoon as we visited, each receiving Christ as their Saviour.

As the week continued, I noticed the "success" of whichever team that deaconess accompanied. God was answering that woman's prayers.

The trip to Korea included other evidences of the power of prayer. Peggy Reams of Franklin, a member of Harpeth Heights Baptist Church, Nashville, said she had been thinking about how good it would be if one of the 76 Americans involved in the project could stay in the hotel one day to pray for the others as they visited. That afternoon, she fell and sprained her ankle. When the doctor told her she would have to stay off of it the next day, she knew exactly how she would spend the day.

As the 56 Americans involved in Pusan gathered for breakfast the next morning,



MEDITATION — Hwang Man Kee, Korean interpreter for American evangelistic team members, prays silently before a worship service.

Mrs. Reams asked them to write out some prayer requests for her so she could pray specifically. During the next few days, several of the volunteers told Mrs. Reams about ways her prayers had been answered.

Among the items on the request sheet I gave her, I mentioned the exact hours that I would be involved in personal evangelism. The next day, I reported to her about one of the encounters I had experienced while she was praying.

The Korean deaconsesses took me to a shop to witness to the shopkeeper. When we went in, we found five adult men chatting informally. Boldly the deaconsesses asked them if they wanted to hear the gospel. One man already was a believer. The others agreed to listen.

Influenced by my American culture, I began to doubt that four lost men could listen to the gospel without at least one expressing cynicism. I prayed a quick silent prayer asking for the power of the Holy Spirit.

To my surprise, the men not only listened, all four prayed to receive Christ.

The other 75 Americans experienced similar encounters in which Koreans were not only open, but hungry for the gospel. There are many explanations, but I believe prayer is the primary factor.

Carl Duck, executive director of the Nashville Baptist Association and organizer of the group of volunteers who went to Korea, told a group of Korean Baptist leaders, "You have taught us how to pray. You have taught us how to be bold in our witness."

The disciples asked Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray." My request for Tennessee Baptists is "Lord, teach us to pray as the Korean Christians pray."

New Hope pastor dies

Allen Gibson, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Rogersville, died recently from an apparent heart attack.

Gibson was pastor of the church for the past 12 years. Previously he was pastor of churches in West Virginia and east Tennessee.

Gibson is survived by his widow, Helen, two sons, and two daughters.

Two churches join Alpha association

Alpha Baptist Association granted membership to two churches during its annual meeting, held at Fairfield Baptist Church, Centerville.

East Hickman Baptist Church of Lyles and Lick Creek Baptist Church of Linden were voted into fellowship with the association at the Oct. 15 meeting. Jack Taylor and Tommy Gerald, respectively, are the pastors of the churches.

In other business, messengers to the meeting elected Mrs. Jerry McDonal, wife of the pastor of Hohenwald's New Hope Baptist Church, as associational clerk. Moderator J. Arnold Porter, pastor of First Baptist Church in Centerville; Vice-moderator Ben Wood, pastor of Tom's Creek Baptist Church in Linden; and Treasurer James Cook, a member of First Baptist Church in Hohenwald, were re-elected for the 1981-82 term.

According to Director of Missions Charles Livengood, Camp Linden was chosen as the site of the Oct. 21, 1982, meeting. First Baptist Church of Linden will be the host church.

Beech River group re-elects leaders

Officers of the Beech River Baptist Association were elected to new terms during the association's annual meeting Oct. 12-13, at First Baptist Church, Perryville.

Re-elected were Moderator Donald Franks, pastor of First Baptist Church in Decaturville; Vice-moderator David Walker, pastor of the host church; Treasurer Ruth Carrington, a member of First Baptist Church in Parsons; and Clerk Lauren Locke, pastor of Mount Ararat Baptist Church, Darden.

Messengers to the associational meeting voted to dedicate the printed minutes of the session to Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie H. Rogers of Henderson. Rogers has attended each of Beech River's annual meetings for 50 years.

The association also gave special recognition to its host church, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

According to Mitchell Bennett, Beech River director of missions, the next meeting of the association is scheduled for Oct. 18-19, 1982, at First Baptist Church, Saltillo.

Stewardship Commission elects woman, makes other staff shifts

NASHVILLE (BP) — Barbara Conner, a 15-year employee of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission, has been elected to the commission's professional staff.

"This is a first for us," said A.R. Fagan, the commission's executive director-treasurer. "We have never had a woman in a professional staff position in this agency."

Mrs. Conner was named publishing supervisor, replacing Paul M. Darden, who resigned.

The selection was one of three staff shifts in the agency. Harry G. Bonner, who recently joined the staff in the endowment capital giving division, was elected assistant executive director-treasurer, and Charles D. Vanderslice, a consultant in the Together We Build program for three years, was named special consultant for institutional fund raising.

Mrs. Conner has been a secretary and editor with the commission. She is a

Personal perspective

By TOM MADDEN
TBC executive secretary

"Every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire." Someone has said for every new book you read you ought to re-read an old book. Recently I was reading an old book again and came across some qualities of fire. I felt the thoughts might be worth sharing.

Fire reveals. A room may be engulfed in darkness, but when a fire is started, faces and furniture are soon illuminated. We pray, "Set my soul afire Lord," and when God does, sin is revealed and God's will and God's glory are revealed.

Fire purifies. Water may cleanse the outside of metal, but if there are impurities within, it takes fire to refine and purify.

Fire consumes. The Word of God in Ezekiel speaks of a fire of judgment that will consume the filth and dross of Jerusalem. The apostle Paul wrote that some are saved as by fire. I remember the late Evangelist Charlie Matthews stating that this meant the superstructure was burned away and only the foundation remained. He went on to say, "Some will get into heaven, but only by the skin of their teeth."

Fire may warm and bless. The presence of God warms and blesses a life. A church warmed and blessed by God's Holy Spirit and glowing with God's love and truth will be used mightily by God.

Fire imparts energy. I have read that given fire, you can generate almost any form or force of energy. We do know that when fire fell on the disciples at Pentecost, they had great spiritual power.

Fire spreads. Not long ago I saw a picture of a forest fire spreading rapidly and a large number of men were trying to contain it. I grew up in Oklahoma, and one of the things we dreaded most was a prairie fire, because it could spread so rapidly.

Spiritual fire can spread rapidly, too.



Madden

native of Tulsa, Okla.

In her new responsibilities, she will be responsible for the editing, design, printing, and distribution of all materials produced by the commission.

Bonner, who was executive director-treasurer of the Northwest Baptist Convention Foundation prior to joining the commission, will assist Fagan and will coordinate all meetings in the stewardship development process and in the development of new materials.

He is a native of Streetman, Tex., and a graduate of Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Vanderslice will work with all agencies and institutions in the SBC in his new responsibilities. He is a native of Dallas and a graduate of Southern Methodist University, Dallas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Southern Baptist pair leaves home for music

By Charles Willis

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (BP) — Two years ago, Lois and Ron Swafford gave away almost everything they owned, left behind family and friends, and took up an itinerant lifestyle to help small churches in the United States with music.

A self-taught vocal musician, Swafford holds no degree in music, nor a seminary diploma. In fact, he spent his early adulthood as a traveling railroad employee and later as a macaroni salesman. But on weekends, he was part-time music director for several churches in Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas.

