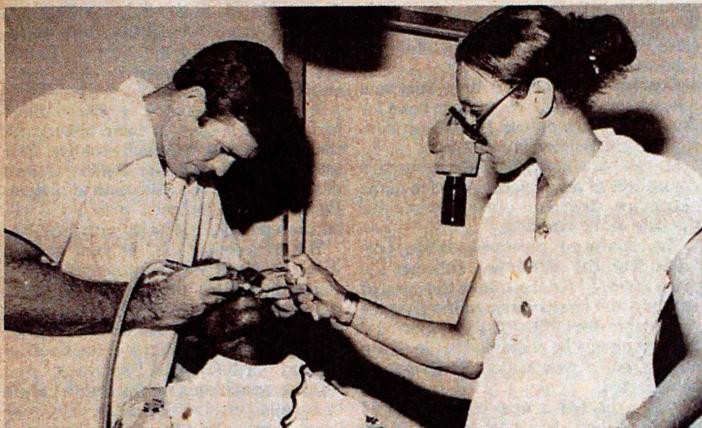


Baptist and Reflector

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News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention



TENNESSEE MISSIONARY — During the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, Nov. 29-Dec. 6, Southern Baptists will pray for missionaries such as Carter Davis of Knoxville. A dentist, Davis serves in St. George's, Grenada, with his wife, the former Charlotte Jones of Nashville.

Week of prayer begins Sunday

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.— "How Shall They Hear?" is the urgent appeal to Christians to expedite the spreading of the gospel.

From Nov. 29 through Dec. 6, Southern Baptists will again ponder the question, "How Shall They Hear?" Taken from Romans 10:14, it is this year's theme for the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions.

During the eight-day observance, Southern Baptists will pray for about 3,000 missionaries under appointment by the Foreign Mission Board in 95 countries. Through sermons, dramas, concerts, and banquets, millions throughout the convention will reflect on the responsibility they bear in worldwide evangelism.

After prayer and study, Baptists will contribute to the largest offering for missions known among all Christians — the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

The national offering goal, set by national Woman's Missionary Union, is \$50-million. The Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention has set the 1981 Tennessee goal at \$3,350,000.

The offering provides about one-half of the operating budget of the SBC Foreign Mission Board. The money has already been earmarked for the needs of the mission fields in anticipation of reaching the goal. The other main support of the Foreign Mission Board comes from the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified giving plan.

The offering commemorates Lottie Moon, a 19th century missionary to China, Southern Baptist's first mission field.

In 1881, Miss Moon made an eloquent appeal to women for increased support of missions. The result of her urgings was this annual Christmas offering for foreign missions.

FMB accused of neglect of paralyzed volunteer

By Dan Martin

WASHINGTON (BP)— Friends of a paralyzed mission volunteer have launched a letter-writing campaign criticizing the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board for its "inadequate" disability programs.

The group, calling itself "Friends of Bob Sorrels," and made up of some members of Capitol Hill Metropolitan Baptist Church of Washington, has circulated letters, charging "inadequacies" and "shortcomings" in the disability program, and urging "remedial action to prevent the suffering" of disabled volunteers such as Robert Sorrels.

Sorrels, 30, who now lives in Norman, Okla. was paralyzed from the shoulders

down when his fourth vertebra was crushed in a traffic accident April 15, 1980, less than a week after he arrived in Nigeria for a year as a Mission Service Corps volunteer.

A veteran Southern Baptist missionary, William D. Bender, and a Nigerian seminary professor, Titus Oluwafemi, were killed in the accident.

Sorrels, a member of Capitol Hill Metro church prior to leaving for Africa, was not covered by disability insurance, although he had signed up for hospitalization and life insurance made available for volunteers to purchase through the Southern Baptist Annuity Board.

The letters say because the FMB "does not have any disability program for short-term missionaries.... Sorrels will be left to fend for himself."

The campaign was set off after the October meeting of the FMB, in which directors agreed to continue paying Sorrels a stipend of \$603.50 per month — the same as he would have received from his sponsoring church as a volunteer in Nigeria — through October 1981, at which time board officials say Sorrels will become eligible for government disability benefits.

FMB officials have declined to accept long-term responsibility because Sorrels went to Nigeria as an MSC volunteer, and not as an employed missionary.

Mission Service Corps was established by messengers to the 1977 Southern Baptist Convention, and is designed to augment the career missionary force by

(Continued on page 3)

Conference on Preaching scheduled for February

The first State Conference on Preaching will be held Feb. 15-16, 1982, at Englewood Baptist Church in Jackson, according to Johnnie Hall, director of the church training department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The two-day event will be jointly sponsored by the TBC church training department, the church administration department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, and Madison-Chester Association.

Participating in the workshop will be James E. Barry, consultant in the Pastoral section of the BSSB church administration department; Lavonn Brown, pastor of First Baptist Church, Norman, Okla.; Harold Bryson, professor of preaching, New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary; Tom Madden, TBC executive secretary; Carroll Owen, TBC convention ministries director; and A. Douglas Watterson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Knoxville.

Hall said the purpose of the conference will be to provide an in-depth workshop on Bible preaching, focusing on both

preparation and delivery.

The five-session conference will begin at 1:30 p.m. CST on Monday, Feb. 15, and continue through Tuesday night.

Subjects on the conference program will be:

— "Preaching in Today's World" (Owen),

— "How To Prepare a Sermon Series: Bible Book and Chapters" and "Preaching for Results" (Brown),

— "How To Prepare a Sermon Series: Bible Personalities" and "How To Structure a Sermon" (Bryson),

— "How To Prepare a Sermon Series: Bible Doctrines" and "A Plan for Planning Your Preaching" (Watterson),

— "How To Preach on the Parables" (Madden).

In addition, simultaneous group conferences will be held at three of the five sessions, dealing with "Evaluation of Sermon on Videotape" (Barry); "Sermon Workshop on Bible Books" (Brown); "Sermon Workshop on Bible Personalities (Bryson); and "Sermon Workshop on Bible Doctrine" (Watterson).

'She seemed to be in need'

SADDLEBACK VALLEY, Calif. (BP)— A Southern Baptist pastor here received a check that may be difficult to get endorsed.

A new Christian at Saddleback Valley Community Church where Rick Warren is pastor, stopped by the church before leaving town for Christmas holidays.

He brought with him a check for \$200 made out to Mrs. Lottie Moon.

"He had no idea who Lottie Moon was," Warren said.

"He just knew we had been talking about her for the last month and that she seemed to be in need of money."

Lottie Moon was an early Southern Baptist missionary to China for whom the annual SBC Christmas offering for foreign missions is named. The 1981 goal is \$50-million.

Ohio sets stage for rapid growth

WARREN, Ohio (BP)— Ohioans used their annual convention as the kickoff for the second year of a two-year campaign to establish 104 new congregations across the state.

The campaign — called "104 miracles" — calls for one new mission per week, on the average.

State Missions Director Arthur L. Walker reported nearly 35 new missions have been planted so far, and it seems certain the goal of 52 for the first year will be attained.

The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio met in Warren, near Youngstown, the first time in the 27-year history of the convention it had met in remote north-east Ohio, which has been one of the major parts of the state for pioneer missions. Some 835 messengers and non-messengers registered for the three-day meeting, the third highest registration ever.

The convention heard a number of major Southern Baptist leaders: Bailey Smith of Del City, Okla., president; Jack Taylor, Fort Worth, Tex., former first vice-president; and William G. Tanner, Atlanta, executive director of the Home Mission Board.

The convention was marked by lack of discussion or debate on business. Resolutions endorsed increased Cooperative Program giving, but bypassed any denominational or public issues.

The convention president appointed a three-member committee to study the Ohio Baptist Messenger, convention journal. In doing so, he made no statement about the scope or purpose of the survey.

A Cooperative Program goal of \$2,342,003 was adopted for 1982, with 39 percent to be shared with the SBC. Ohio has been adding to its world mission giving by one-half percentage point per year, moving toward 50-50.

Baptists laud tax credit defeat

WASHINGTON (BP)— The overwhelming rejection of a tuition tax credit proposal by District of Columbia voters Nov. 3 drew praise from a pair of Baptist church-state specialists.

Pointing to a strongly-worded resolution opposing tuition tax credits adopted at the most recent Southern Baptist Convention in Los Angeles, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Executive Director James M. Dunn called the defeat of the controversial proposal by a nearly 9-to-1 margin a victory for Baptists and other supporters of church-state separation.

"Baptists will rejoice in the overwhelming victory for religious liberty and public education," Dunn said. "District voters rightly rejected this indirect aid for parochial and private schools as welfare for the well-off."

R. G. Puckett, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, noted the importance of the D.C. vote in light of numerous tuition tax credit proposals pending in Congress.

"With national attention focused on the District of Columbia initiative as a test vote, the defeat of tuition tax credits has a special significance," Puckett said. "I hope that Congress understands this and also that President Reagan, who recently reiterated his support for tuition tax credits, gets the message."

Unofficial totals showed that 89.2 percent of the district's voters opposed the tuition tax credit measure.



HERITAGE AWARD — Glenn Toomey (left), East Tennessee Baptist Historical Society, presents the Tennessee Baptist Heritage Award to William F. Hall of Seymour for writing a history of Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy.