In 1972 he became full-time minister of music and youth at First Baptist Church, Smackover, Ark.

During his more than seven years there, he took the church's youth on annual missions trips. Through these experiences, the Swaffords started to feel the call to music missions.

Swafford recalls that many times the people in the churches they visited seemed so thrilled and spiritually moved by the music that he began to wonder, "How many churches are there that are hungry for music?"

An article in the *Arkansas Baptist* Newsmagazine about the Southern Baptist Convention's Mission Service Corps prompted Swafford to take action on his dream to start and improve music ministries for small churches.

Swafford was so sure of his calling, he bought a travel trailer for the task and took vacation time to meet with David Bunch, director of the Home Mission Board's Mission Service Corps in Atlanta. "Many churches are struggling through music programs," he told Bunch. "There are people in those congregations who can lead music. They just need training."

Armed with suggestions for gaining financial support for his proposed ministry, Swafford returned to Smackover to work out the details. In the summer of 1979, he resigned his church to become the first full-time Mission Service Corps music missionary for the Southern Baptist Convention.

About the same time, a concern for

music missions was also on the hearts of leaders in new work areas. In 1980, three state music secretaries attending church music leadership conferences at Glorieta issued an appeal for music missions work.

Wesley L. Forbis, secretary of the Sunday School Board's church music department, said that "out of that appeal grew a music liaison between the church music department and the Home Mission Board. We must never let the program of church music become more important than the purpose of church music. We need to help committed persons leave their churches to help other congregations."

Doing just that, the Swaffords took with them only what would fit in a furnished travel trailer and headed toward Skyway Baptist Church, Colorado Springs, Colo., where they worked for 13 months. In September 1980, their first "on the road" assignment took them to Yuma, Ariz.

From Arizona, the Swaffords moved in February 1981 to California to lead music clinics, train choir directors, and begin music programs. Swafford has done concerts in convalescent homes, schools, civic club banquets, churches, and on one occasion, sang at the funeral of a man he did not know because there was no one else who could sing.

In each church, Mrs. Swafford has volunteered to lead Bible studies, work in the media library, teach Sunday School, and be a secretary. In one church, she was the featured speaker for the World Day of Prayer.

While their many moves prohibit long-term friendships and result in occasional homesickness, the Swaffords say they have handled the situation well.

"Ron and I are each other's best friend," said Mrs. Swafford. "That's an



MUSIC MISSIONS — Ron Swafford leads choir members at Paradise Hills Baptist Church, San Diego, Calif. Lois Swafford (front row at left) participates in choirs at each church they serve and also volunteers for other leadership roles.

important consideration for couples who want to do this kind of work."

Swafford has observed one of the great needs is to "show the churches the excitement and importance of music to the life of the church. Music directors need to bring life to the church."

To that end, Swafford has conducted, on occasion, congregational singing 'rehearsals' to encourage enthusiastic

participation "to build the people up before the sermon."

He also sees spirited singing as a very real outreach tool. "Churches that praise the Lord through music make you want to be a part of that," he said.

"I can list scores of reasons why we cannot afford not to be here," he said. "I don't see how I can do what I'm doing, but I'm doing it!"

Range of pastors' salaries found by new BSSB survey

NASHVILLE (BP) — Salaries for Southern Baptist pastors range from \$5,200 to \$50,000, according to a study comparing salaries and benefits of church staff members.

The survey, made by the church ad-

ministration department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, details compensation for church staff members in churches with 300 or more members.

To make the survey, 1,030 churches were contacted, of which 635 (61.7 percent) responded.

The survey contains data pertaining to salary, housing, car, insurance, utilities, revivals, conferences, national conventions, and other benefits. Staff members surveyed include pastor, associate pastor, ministers of education, youth, and music, secretaries, maintenance personnel, and others.

In churches with membership of 300-399, the average salary for pastors, excluding benefits, is \$12,208, according to responses to questionnaires received by the research services department at the Sunday School Board.

For comparison, salaries for pastors in churches with membership of 400-499 average \$12,659. The top category in the survey was for churches with membership of more than 3,000, where the average pastor's salary is \$30,674.

There are eight categories in the survey.

A total compensation figure also is given for each staff person in each category, ranging from a \$21,170 average for pastors in churches with 300-399 members to an average of \$44,249 for pastors in the more than 3,000 members category.

The 1981 Church Staff Compensation Study is based on 1980 salaries of church staff members. The last compensation study was released in 1977.

Churches should consider the yearly inflation factor when planning future salaries and benefits, according to John Chandler, supervisor of the church staff section in the church administration department.

The study is available through the church administration department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, TN 37234, for \$2.

Union BSU 'haunts' for mission funds

JACKSON — Union University's Baptist Student Union (BSU) will sponsor a haunted house Oct. 26-31 to raise funds for summer missions.

Located near the campus, the house will be open each night, Monday through Saturday. Admission will be \$2 for adults and \$1.50 for those 14 years old and under, said BSU Director Larry Murphy.

Each year Union's BSU sets a goal to raise funds for summer mission work for the student department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention (TBC). About \$10,000 raised by the organization last academic year helped defray the expenses of college-age students sent by the TBC to summer mission stations across the nation and in several foreign countries.

Tennessee educators slate TBC banquet

The Tennessee Baptist Religious Education Association will hold its fall banquet during the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The banquet will be Nov. 9 at 6:00 p.m. at the Tennessee Baptist Building in Brentwood.

Grady Cothen, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, will speak to the educators on the subject, "Getting Back to the Basics."



NOMADS — Everything Lois and Ron Swafford own must be contained in their home, a travel trailer, and the truck that pulls it from one music mission opportunity to another.

Fireman sets church afire

MANDEVILLE, La. (BP) — Police arrested a volunteer fireman as others battled the church blaze he admitted setting.

Keith Frosch, 20, admitted setting fire to Mandeville's First Baptist Church Oct. 11. He also admitted setting several other fires in the community, because, said authorities, he liked to help put them out.

The church, recently appraised for \$250,000 and insured for \$120,000, was destroyed. New facilities, already under construction a mile and a half away when the fire occurred, will be completed early next year.

Just four hours after the fire, 180 persons were in Sunday School at the junior high school. "And one couple joined the church by letter during the worship service," said Pastor Jerry Poston.

No one was in the building when the fire was set about 5:30 a.m. Police said no one has been injured in the fires Frosch has admitted setting because he purposely set the fires at times when the buildings are unoccupied.

Large ripples of evangelism impact small Korean church

Significant evangelistic results are not limited to large churches with fancy buildings and big budgets, according to Carl Duck, executive director of the Nashville Baptist Association.

As "exhibit A," Duck points to the Kwe Jung Baptist Church in Pusan, Korea, where he and two other Tennessee Baptists worked for four days during the Nashville association's evangelistic project in Korea, Oct. 1-15.

The Kwe Jung Baptist Church, a 20-member church when the Americans arrived, is about two years old and meets in one room of an apartment building. During the four-day effort, 38 professions of faith were recorded.

If the 38 are baptized into church membership, and the Korean pastor is confident they will be, the church's membership will have almost tripled.

The pastor, Tak Hwang Yon, is well-organized and has a detailed plan for follow-up, according to Duck. Tak, who interpreted for Duck during revival services, speaks excellent English, Duck says.