Maryland leader plans retirement

LUTHERVILLE, Md. (BP)— Roy D. Gresham, executive director of the Baptist Convention of Maryland, since Jan. 1, 1958, has announced his intention to retire Dec. 31, 1982.

In a statement to the Nov. 16 meeting of the Maryland State Mission Board, Gresham noted his retirement will come upon completion of 25 years in the position.

Gresham has served longer as chief executive of the Maryland convention than any of his four full-time predecessors. Before joining the state convention staff, he was pastor (1946-58) of Maryland's largest Southern Baptist congregation, Middle River Baptist Church in Baltimore.

During his tenure, the Baptist Convention of Maryland has grown from 150 cooperating congregations to 295. Cooperative Program gifts to world missions have increased from \$366,000 to more than \$2-million as approved by the state convention for its 1982 budget. Numerically, Southern Baptists in the state have increased from 46,000 to 106,000.

As a direct result of work by Maryland Baptists, conventions have been established in New York and Pennsylvania. Within the next two years Southern Baptists in New England will leave their close association with the Maryland Convention to begin their own state convention.

A native of Greenville, S.C., Gresham is a graduate of Furman University, Greenville, was first vice-president of the SBC in 1964, and has been president of the Association of State Executive Secretaries. He is 65 years old.



Gresham

North Carolina approves sale of Baptist building

GREENSBORO, N.C. (BP)— Messengers to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina approved the sale and relocation of the Baptist Building. The vote apparently resolves a simmering controversy over the sale of the building, and the relocation of convention offices.

By a wide majority, messengers approved a recommendation of the General Board to sell the current building in downtown Raleigh and to relocate the offices of the convention in the Raleigh-Cary area.

General Secretary Cecil A. Ray told messengers he has two offers in hand for the sale of the building. He did not identify the prospective purchasers.

Messengers authorized the executive committee of the General Board to make necessary financial arrangements for the sale of the building.

The approved recommendation provides that the difference between the price received for the sale of the current building and construction of the new one must not exceed \$750,000. Ray reported if the cost cannot be contained to the figure authorized, a new building will not be constructed.

It is expected a new building would cost \$2-million. It would contain 50,000 square feet of floor space, about 3,000 more than the current structure. The location likely would be on one of two

sites in the Raleigh suburbs.

Messengers elected Frank Campbell, pastor of First Baptist Church of Statesboro, as president of the convention in a close vote. Campbell, who had been vice-president, defeated Henderson Belk, a layman and a member of First Baptist Church of Charlotte.

Campbell had been identified with the "moderate" faction within the Southern Baptist Convention and Belk with the inerrancy group, but the election did not take on those political overtones, observers said.

Messengers adopted a \$20.8-million budget, the largest in their history. Of the budget, 35 percent of the first \$20,250,000 will go to worldwide missions causes through the SBC unified budget. Phase II of the budget — \$550,000 — will be shared on a 50-50 basis with the SBC.

The convention met in joint session with the black Baptist convention, the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina. In resolutions, the joint meeting went on record as strongly opposing "intensified efforts of the Ku Klux Klan in North Carolina."

Other resolutions by the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (SBC) expressed opposition to anti-semitism and oppression of Christians and Jews in the Soviet Union and in other places around the world.

Michigan Baptists recognize Tennesseans, WMU leader

TRENTON, Mich. (BP)— Michigan Baptists highlighted their partnership with the Tennessee Baptist Convention and lauded one of their own during their annual meeting Nov. 10-12.

Tennessee personalities were featured on the program, including Tom Madden, TBC executive secretary; James L. Sullivan of Nashville, retired president of the Baptist Sunday School Board; Kenneth Hubbard, pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church in Knoxville; and C. L. Huling, minister of music at First Baptist Church of Hendersonville.

In addition to recognizing the partnership, Michigan Baptists honored Dorothy Sample, who was elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention Woman's Missionary Union last June in Los Angeles.

Robert Wilson, Michigan executive secretary, told messengers that Mrs. Sample is probably the first person from a newer area to be elected president of a national agency. She was feted at a reception during the convention.

Messengers re-elected Milton Wood, pastor of Gorham Baptist Church in Jackson, to a second term as president.

They also adopted a 1982 budget of

\$1,994,000, with \$877,000 to be contributed by churches of the convention, of which 25.5 percent (\$224,000) to worldwide causes through the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program. This represents a one-half of one percent increase.

Messengers also passed a resolution decrying the tendency to "blend conservative Christian theology and conservative political policy," and urged resistance to "the spirit of intolerance and polarization that may surface" when these are linked.

The 1982 annual meeting — the 25th anniversary of the convention — will be Nov. 9-11 at Bethany Baptist Church of Lansing.