Duck's team, including his wife and John Norvell, minister of music at Southside Baptist Church, Martin, spent

the mornings and afternoons visiting prospects and held services at night.

Even though the church was small, it was ready with interpreters for the three Americans and enough prospects to keep them busy. Attendance at the services improved each night until the room was "packed" on the final night, the team reported.

Illustrating the openness to the gospel among the Korean people, Duck told of one "chain reaction" as a result of a single visit.

Duck visited a Korean woman whose daughter had attended the church's kindergarten. As the gospel was presented, the woman opened her heart to Jesus. Then she called her sister who was in the next room and the gospel was presented a second time. The sister received Christ.

That night, the two women brought a young man to the service. He responded to the invitation and became a Christian. The next night, the young man returned, bringing a soldier friend of his. The soldier was converted.

"It was like dominoes," Duck said. "I've never seen such openness to the gospel."

Korean man's long wait ends as American tells of Jesus

By Charlie Warren

Roger Shelton stepped into the dimly lit room and sat on the bare linoleum floor. Following the Korean custom, the American pastor bowed his head and prayed silently.

Lifting his head, Shelton, pastor of Haywood Hills Baptist Church, Nashville, greeted the man who was already crouched in his usual place on the floor of his modest home.

"I have come to talk with you about Jesus Christ," Shelton said, pausing for his interpreter to translate the message into Korean.

Answering through the interpreter, the Korean man responded, "I know, I have been waiting for you for a long time."

Knowing that they previously had scheduled the appointment, the interpreter explained that they were not late. They were exactly on time.

"That's not what I meant," the Korean explained, staring intently at the American who had come into his humble

home. "My people are Buddhist and I have been Buddhist, but Buddha gives me no comfort."

Pointing to a Korean Bible in the opposite corner, the man explained he had gotten it two years ago and had read it through twice.

"It tells of a great one," the man continued. "I have waited for somebody to come and tell me about Him."

He expressed the belief that if the Bible was true, God would send someone to him. In recent months, however, he had become very ill. A creeping paralysis had claimed both legs and was threatening to take his life unless the doctors treating him could discover a cure.

Shelton, one of 76 Southern Baptists in Korea on an evangelistic project sponsored by the Nashville Baptist Association, presented the gospel to the man, communicating through the interpreter.

"The man readily believed and rejoiced," Shelton said. "He was ready."

As the visitors rose to leave, the man thanked them for coming.

His final words shook every fiber of Shelton's emotional being "You almost waited too long."

WMU names Kilner as products editor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala (BP)—Ann Kilner of Richmond, Va., has been named special products editor for Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Miss Kilner will edit coordinated products and coordinate planning of special projects for WMU's editorial department. She will also edit products for Acteens, WMU's missions organization for girls in grades 7 through 12. She replaces Pat Sullivan, who resigned.

A native of Eden, N.C., Miss Kilner is a graduate of Averett College in Danville, Va., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex. She has done additional graduate work at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond.

Before assuming her position Oct. 5, Miss Kilner was Acteens director for Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia.

Nashvillian speaks at Korean crusade

Gary Taylor, pastor of Dalewood Baptist Church, Nashville, was a guest speaker for the Seoul (Korea) Youth Evangelism Crusade, Oct. 15-17.

Taylor, in Korea to participate in an evangelism project sponsored by the Nashville Baptist Association, was invited to speak at the Thursday night session of the three-day crusade. Taylor reported that more than 1,000 youth attended the meeting in Seoul's Yong Won Soon Auditorium and 100 received Christ during the Thursday night invitation.

Danny Lee, pastor of the Seoul Memorial Baptist Church, interpreted for Taylor and was the featured speaker for the Friday and Saturday meetings.

FMB 'enlarges circle'

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Three changes in qualifications for foreign missionaries will "enlarge the circle" of Southern Baptists eligible for overseas service, especially in evangelism and church-starting assignments.

Adopted at the October meeting of the board, the changes include an extension of the maximum age limit for career missionary applicants from 39 to 45, and two modifications in the educational standards and experience requirements for career and associate candidates considered for evangelism assignments.

The result of a year-long task force study requested by board President R. Keith Parks, the new standards are designed to fill urgent requests from foreign fields. Sixty-five percent of the requests for 1981, which call for 1,700 new missionaries, seek evangelists and church developers. In recent years as many as nine out of 10 such requests have gone unmet.

"We asked ourselves, how do you take advantage of the skills and talents of Southern Baptists?" said William R. O'Brien, executive vice-president and chairman of the seven-member task force. "We searched for a framework for utilizing Southern Baptist energies to the fullest, without keeping some of our channels clogged by default."

According to O'Brien, the task force considered that the age limit extension for career appointment, from 39 to 45, would qualify many for a "second career" in foreign missions. Historically the board has not appointed career missionaries over 40 for several reasons. The cost of training, sending, and supporting missionaries provoked a search for younger candidates who could serve longer terms before retirement. Also, new missionary couples with children in high school often encounter severe family adjustment problems on foreign fields.

However, 40- to 45-year-old appointees could serve 20 or 25 years before retirement, a term that exceeds the current average tenure of missionaries on the field, the task force found, and it learned that a considerable number of couples in that age range have children who have

completed high school and left home.

A person with a master of religious education degree from an SBC-owned seminary and five years pastoral experience in a Southern Baptist church will now be considered for career appointment as an evangelist or church planter. Previous policy required a master of divinity degree in most cases for these assignments.

Persons 35 through 60, with at least 60 hours of college work plus an associate of divinity degree or diploma in theology from a Southern Baptist Convention-owned seminary and five or more years of experience as a Southern Baptist pastor, will be considered for employment as missionary associates in evangelism and church planting.

Also considered for associate assignments in those categories will be Southern Baptist pastors with at least five years of church experience and a college degree, plus appropriate study at a fully-accredited seminary.

The recommendations affecting the associate program (which employs candidates for renewable four-year terms) arose from analysis of Southern Baptists "where they are," said O'Brien.

"Research tells us that more than half of Southern Baptist pastors lack a full seminary degree," he said. "It would be tragic if we filter ourselves out of some of our best talent, when needs on the field are so urgent."

O'Brien also stressed the necessity for calling out qualified missionary candidates from Southern Baptists' rapidly growing ethnic membership, including blacks, Hispanic-Americans, and Orientals. Many successful pastors in Southern Baptist ethnic churches lack degrees from SBC-owned seminaries, he said.

"We're not lowering standards for missionaries," added Louis Cobbs, board personnel selection director. "We're enlarging the circle, the pool that we can draw from."

Cobbs noted that the new standards are minimal, and that many field requests call for additional training or experience.

TENNESSEE BAPTISTS'

Upper Volta Hunger Project

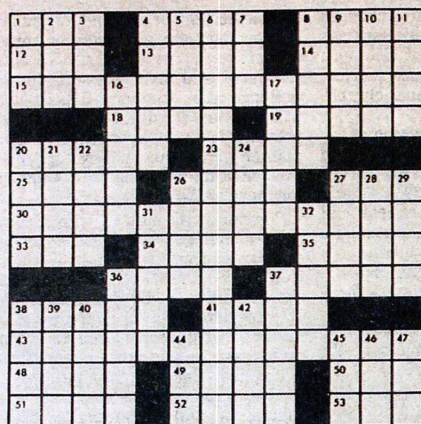


Tennessee Goal (1980-1983): \$500,000
Gifts (Nov. 1, 1980-Sept. 30, 1981): \$113,740.90

In order to be used for this project, gifts by individuals and churches must be designated "Upper Volta Hunger and Relief Project."

Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 10



ACROSS

- 1 Anointing agent (Mark 6:13)
- 4 Where the viper came from (Acts 28)
- 8 Zoar (Gen. 14:2)
- 12 Adept one
- 13 "voice of the angel" (1 Thess. 4:16)
- 14 Bible land (John 3:23; var.)
- 15 Do all to it (1 Cor. 10:31; 4 words)
- 18 In addition
- 19 Filmy
- 20 Field owner (Ruth 2; poss.)
- 23 Document
- 25 Otherwise

- 26 Son of Judah (Num. 26:19)
- 27 Singing insect
- 30 "for the ——" (1 Pet. 4:14)
- 33 Number
- 34 "and his — foot on the earth" (Rev. 10)
- 35 Bacteriologist's wire
- 36 Mineral waste
- 37 "— of Diamonds"
- 38 Strong
- 41 Byron poem
- 43 "— appeared" (Acts 7)
- 48 Luzon native
- 49 Malaysian sailboat
- 50 Repent

CRYPTOVERSE

W F Z A I J I U A U Z C H Z M R I C Z
J P X C F Q I C A C N H Q O C H F H A U Z R P
H C O N U H

Today's Cryptoverse clue: J equals M

- 51 Admiral or echelon
- 52 Sidon's neighbor (Mark 3:8)
- 53 Central American tree

DOWN

- 1 Cereal grain
- 2 Study of fish: abbr.
- 3 Opposite of windward
- 4 Place of the fire (Luke 22:55; pl.)
- 5 Love god
- 6 The hoary head (Prov. 16:31; 4 words)
- 7 Biblical pronoun
- 8 To suit
- 9 Timber trees
- 10 Made of blue (Ex. 26:4; sing.)
- 11 Amos' partner
- 16 Place (2 Sam. 5:25)
- 17 Being in debt
- 20 — gifts (1 Cor. 12:31)
- 21 Wine vessel
- 22 "— not unto death" (1 John 5:17)
- 24 Barge
- 26 Great Barrier Island
- 27 South African
- 28 Language of the Gaels
- 29 As a flame of fire (Rev. 19:12)
- 31 "no — his neighbour" (Rom 13:10)
- 32 Color or government
- 36 Sweetener
- 37 Debate
- 38 One differs from another (1 Cor. 15:41)
- 39 Biblical pronoun
- 40 Greek mountain
- 42 "And Peter followed — off" (Luke 22:54)
- 44 Department: abbr.
- 45 Unrefined metal
- 46 Chafe
- 47 Yeoman: abbr.

Interpretation

Light and darkness

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not" (John 1:5).

"Light" symbolizes good; "darkness" symbolizes evil. The writings of the Essenes, a Jewish ascetic sect of the first century, tell of constant war between the two. These writings were put in the Qumram caves in A.D. 70. So John reflects the thought pattern of the time. In Christ always was life (salvation life), and it always was the light of men (John 1:4). In John 1:7-9 "light" is identified with Christ.

"Shineth" means "keeps on shining" (present tense). "Comprehended" renders a word meaning to lay hold on and overcome or put it out. It means "never at any time" did darkness do this to light.

The figure is that of darkness chasing light as it does naturally around the

earth all the time — night chasing day. But it never catches it. In the darkest night, we can look for the dawn.

Of course, John uses this figure in a spiritual sense. Spiritual darkness seeks to extinguish spiritual light. But never at any time has it done this. And it never will! Satan ever seeks to overcome Christ. But Christ is ever victorious. It may seem that the evil one succeeds. At certain times in a 24-hour span we are surrounded by darkness. But as in the natural sphere so in the spiritual, "the sun (Son) is always shining somewhere."

Haywood expresses concern for TBCH

Haywood Baptist Association resolved Oct. 13 to make Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes' problems with the Internal Revenue Service a subject of prayer and concern.

The association adopted the resolution during its annual meeting held at Allen Baptist Church in Brownsville.

In other business, the association elected its slate of officers to serve for another year. Re-elected were Moderator Earl E. Wells, pastor of Poplar Corner Baptist Church in Brownsville; Vice-moderator Bennie Morrison and Treasurer J.T. Newsome, both members of Harmony Baptist Church, Whiteville; and Mrs. J.C. Williams, assistant treasurer/clerk, and Historian Robert Smith, members of Brownsville Baptist Church, Brownsville.

According to Gordon L. Priest, Haywood director of missions, the next meeting of the association is scheduled for Oct. 12, 1982, at Calvary Baptist Church, Brownsville.

Condee to lead McMinn-Meigs

Ernest Condee, pastor of Goodsprings Baptist Church, Etowah, was elected moderator of McMinn-Meigs Baptist Association at its annual meeting Oct. 15.

Other officers elected at the meeting, held at First Baptist Church of Athens and South Liberty Baptist Church in Riceville, were Vice-moderator Arnold Rogers, pastor of McMahan Calvary Baptist Church in Athens, and Treasurer Rufus Houser, a member of Athens' Central Baptist Church. Bea Gardner, a member of the Athens First Church, was re-elected as clerk.

In other business, the association accepted an application from Clear Springs Baptist Church, Calhoun, for membership. J.B. Crittenden is the church's pastor.

The 1982 session was scheduled for Oct. 12 at churches to be announced later. Ted E. Davis is the McMinn-Meigs director of missions.

Irish Baptists plan history of Union

BELFAST (EBPS) — Two years ago the Irish Baptist assembly called for "an authoritative and definitive" history, and invited Joshua Thompson, Union General secretary from 1952-76, to undertake the work.

As a post-graduate scholar at Oxford University, he now is doing research on Baptists in Ireland from 1650-1970. His account is to be published for the upcoming Union centenary.

Betty Thomas joins BSSB as consultant

NASHVILLE — Betty Thomas has been named a consultant in children's Sunday School work at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Miss Thomas formerly was minister of childhood education at South Main Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., for seven years. Earlier, she held similar positions at First Baptist Church, Nashville, and First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City.

She is a graduate of Texas Wesleyan College, Fort Worth, Tex., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, and Peabody College, Nashville.

To change or correct your address...

Attach in this space your address label from the front page of your latest copy of the **Baptist and Reflector**. Please print your new address in the space provided below — including your ZIP code.

When changing your address, please give two weeks' advance notice.

Please send this information in written form, to insure accuracy.

All correspondence relating to your subscription should be accompanied by your address label from the **Baptist and Reflector**. If a label is not available, please write the 12-digit code from the top of your label here:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Address all requests to:

Baptist and Reflector
Post Office Box 347
Brentwood, TN 37027

Name Please Print

Address

City

State Zip

Attention:
Belmont Alumni, Pastors,
Staff and Friends
JOIN US

T.B.C. ALUMNI BANQUET

Tuesday, November 10 (During Tennessee Baptist Convention)

Sheraton South (Trousdale and Harding Place off I-65 South)

5:00 p.m. (L & N Room)

\$5 per person

Speaker: Dr. Raymond Langlois (pastor of Judson Baptist)

Make reservations through the Alumni Office, Belmont College,
Nashville, TN 37203 or call 383-7001, extension 208-209.