New Mexico adopts record 1982 budget

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)— Messengers to the 69th annual session of the Baptist Convention of New Mexico adopted a record \$3.6-million budget and voted to refurbish the Baptist Building in Albuquerque.

Messengers approved a total budget of \$3,670,509, of which \$1,836,915 will come from the 252 churches and missions in the state. Messengers earmarked 29 percent — \$532,701 — for worldwide mission causes through the Southern Baptist Convention unified budget, the same percentage as last year.

Messengers also voted to refurbish the Baptist Building at an estimated cost of \$600,000. Work is expected to start immediately and be completed in 240 days.

Chester O'Brien, executive director, said the first floor of the two-story building will be refurbished, and all offices will be moved into the downstairs area. The second floor, which currently houses convention offices, will be used as rental space.

FMB offers mission hotline

RICHMOND, Va. — This year's foreign mission hotline, called Global Circuit, will be available fewer weeks than in the past, but callers will receive more information in a more concise form.

Brief, specific prayer requests and foreign mission news will be available Nov. 27 through Dec. 11 by calling a toll free number, 1-800-446-2725. The message will change every Tuesday and Friday morning.

Higher phone rates caused a shift from the four-week emphasis in past years to this year's two-week time. Use of a toll free number started in 1979.

The hotline is in its 11th consecutive year as a means of aiding the Southern Baptist Convention's annual foreign mission emphasis. Last year more than 10,000 calls came in during four weeks.

Georgia convention approves capital improvement program

MARIETTA, Ga. (BP) — Georgia Baptist Convention messengers approved without dissent a record Cooperative Program budget, a big new capital improvement endowment program, and possible new programs in world hunger and church-minister relations.

Approved without discussion was the 1982 Cooperative Program budget of \$18,400,000, representing an increase of 5 percent over 1981. After deduction of almost 10 percent in shared expenses with the SBC, it will be divided on a 50-50 basis between Georgia and Southern Baptist causes, the same percentage as last year.

Georgia messengers also gave quick assent to a \$13,850,000 capital improvement and endowment program. It is the

FMB accused . . .

(Continued from page 1)

putting volunteers on home and foreign mission fields. The concept is that the volunteers will provide all necessary resources, including travel, expenses, and insurance, and that the sending agencies provide a place of service, supervision, and other limited support.

"From the very beginning, the support base for these volunteers has been separate and apart from the resources of the Foreign Mission Board," said R. Keith Parks, president of the FMB. "The (1977) convention voted a new concept of voluntarism, in which it was clearly understood that the mission boards would provide no additional funds."

Sorrels and other volunteers are required to sign a waiver absolving the FMB of responsibility in case of "loss of property, damage to same, personal harm or injury that may come." FMB records indicate Sorrels signed the waiver Dec. 5, 1979, and then countersigned a letter in February saying he understood what he was signing.

Sorrels, however, told Baptist Press he did not recall having signed such a waiver, and that even if he signed it, he was not told what it was.

FMB officials say they have earmarked \$28,412.84, to help Sorrels, an amount one leader says is "\$28,000-plus more than we were responsible for or were required to pay." This amount included sending an additional physician and two nurses to the Eku, Nigeria, hospital to provide around-the-clock care for Sorrels, board leaders said.

Parks says the money was provided in an effort to help Sorrels. He called the decision to continue the stipend until October of 1982, "a compassionate act . . . to provide a bridge until he has some other options."

He added that some board members questioned "whether our aid implied legal responsibility," but said he "felt we had to do it to tide him over."

"We felt we did more than we had to and about as much as we could," Parks said.

Sorrels says he feels "abandoned" and "betrayed" by the Foreign Mission Board and its leaders, whom he describes as "very cold businessmen . . . who lack Christian compassion."

Sorrels and his friends hope their letters will pressure the Foreign Mission Board to change its action when it meets in December and make provision for him.

However, Parks and other board officials say they have gone above and beyond their responsibilities. They suggest that individuals, if they are truly interested, establish a special fund for Sorrels.

sixth such program approved by Georgia Baptists since 1955. The previous five programs have produced more than \$46-million for Georgia Baptist institutions. The new program is expected to take five years to fully fund from receipts above and beyond basic Cooperative Program budgets.

Georgia Baptists also approved a revision of their state constitution. The major change requires churches to give at least some dollar amount to the Cooperative Program to have more than two messengers to state convention sessions.

Messengers also called on their president to consider creating a special committee to find more ways to lead Georgia Baptists to help alleviate world hunger and the Georgia Executive Committee was called on to study the possibility of creating a special committee of ministers and laypersons to help mediate problems that arise between churches and staff members.

Georgia Baptists voted to reaffirm the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message statement as their doctrinal stance. Some messengers wanted to add stronger statements supporting the virgin birth of Jesus Christ and verbal inspiration of "every single word" of the Bible.