TENNESSEE BAPTIST

Children's Homes

P. O. Box 347
BRENTWOOD
37027

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/TREASURER
EVANS B. BOWEN

The greatest problem in society today is not inflation, crime, unemployment, alcoholism or interest rates but the breakdown of the family. Satan knows what institution to destroy if he would destroy America. The homes of



EVANS B. BOWEN America are being threatened. Is the family really dying? Some believe it is.

One sign of death is the increasing divorce rate. America now leads the nations of the world in divorce. Approximately 40% of all marriages end in divorce. There are more than 12 million children under age 18 whose parents are divorced. About one million children are divorced. About one million children are divorced. About one million children are divorced.

Pregnancy out of wedlock is another indication of serious trouble. There are some 600,000 babies born out of wedlock and about 400,000 teen-agers who have abortions each year.

Another sign of death is violence in the family. One out of four U.S. families is violence prone. Child abuse has grown until it is the number one killer of children. One million children suffer the trauma of abuse and emotional hurt each year. Statistics show that more than 50% of all wives have been beaten at least once. Household violence is extremely damaging to children brought up in such circumstances.

I do not believe the family is dying. Yes, it is changing. One goal of the TBCH is to assist families in trouble. When a child must be separated from the home, we make every effort to maintain contact with that family. We involve the family in planning for the child and try to reunite that child with his family as soon as possible. God's plan is for people to live in a family. He created the family, and has preserved the family throughout history. Let us commit ourselves to strengthen and preserve family life in America.

FRANKLIN ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNER



Barbara Grizzle

TBCH MOVES TOWARD A SATELLITE HOME IN JOHNSON CITY



Left to right: Harry Butler, Howard Olive, Burl McMillan, Evans B. Bowen, Dean Doster, Vivian Cunningham.

On Tuesday, September 1, the Building Committee for East Tennessee Children's Homes met with the Executive Director-Treasurer and a Memphis architect, Harry L. Butler, in Johnson City to review blueprints and discuss plans for a Home which is to be constructed in Johnson City. The Home is to accommodate the needy and dependent children in the Upper East Tennessee area.

The Satellite Home is to be located on property purchased from University Parkway Baptist Church. The property is near both the church and the Halston Baptist Association offices. This is a choice residential area of Johnson City.

Bids for a contract price are now being secured. Plans are to begin construction this Fall.

SCENES FROM TBCH CAMPUS



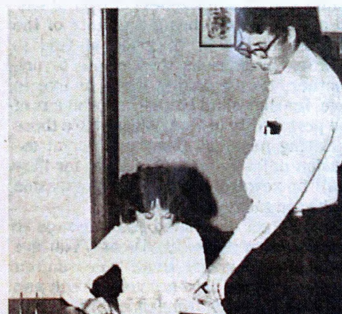
Helping with Chores



Just for Fun



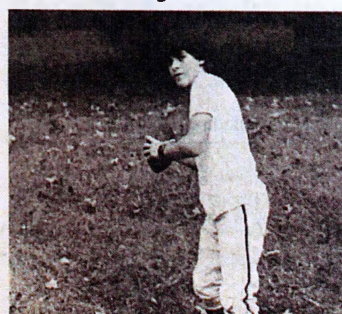
Getting Ready for School



Tutoring Children



Studying School Homework



Football Time Again

The pictures above are from the Chattanooga campus. These could easily be from any of the other campuses because they are typical of life at TBCH.

Every phase of life at TBCH is geared toward developing well-rounded children. There must be harmony and cooperation on campus among the children. There is the need for education and spiritual guidance. There must also be a time of relaxation and fun. The pictures indicate all of this as part of life at TBCH.

Tennessee Baptists can be proud of the facilities and program they provide to minister to children across our great state.

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes is a vital link in the chain of Christian Ministry for every cooperating Tennessee Baptist Church. Here are some reasons why this is true:



DEAN DOSTER

1. The Bible reveals the Gospel Truths upon which our Baptist Churches are founded.
2. Baptist beliefs from the Biblical perspective compel all Baptists to promote Evangelism, Christian Education, Missions, Benevolence, and many other Christian Ministries.
3. TBCH was founded for a benevolent ministry to needy children.
4. Tennessee Baptists have made TBCH THE MEANS whereby they minister to needy and dependent children.

Every Tennessee Baptist has a part in the ministry of TBCH. This is possible as we participate in Cooperative Program Giving, Mother's Day Offering Gifts, Individual Donations, and through Wills which share estates, etc.

The Prayers, Personal Concern, and Financial Support of God's people are the Foundation Stones upon which TBCH stands.

A hungry child, a rejected child, an abused child, an unloved child, an unwanted child, and on we can go describing the hurt that exists among society's children receiving a loving and caring ministry from Tennessee Baptists.

Tennessee Baptists — your ministry to children is vital!

We hope you will keep the staff of TBCH in your prayers as we help you minister to hundreds of needy and dependent children this new church year.

MEMORIAL GIFTS and HONOR GIFTS

MEMORIAL AND HONOR FORM—Please fill in and mail with your contribution

Date _____

Name of Deceased _____

Name of Honored _____

City and State _____

Letter of Acknowledgement to go to: _____

Full Name _____

Street Address _____

Donor is— _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City and State _____

Mail to:

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc.
P.O. Box 347
Brentwood, Tennessee 37027

BACKYARD BIBLE CLUB

The picture below was taken this summer during the Bible Study time at a Backyard Bible Club which met on Franklin Campus. The meeting was sponsored by one of the local churches in Nashville.

The children are learning Bible truths and stories that will help shape their lives. This is another of the many ways in which TBCH is seeking to meet the spiritual needs of the children.



BIBLE BOOK SERIES

Lesson for Nov. 1

The kingdom disciple

By Jerry Oakley, pastor
Springfield Baptist Church, SpringfieldBasic Passage: Matthew 5:1-16
Focal Passage: Matthew 5:1-16

The disciples were men chosen to be Jesus' fellow workers in a unique sense. They were to be His "called out" specially selected "messengers" to the rest of the world.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus entrusted them with the core and essence of their message.

Its content revealed to them without room for doubt that the first value of the kingdom was to be spiritual and its ultimate expression was to be material. It also revealed that for a person to be able to reflect the law of the King in his actions, he must first pledge his obedience to the King through humble submission of his will.

Jesus did not begin to instruct men about their actions in the material realm but stressed to them that character had to precede conduct. As one author states, "He says 'blessed' but never a single blessing does He pronounce upon having anything or doing anything; every blessing is pronounced upon being."

The strength of every nation is character. We have mistaken ideals of power which have become strangely mixed with trust in military strength. But do not be misled. The Psalmist writes, "Except the Lord build the house they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain" (Psalm 127:1). Jesus teaches that the basic person must be changed before his actions are altered. His blessings will come or be withheld as a result of the being he is because of his relationship to God. Individuals with strong character produce a nation with strength.