One messenger moved that the convention add "clarifying" statements of Herschel Hobbs, made during the 1981 meeting of SBC in Los Angeles. However, the resolutions committee only asked messengers to reaffirm the 1963 statement, which was done without discussion.

Nov. 29 TV programs to feature Baptists

FORT WORTH, Tex. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission will be represented on two network television programs, Sunday, Nov. 29, dealing with television evangelism and ministries to singles.

CBS will present a dialogue on the use of television in evangelism, featuring Lutheran theologian Martin Marty and Jimmy R. Allen, president of the RTVC. They will participate in a "For Our Time" public affairs series segment on "The Medium or the Message."

ABC's "Directions" series will air "Living Abundantly: Ministry to the Single Person," a program about the work of the Southern Baptist churches with single adults.

Host Bob Clark will interview Ann Alexander Smith, single adult consultant for the Baptist Sunday School Board, and Ed Seabough, minister to single adults at South Main Baptist Church in Houston.

Although both network programs are scheduled for Nov. 29, the exact dates and times may vary in each area and will be announced in local television directories.

TBC enrolls 1,622 messengers

Official registration figures for the 1981 Tennessee Baptist Convention have been announced by Wallace Anderson, TBC recording and statistical secretary.

After checking the registration cards, Anderson reported that there were 1,622 messengers enrolled at the 107th annual session of the state convention. This month's convention was second only in messenger registration to the 1,662 registered at the 1977 TBC at Knoxville's Central Baptist Church of Bearden.

Anderson said that messengers were registered from 66 of Tennessee's 68 associations, and 729 of the state's 2,764 TBC churches.

In addition, Anderson noted there were 556 visitors who registered, bringing the total to 2,178.

Visitors are welcome to attend the convention and are asked to register, although they are not allowed to vote on any issue before the convention.

Union trustees accept gift, sell property, hear reports

JACKSON — In their annual fall meeting Nov. 20, Union University's Board of Trustees heard committee reports, sold a portion of its former campus, and accepted a lodge as a gift to the college. Six new board members were also recognized.

Development Director Larry Stewart reported the Expansion Program fund drive had netted \$1.45-million since the campaign was launched in April and was confident the remaining \$100,000 would be raised by the mid-December deadline. When the college meets the \$1.55-million goal, it will automatically qualify for a \$200,000 challenge grant from The Kresge Foundation of Troy, Mich.

The program calls for nearly \$1.4-million to be earmarked for the first major expansion of the Penick Academic Complex. The remainder is designated for additional student housing units, which were completed this fall.

Trustees also accepted the gift of a

seven-bedroom, five-bathroom lodge from the sons of former longtime board member Henry J. Huey, now deceased. Jere Huey and Brooks Huey of Dickson gave the furnished lodge, which is located on an acre of land overlooking Birdsong Bay near Camden, in memory of their father.

Huey, who served on the board from 1927 to 1954, was pastor of First Baptist Church, Milan, for 25 years. At the time of his death he was executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Brentwood. The lodge will be named the "Henry J. Huey Spiritual Retreat Center of Union University."

In other business the board accepted an offer of \$34,725 from the state to purchase a portion of the college's property at the east end of College Street, commonly known as Death Valley or College Park. The 1.98-acre tract (and a 2.43-acre tract inaccessible for future use) will be part of the East Chester Bypass, which will bisect Union's property west to east. The college will retain the remaining 3.86 acres of Death Valley.

Trustees also welcomed six new members to their ranks. Beginning three-year terms were Jane Alderson of Jackson, Bill Cockcroft of Memphis, Polk Glover of Obion, W. H. Lassiter of Huntingdon, John Pippin of Savannah, and Wayne Rhear of Alamo.

Sequatchie Valley elects McGough

Messengers to Sequatchie Valley Baptist Association elected Michael McGough as moderator during its annual meeting Oct. 22-23.

McGough, pastor of First Baptist Church in Whitwell, succeeds First Baptist Church of Jasper Pastor Billy Ellison in the post. Bill Roberts, pastor of Pikeville's First Southern Baptist Church, was elected to assist McGough as vice-moderator.

Re-elected by the messengers were Mrs. Brenda Ridge, a member of the Whitwell First church, as treasurer; and Ray Chism, a member of the Jasper First church, as clerk.

The meeting was hosted by Laager Baptist Church, Laager, and Cold Springs Baptist Church, Pikeville. The 1982 meeting, Oct. 21-22, will be held at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Dunlap, and Baptist Hill Baptist Church, Jasper.

Paul Keener is the association's director of missions.

Polk messengers meet at Benton

Messengers to the Polk County Baptist Association gathered for its annual meeting Oct. 19-20 at First Baptist Church, Benton.