Matthew records that "when He was set" or when He sat down "His disciples came unto Him." When a Jewish rabbi was teaching officially, he sat down to teach. This discourse is of special significance since here He taught the charter of Christian life.

Jesus begins with the word "blessed." "Blessed" is best defined by our English word "happy" but it is more. The English word "happiness" contains the root "hap" which means "chance." Human happiness is dependent on the chances and changes of life.

Christian "blessedness" cannot be destroyed. It is recorded in John 16:22,

"I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you." Jesus enters a person's life and creates a character, which in turn, creates conditions which result in unquenchable happiness. It is a happiness based on the awareness of a perfect peace, a perfect joy, and a perfect rest given by God to the individual. God does not give happiness as a gift but creates a condition within the person that enables him to find happiness everywhere.

Jesus defines some attributes of the condition He creates within persons. Let us paraphrase them for the purpose of understanding.

"Blessed is the person who understands he is totally lacking the spiritual resources to meet life and is willing to be governed by God, for his legacy is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who, learning from their own experiences of sorrow, mourn with others who are facing sorrow and who sorrow over their own sins and the sins of others around them, for they shall be healed of their sorrow by the power of the Holy Spirit. Blessed are the people who approach life with controlled strength, for what they refused to conquer through aggression will be given them as a gift from God. Blessed is the man who is starving for all qualities of godliness, for he shall be totally content. Blessed are those who can so totally identify with another's condition that they understand and help, for they shall be so understood and helped.

"Blessed are the inwardly clean persons who live and serve with absolutely unmixed motives, for they shall see the fullness and completeness of God. Blessed are those who bring the unity of the purpose of the brotherhood of God to bear on persons as they relate to one another, thus enabling them to live in love, for they shall be seen as products of the personality of God. Blessed are those suffering physical abuse and social exclusion unjustly for God's sake, for they shall be rewarded with total possession of the kingdom of heaven."

Jesus then concluded His message to His disciples by telling them "You are salt" and "You are light." You do not possess salt and light but you are salt and light. It is only to the degree that a person is salt that he can preserve and enhance the quality of life in his world for God. It is only to the degree that a person is light, reflecting the light of God as the moon reflects the light of the sun, that he is able to dispel the darkness of sin.

God has called us to be, not to bear.

CHURCH PEW CUSHIONS

Padded seats or reversible cushions.
Foam filled, velvet or Herculon.
Call measurements collect for estimate.
Mrs. J. T. Lendrum, Owner
Telephone: 803-277-1658
CONSOLIDATED UPHOLSTERY
28 Dolphin St., Greenville, S.C. 29605

1982 WORLD'S FAIR

2 & 3 Bedroom apartments
with kitchens
(walking distance of fair)

Residences — 2 & 3 Bedrooms

ROBERTS WORLD TOURS

Rt. 5, Box 107
Seymour, TN 37865

WE at CHURCH DATA SERVICES, INC.

5591 Pleasant View Road
Memphis, Tennessee 38134
901/372-6967

with our concept of custom-designed
computer programming want to help

YOU of THE LOCAL CHURCH

keep more accurate membership and
financial records. Our computerized
applications include:

Membership Fund Accounting
Prospects Budgeting
Contributions Word Processing

We want you to have more time to minister
to the needs of

OTHERS in YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

See Us At The State Convention
RAMADA INN (HARDING PLACE).
NOVEMBER 9-12

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

Lesson for Nov. 1

Jesus prays for His church

By David J. Irby, chairman, department of religion and philosophy
Union University, Jackson

Basic Passage: John 17

Focal Passages: John 17:1-6, 20-26

During the closing hours of His ministry, Jesus has shown much concern about preparing His disciples for His departure from them. Chapters 13 through 17 of John's Gospel reflect that concern.

In these chapters, which have their setting on the last night of His ministry, Jesus is seen preparing His disciples by an example of service (footwashing) in chapter 13, by instruction concerning His leaving and sending the Spirit in chapters 14-16, and by prayer in chapter 17, the basic passage for this lesson.

The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke) have an account of Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night before His death. They record Jesus' prayers that His "cup" might be removed from Him, if possible. They also indicate that Jesus yielded to the Father's will about the matter in the words, "Not My will but Thine be done."

Only John's Gospel, however, contains the extended prayer of Jesus, which, for the most part, is a prayer for others rather than for Himself. This prayer in John 17 truly is the Lord's prayer, the high priestly prayer of Jesus. The well-known "Lord's Prayer" in Matthew 6 is actually a prayer for the disciples, a model prayer.

In this, the Lord's prayer recorded in John 17, Jesus petitions the Father concerning matters relating to Himself (17:1-5), and to His disciples (17:6-19). He also prays for future believers (17:20-26). Indeed, this is a prayer of Jesus for His church.

Jesus' prayer concerning Himself
(17:1-5)

In this remarkable petition, Jesus asks for one thing — that the Father might glorify Him in His (the Father's) presence. This will involve His sharing the glory He had with the Father prior to His incarnation (v. 5). His work on earth has now been accomplished (v. 4). He has given eternal life to all who believe by bringing them to a knowledge of God, which is eternal life (v. 2). This passage anticipates His finished work on the cross the next day and His return to the Father.

Jesus' prayer for His disciples (17:6-19)

Although this paragraph is not included in the focal passage, it is highly interesting. Here Jesus prays not for the world, but for those who are His disciples (v. 9). They have believed (v. 8), they have kept God's Word (v. 6), and Jesus has now sent them on a mission into the world (v. 18). Jesus prays not that they might be taken out of the world, but that the Father will keep them from the evil one (v. 15), and that they might be sanc-

tified in the truth (v. 17). Although the work of Jesus is now accomplished, it is clear that the work of His disciples is not.

Jesus' prayer for future believers
(17:20-26)

Future disciples are those who will believe through the witnessing of present disciples (v. 20). This is the Lord's plan for evangelism — Bold Missions — present disciples witnessing to potential believers. Jesus prays for their unity. Three times in verses 21-23, He prays that they might be one. This corporate witness of disciples who are "one" is the most effective witness for the Lord (v. 21). A divided church is ineffective in its witness.

Jesus prays for their unity, but He also prays that they may some day "be with Me where I am" (v. 24). The word, desire, in verse 24 means also "will." In this last request of Jesus, He "wills" that all believers join Him some day in the Father's house.

Actually, this verse is not a prayer. It is our Lord's last will and testament "for all His disciples." Who can doubt that it will come to pass, and that we all shall see Him in His glory some day, face to face (17:24, 1 Corinthians 13:12)?

Union to feature
Christianity, arts

JACKSON — Union University's Lyceum Committee is sponsoring a weeklong festival Nov. 2-6 to emphasize Christianity's contributions to the arts.

Entitled "Prophecies, Visions, and Dreams," the special emphasis will bring three noted speakers to the campus for free performances and lectures on the festival theme, said Jimmy Davis, Lyceum chairman. All programs are open to the public.

Appearing at Union will be Edward Carlos, professor in the fine arts department at the University of the South in Seawane, who will deliver a multi-media presentation; Dan McBride, a Baptist minister-humorist from Jacksonville, Fla.; and Thomas B. Woodward, an Episcopal priest-clown-mime artist, who serves as chaplain at the University of Wisconsin.