The messengers elected Floyd Boggess, pastor of Pine Ridge Baptist Church in Benton, to lead the association as moderator. Boggess succeeds James Hickey, the host church's pastor, in the role.

Elected to serve with Boggess was John J. Smith, pastor of Benton Station Baptist Church of Benton, as vice-moderator. Re-elected were Treasurer James O. Woody, a member of Benton's Antioch Baptist Church, and Clerk Evelyn Guy, a member of the host church.

The next meeting of the association is scheduled Oct. 18-19, 1982, at Shiloh Baptist Church, Ocoee. W. L. Shipman is the association's director of missions.

EDITORIAL

Giving thanks

"In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

"O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His lovingkindness is everlasting" (1 Chronicles 16:34).

"Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name, make known His deeds" (Isaiah 12:4).

"For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, if it is received with gratitude" (2 Timothy 4:3).

"But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness" (Romans 6:17-18).

"For the ministry of this service is not only fully supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing through many thanksgivings to God" (2 Corinthians 9:12).

"But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:17).

"Father, I thank Thee that Thou heardest Me, and I know that Thou hearest Me always" (John 11:41-42).

"And give thanks to His holy name for His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime" (Psalm 30:4-5).

"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

"To thee, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise for Thou hast given me wisdom and power" (Daniel 2:23).

"I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service" (1 Timothy 1:12).

"For all things are for your sakes, that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God" (2 Corinthians 4:15).

"He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God" (Romans 14:6).

"I will give thanks in the great congregation, I will praise Thee among the mighty throng" (Psalm 35:18).

"We give thanks to Thee, O God, we give thanks for Thy name is near" (Psalm 75:1).

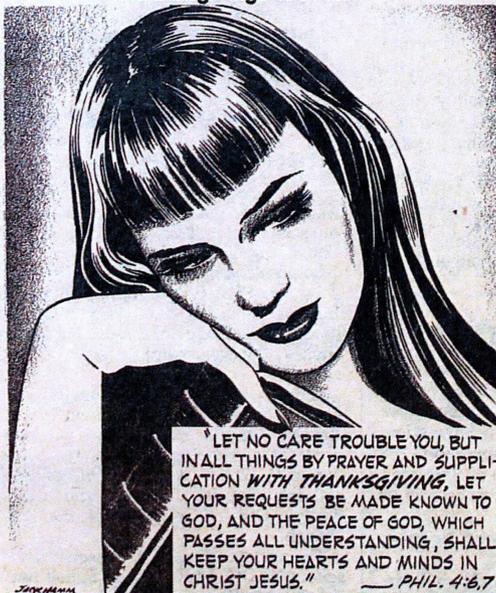
"Surely the righteous will give thanks to Thy name; the upright will dwell in Thy presence" (Psalm 140:13).

"But thanks be to God, who always leads us in His triumphs in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place" (2 Corinthians 2:14).

"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father" (Colossians 3:17).

"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you are called in one body; and be thankful" (Colossians 3:15).

Thanksgiving Reflection



"LET NO CARE TROUBLE YOU, BUT IN ALL THINGS BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING, LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN TO GOD, AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH PASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING, SHALL KEEP YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS IN CHRIST JESUS." — PHIL. 4:6,7

Letters to the Editor...

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

Liberal Baptist professor

Dear editor:

It saddened my heart to watch ABC News "Nightline" Oct. 13. One guest was Robert Alley, professor of religion at University of Richmond, a Southern Baptist-supported school.

By using the fairness doctrine, Alley succeeded in getting FREE response time to present opposing views to fundamentalists. Alley stated that persons like Jerry Falwell and James Robison are asserting their own infallibility and using the Bible as a weapon to support that infallibility.

According to Alley, Robison is of the minority, and we make a mistake to allow persons like Robison to capture the Bible and use it as a weapon. Alley seems to say that James Robison and other conservative preachers should not be preaching against abortion, homosexuality, and other sins on their PAID television programs without allowing liberals to counter their views with FREE air time. How ridiculous can you be? That does not seem fair or reasonable.

Our airways are filled with sponsored programs seemingly advocating homosexuality, abortions, and other immorality. How many CONSERVATIVES are given free time to counter these programs?

Alley is the man, as reported in the Reflector, who told a group of atheists that Jesus did not claim to be God; that Jesus was man as man was intended to be.

In my letter (Feb. 2, 1978) I told you a professor with such views should not be allowed to teach in our schools. The Saturday you called me, you said the president of the university said because Alley was tenured, there was nothing he could do.

Let several churches inform the convention and the school involved that if a liberal professor is not eliminated, all

funds to that school will cease — and mean it. Then see how quickly that institution finds loopholes to help that liberal pack his bags.

Jimmy H. Davis
P.O. Box 237
Savannah, TN 38372

For the record, the University of Richmond is owned and operated by the Baptist General Association of Virginia and receives no funds from the Southern Baptist Convention or the Tennessee Baptist Convention. (editor)

Thanks for coming

Dear editor:

Every pastor has many dreams during his ministry. One of mine was to pastor a church that would host the Tennessee Baptist Convention. This month that dream became a reality when the Radnor Baptist Church had the privilege of hosting one of the largest in attendance in the convention's history.

The atmosphere and spirit were fantastic. The officials, staff, and messengers of the convention made this an event to be remembered. Their cooperation and attitude through the entire week were just great.

The officers and committees of the convention and the staff and members of Radnor Baptist Church worked countless hours in preparation which was very evident by the successful and smooth running programs. They were supported by the usually superb cooperation of the staff at the Tennessee Baptist Convention building, of which I am indeed grateful.

I have received numerous calls, notes, and letters complimenting Radnor Baptist Church for being a gracious host. I am proud to have been just a little part of such a glorious occasion.

I would like to extend to all Tennessee Baptists and friends a standing invitation to visit Radnor Baptist Church at any time.

Thank you for letting us serve as your host.

Paul Durham
3112 Nolensville Road
Nashville, TN 37211

Religious dictatorship?

Dear editor:

Are we in danger of losing our freedom, and becoming a religious dictatorship?

I am sure you are familiar with some statements being made, like, "We have enough votes to run this country, and when the people say, 'We've had enough,' we are going to take over" and "After the Christian majority takes control, PLURALISM will be seen as immoral and EVIL, and the state will not permit anybody to practice evil."

Any comments, anyone?

Ed Bobbitt
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CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 83,453

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BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR

brings you news first

Memphis hospital takes option to lease Booneville facility

MEMPHIS — Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis has taken an option to lease a 136-bed hospital at Booneville, Miss., pending completion of technical studies, according to Joseph H. Powell, president.

Option and lease agreements between Northeast Mississippi Hospital and Baptist Memorial were signed in Booneville by Paul Flurry, chairman of the Board of Directors of Northeast, and Roger N. Struble, vice-president and head of Corporate Services at Baptist.

The mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Booneville and the Prentiss County Board of Supervisors, owners of the 32-year-old hospital, approved the agreement.

Struble said the studies to determine the future of capital needs of the hospital should be completed by Dec. 31. At that time, Baptist will decide whether to exercise its option to lease the facility for 25 years, the hospital executive said.

During the interim, the affiliation agreement calls for Baptist to provide an administrator to coordinate efforts of the feasibility study team. Struble said John Tompkins, currently a member of the Baptist corporate staff and a former ad-

ministrator of Northeast, will assume this responsibility.

Baptist became involved with the Booneville hospital when Northeast's trustees asked Baptist to provide a team of specialists to survey the operations of the institution. The nine-member team examined the hospital's facilities, finances, and administration, and interviewed key members of the hospital's administrative group, hospital board, medical staff, department managers, and other hospital employees.

The findings on the physical plant revealed sizable expenditures would be necessary to attract new physicians and additional patients.

The Board of Northeast felt the affiliation agreement with Baptist was the best approach to solving their problems, Struble said.

The Booneville hospital, about 100 miles southeast of Memphis, is the fourth hospital to affiliate with Baptist in 18 months. Since July 1980, Baptist has leased hospitals in Ripley; Corning, Ark.; and Covington.

Gibson Co. honors former moderators

Gibson County Baptist Association dedicated the minutes of its 58th annual meeting, Oct. 20-21, to two of its former moderators.

Honored with the dedication were Denzel Dukes, pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, in Owensboro, Ky.; and John Pippin, pastor of Savannah's First Baptist Church. While in Gibson Co. association, Dukes was pastor of First Baptist Church in Milan; and Pippin was pastor of First Baptist Church, Medina.

In a business session, messengers elected Herschel Lindsey, pastor of Salem Baptist Church in Trenton, as moderator of the association. Lindsey succeeds First Baptist Church of Kenton Pastor Frank Kemper in the position.

Elected to assist the new moderator was Levi Parrish, pastor of Milan's Northside Baptist Church, as vice-moderator. Clerk Richard Holloman, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Humboldt, and Treasurer J. D. Nowell, a member of Trenton's First Baptist Church, were re-elected.

The First Baptist Churches of Humboldt and Rutherford hosted the meeting. According to Director of Missions Kenneth Sparkman, the next meeting of the association will be Oct. 19-20, 1982, at the Trenton First church and Southside Baptist Church of Humboldt.