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

"Judge me, O God, and plead my cause
against an ungodly nation" (Psa. 43:1).

NOW AVAILABLE

Quality, Christian Video Tapes featuring:
Dr. Bruce Narramore on the Family,
Kathy Narramore on Friendship,
Dr. Charles Stanley on Deacon Ministry.
Write:
STONE MOUNTAIN EDUCATIONAL VIDEO CORP.
P.O. Box 374, Tucker, Georgia 30084

Fruitland Alumni Meeting

Annual Alumni Meeting of Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute, Henderson, N.C. will be held Nov. 5 at 9:50 a.m. Hear fine gospel preaching by various preachers. Keynote Speaker will be George Lockaby. Special music by Ballt Zeigler Family Singers.

LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Lesson for Nov. 1

God demands right living

By Gerald L. Stow, pastor
First Baptist Church, Cookeville

Basic Passage: Exodus 21-23

Focal Passages: Exodus 21:1-2; 22:21-25, 28-29; 23:1-3

Recently, I walked across a football field. The grass had been well cared for through the summer months. The yard lines had been mowed as well as the boundary lines. Soon these would be given a coat of lime just before the big game. Once the game got underway, these would serve to register the progress of each team and keep the game moving according to a predetermined plan.

I wondered what it would be like to have a game without the yard markers or boundary lines. How would we know who was winning or losing? Can you imagine the arguments such a situation would bring? I think we could call it "mob ball" in lieu of football if this happened.

Israel was little more than a mob coming out of Egypt. They were in deep need of guidance not only to get to the promised land but enroute as well. They needed to know how to get along with each other.

The source of God's demands for right living originates in the character of God Himself. A God who is holy demands holiness of His followers; a God who shows mercy expects us to be merciful; a God who is just anticipates our dealing justly with others.

The scope of the covenant deals with every vital aspect of life. It includes social concerns, physical and material relationships, and covers matters spiritual, moral, and judicial. The people of God could not be expected to come out of a bitter experience like the one in Egypt and automatically become a gracious, considerate, and compassionate people. They needed guidance and God gives them His set of demands for right living.

Acknowledging rights (21:1-2)

An Israelite could become a slave in one of three ways: to pay for a debt owed (Leviticus 25:29); as punishment for a crime (Exodus 22:3); or his parents could sell him out of their need for money (Nehemiah 5:2). The tenure of a slave was six years (Exodus 21:2). The covenant provided for him to be free on the seventh year without any further charge.

This is really a section dealing with

human dignity and human rights. Following the section on slavery are ordinances that deal with capital offenses (21:12-17), bodily injury (21:18-32), and property rights (21:33 to 22:15).

God was deeply concerned that His "peculiar people" that worshiped and served Him would live with each other in dignity and respect. He wanted other nations to note the high regard for the rights of the individual. He also wanted to go on reminding Israel that man was created to be free.

Often we forget how wonderful it is to be forgiven by God's amazing grace. But we are won to win another, taught to teach another, and forgiven to forgive others.

Sharing resources (22:21-25, 28-29)

God has always been for the underprivileged. He has always defended the poor, the widow, and the orphan. For the stranger or foreigner in the midst of the Israelites, He offered a special care and concern.

I remember a young man growing up in our community from a broken home. His mother had been deserted by the husband-father when he and his sister were very young. He could not remember his father. One day he expressed the loneliness this brought into his life. I turned in the Scripture and found Psalms 10:14, 65:5, and Proverbs 23:10-11. When I pointed out to him that God has assumed the responsibility for him and that "He was mighty," he experienced a new found joy.

God demands that we share what we have with others and failure to do so invites His judgment upon us.

Guarding relationships (23:1-3)

The final issue deals with human relationships. It is a divine call to treat other people right in their presence and in their absence. There are basically five principles laid down by God in these verses.

1. They were warned concerning the giving of false reports. How damaging such reports would be then and still are today (v. 1).

2. Collaborating with others in spreading false reports is also disallowed (v. 1).

3. Companionship with the wrong crowd that is set on doing wrong is prohibited (v. 8).

4. They were also warned about taking sides and, in so doing, altering the outcome of a situation unjustly (v. 2).

5. The decree here applied to the poor.

Even though a man was poor, he was to be treated justly like any other. A system that favors the rich or the poor is not just.

The Israelites could boast that no people were blessed like they were because their God had given them a set of standards. How we need to delight ourselves in His standards today. God still blesses those who will live right.

HOMECOMING — November 1, 1981 Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson

Paul Clark, Pastor

• Last Homecoming Service at Present Location

★ 9:30 a.m. — Sunday School

★ 10:45 a.m. — Worship Service

★ 12:00 noon — Basket Lunch

★ 1:30 p.m. — HOMECOMING SERVICE

Speaker: John Gilbert,
Former Pastor

TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION

Radnor Baptist Church, Nashville

November 9-12, 1981

SPECIAL CONVENTION RATES Will Be Honored NOVEMBER 8-15, 1981

★ FREE LOCAL CALLS

★ FREE PARKING

★ EASY ACCESS

TYPE OF ACCOMMODATIONS

NUMBER OF ROOMS

One Person, One Bed \$28.00

Two Persons, One Bed \$33.00

Two Persons, Two Beds \$38.00

NAME

ARRIVAL DATE

DEPARTURE DATE

ADDRESS

If you plan to arrive after 6 PM, please guarantee your reservation with your Credit Card Number

CALL OR MAIL TO:



**Sheraton-
Nashville Hotel**

SHERATON HOTELS & INNS, WORLDWIDE
920 BROADWAY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37203

615/244-0150

Every home should subscribe to at least one international publication.

Baptist work around the world is the direct result of your gifts. You need to know how that money is spent.

Here is an opportunity for you to receive the monthly update on what Baptist activities are accomplishing in 95 countries around the world.

Subscribe to The Commission magazine for one year by sending \$5.00 with this coupon to:

The Commission, Dept. TNO4
Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23230.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Ask your pastor about special group rates through the church subscription plan.

Winebarger
CHURCH FURNITURE
AND STAINED GLASS
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24502

- CHANCEL FURNITURE
- CHAIRS • PEWS
- CUSHIONS

Area Representative
DON SOWDER
115 Hardaway Drive
Goodlettsville, Tenn. 37072
615/865-1070
Call Toll Free 800-446-0945

The Commission

Focus on Transference
Meet Editor
Meet the
Delegates
making crops
and churches

From private
eye to pastor
Is your
Local's
Courageous
help?

Plus
A letter to
Lyle Allen
Changes in
Quarter Year
the challenge
of being single

AND MORE

Find out the story and what's going on

FMB president's son finds his own mission

By Erich Bridges

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — One of the 33 newly appointed missionaries challenged by Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks Oct. 13 was his own son Randall.

Randall Parks and his wife, Nancy, will go to Egypt, whose government only this year granted permission for Southern Baptist fraternal representatives to live in the country and work with Egyptian Baptists.

For the younger Parks, hearing his father's challenge was a homecoming of sorts. He was coming home to missions.

"I grew up a preacher's kid, a missionary kid," he says. "But I've always been kind of independent. I didn't want to follow in my father's footsteps."

The eldest of four Parks children, he divided his youth between Texas and Indonesia, where his parents were missionaries. He committed his life to Christ in an Indonesian church, and felt the personal draw of missions. But adolescence brought questions, self-doubt, the intense desire to find an individual identity and destiny.

After finishing high school in Richmond, he went with his family to Singapore — where his father was based for a year as Southeast Asia area director — and attended the University of Singapore. Then he signed on an oil tanker for a series of cruises spanning the Orient and Middle East.

"When we took off for the Persian Gulf, that was it; there was no getting off," Parks remembers. "But it was good for me. Nobody knew or cared who I was. I was on my own and I made it."

Back in Texas for college study, he grappled with a sense of call to the ministry. "I struggled with it intensely," Parks says, "partially because of a sense of inadequacy and partially because my father was a preacher. Gradually, though, I came to the point that I was able to accept my own uniqueness as a person and a minister."

He met Nancy Halbert after entering Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. Despite a youth spent in one place, she had waged the same inner war as he, sensing an early call to commitment in church mission



FINDING THEIR CALLING — She grew up on a quiet street in Fort Worth, Tex. He traveled often across the Pacific as the son of missionaries. But Nancy and Randall Parks found their calling to be the same — ministry overseas.

organizations, but struggling to escape it.

"I got away from the Lord in college," she recalls. "I wanted to teach, but I got wrapped up in it as a career." Teaching Mexican immigrant children and Indochinese refugees in the Fort Worth area, however, revealed education as a ministry and the human needs of other cultures.

"I love teaching these kids," she said. "I feel that this is where my talents lie. But I also realize that my call is to be a Christian witness."

After a "whirlwind courtship," as she describes it, the pair married in 1977. That year Parks also became pastor of Red Springs Baptist Church in west Texas, the same small congregation his father led before appointment as a missionary. Last July a new member of the family, Jennifer Lee, arrived.

The Parkses enjoy challenges, and they'll find all they can handle in post-Sadat Egypt. Working with two other Southern Baptist couples assigned to the country, they hope to assist Egyptian Baptists in pastoral training, religious education, and other support ministries. Nancy may teach English in a university or secondary school.

"It took a long time for me to find out where the Lord was leading me, but I did," Parks said. "I've realized that world missions has never been an option for me. That's the challenge for us."

Assignment to Egypt, and a tight hand-clasp from his father, confirmed that decision.

Devotional

What is heaven like?

By Steve R. Murphree

I suppose the word "heaven" is one of the dearest words in the English vocabulary. Just the mention of it brings to one's mind some sense of peace and tranquility.

When I think of heaven, I am reminded of Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 2:9, "This is what is meant by the Scriptures which say that no mere man has ever seen or even imagined what wonderful things God has ready for those who love the Lord" (TLB).

Certainly, this must be true. Our imaginations are limited as to the things God has for us if we know Jesus Christ as our Saviour. Jesus said He would prepare a place for us. We know that place as heaven.

What is heaven like? John in the Revelation tells us that it is a light without darkness. Recently, we had a power outage, and we were without lights for several hours. In heaven we will not have to worry about the darkness for the presence of Jesus Christ will be our light.

Heaven will be singing without crying. God will get rid of all our tears and the hurts that cause these tears. There will be nothing to cry about in heaven.

Heaven will be a place where we will be satisfied without hunger. People hunger for so many things, not only for food, but for material things. In heaven we will be completely satisfied.

Then, heaven is where we will see Jesus. I hope to be reunited with my grandparents in heaven. I want to talk to Moses and Jeremiah and Matthew and Timothy. I want to know who really wrote The Epistle to the Hebrews.

There is an old song that talks about heaven and its glory and beauty. The chorus has these words, "But most of all, I want to see Jesus, more than anything." That is my desire. I want to see Jesus most of all, for it was His death that made it possible for you and me to have our sins forgiven and to have an abundant life here and eternal life hereafter.

—Murphree is pastor of Mt. Hermon Baptist Church, Clarksville.

First missionary-in-residence begins service at Carson-Newman

JEFFERSON CITY — Buck Donaldson is excited about his class of 10 Carson-Newman students. The Louisiana native — converted east Tennessean, who has served the foreign mission field for 22 years, is the college's first missionary-in-residence.

In cooperation with Jefferson County Baptists, Carson-Newman is participating in a Foreign Mission Board program which stations missionaries on furlough at college campuses.

Donaldson commutes several times a week to the Jefferson City campus from his current Knoxville residence to instruct a "History of Missions" class, work with the college's Mission Focus organization, counsel students planning missions vocations, and bring a general awareness of missions to the academic environment.

The overall purpose of the program, say its originators, William Blevins, professor of religion and department coordinator, and Don Mitchell, director of church relations, is to bring practical first-hand missions experience to the classroom.

Donaldson chuckles at his new title, professor of missions, "I've been so many things!" In his service to Tanzania, Nigeria, and Kenya, he has tackled responsibilities including working as a hospital administrator, a principal of a preachers' school, and a Good Will Center director.

The evangelical missionary and his wife, Barbara Hasty Donaldson, form an unusual team unlike any others in their area of the mission field. Most missionary wives, Donaldson explains, have "missionary to home and church" responsibilities, whereas a missionary preacher and doctor (husband and wife) creates duo-responsibilities.

Despite the load of work which he described as often "tilting the scales," the Donaldsons "enjoy working and laughing with their African friends" and look forward to returning to Kenya.

Meanwhile, Donaldson says he has a lot to rediscover about the college environment. "I find their interest (the pupils) very encouraging."

In teaching the course, he feels he brings his interest in Christian history plus "22 years of experience in dealing with the practice and principles of sharing the gospel" to the classroom setting.

"Here at Carson-Newman," expresses President Cordell Maddox, "we are vitally interested in presenting missions to our students. We are delighted that Buck Donaldson will spend this year on our campus, not only teaching missions, but also sharing his personal experiences as a missionary. It is our hope that the new missionary-in-residence program will broaden the mission emphasis to our students."

Although Donaldson commutes from Knoxville, the college plans for next year's missionary-in-residence to live in specially prepared, nearby housing. Furnishings for the house and transportation for the missionary will be made possible by Jefferson County Baptists.

Church picks CP over comfort

OXFORD, Ala. (BP) — An Alabama church, faced with fixing their air conditioner or catching up with mission gifts, picked missions.

In June 1980 the air conditioner in First Baptist Church, Oxford, Ala., went out. The church was \$5,600 behind its budget receipts and \$8,200 behind in what it had planned to give to missions through the Cooperative Program.

In a business meeting, members decided not to borrow money for an air conditioner unless they also were committed to catch up in mission gifts. A member offered to loan \$12,000 interest free for the air conditioner, if the church would commit to borrowing the Cooperative Program money if it had not caught up by December.

"That short, hot summer drew our people together around the Cooperative Program as our commitment to Christ rather than comfort," Pastor Buddy Nelson explained. "We didn't suffer a drop in attendance and budget receipts increased 23 percent above the previous year."

It didn't take long for the church to reap the benefits of the commitment. Within three months from the time they purchased a new air conditioner, the unit was paid for in increased giving by the membership. Gifts to missions through the Cooperative Program are also up to date.