Personal perspective

By TOM MADDEN
TBC executive secretary

A study of how the term "must" was used in the life of Jesus gives some remarkable insights into the imperatives that permeated His life.

When Jesus visited the temple, He said to Mary and Joseph, "Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?" (Luke 2:49). He was underlining the principle that doing His Father's business was the imperative that would determine every action in His life.

John states about Jesus, "He must needs go through Samaria." There were other roads less hazardous and far more pleasant. The Jews did not travel Samaritan roads voluntarily. However, Christ had a divine appointment to sit on the curb of Jacob's Well with a woman of questionable character and lovingly unfold to her the deep truths of life.

Jesus was speaking of His duty to His Father when He said, "I must work the works of Him that sent Me." There are Christian duties that should become imperatives in our lives.

"The Son of Man must suffer many things" (Mark 8:31). The Son of Man must be lifted upon a cross, must die, and must rise again. God's plan of redemption could not end with a buried Christ. Joseph's tomb must be found empty and His disciples must see Christ alive and look upon His scars and know for a certainty that He had risen from the dead.

We see the constant concern of Jesus for the lost around Him when He said to Zacchaeus, "I must abide at thy house." Evangelism, the winning of the lost, is not optional to the believer. It is an imperative.

If we are to follow Christ, again and again, we must say, "I must..."



Madden

Wester declines second term as president in Mississippi

JACKSON, Miss. (BP) — Mississippi Baptists elected James Yates, pastor of First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, as president, adopted a 1982 budget of \$13.9-million, and passed resolutions concerning peace, pornography, television and morality, and prison ministry.

Yates succeeds Brooks Wester, pastor of First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, who became the first Mississippi Convention president since 1907 to decline a traditional second one-year term.

Wester explained to the record 1,484 messengers that a \$1.2-million expansion project at his church prevents him from giving the office the time it needs. He also informally suggested that the convention consider allowing one year only for presidents.

The budget sets aside 34 percent to Southern Baptist Convention causes out-

side the state. This is a half percent rise from 1981.

Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College, reported that the final documents have not been signed to attach Clarke College (the Mississippi Baptist junior college in Newton) to Mississippi College. But in August, the Clinton school's trustees began administration of the junior college with permission of the Clarke trustees.

The 1980 Mississippi Baptist Convention authorized Mississippi College to take over the financially ailing Clarke College. That process continues as three-year programs were added this fall.

Messengers adopted resolutions calling for arms control while maintaining defense preparedness as a deterrent to war, condemning pornography, and condemning the "unacceptable lifestyle" portrayed in television programs.

A resolution on prison ministry said that since the majority of prisoners at Parchman State Prison are Baptists, the state board of corrections should employ an appropriate number of Baptist chaplains. Currently no Baptist chaplains serve the prison.

Fayette re-elects slate of officers

The officers of Fayette Baptist Association were elected to a new term during its annual meeting Oct. 22-23.

Re-elected were Moderator J. T. Blankenship, a member of Hickory Withe Baptist Church, Hickory Withe; Vice-moderator J. T. Thacker, a member of Morris Memorial Baptist Church, Moscow; and Mrs. Layton Watson, a member of Gallaway's First Baptist Church, as treasurer/clerk.

The meeting was held at First Baptist Church in Oakland and Morris Memorial. According to Raymond R. Holloway, Fayette director of missions, the next meeting of the association will be Oct. 21-22, 1982, at Feather's Chapel Baptist Church in Somerville and Williston Baptist Church, Williston.

Springfield church calls Joe Hinkle

Joseph W. Hinkle, secretary of the Baptist Sunday School Board's family ministry department, has resigned effective Dec. 31 to become pastor of Eastland Heights Baptist Church in Springfield. He has been interim pastor of the church since June and held interims there on two previous occasions.

Hinkle came to the board in 1967 as a consultant in the church administration department and became supervisor of the family ministry section in 1972 before it was given department status in 1974.

Hinkle, a Goodlettsville native, is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Shelby messengers install officers

Messengers to the Shelby Baptist Association installed officers for 1981-82 during the association's annual meeting, Oct. 12-13.

Elected to lead Shelby Baptists as moderator was James Pardue, pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Memphis. Pardue succeeds Norris Smith, pastor of Memphis' Ardmore Baptist church, in the post.

Kenneth Story, pastor of Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown, was elected to assist Pardue as vice-moderator. Bill McIlwain, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Memphis, was re-elected as clerk/treasurer.

The meeting was held at Oakhaven Baptist Church, Memphis, and the Germantown church. E. Gordon Crocker is Shelby's director of missions.

Recreation group re-elects Rives

The second annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Recreation Association was held Nov. 9 during this month's session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Tom Rives of Red Bank Baptist Church, Chattanooga, was re-elected as president. Regional representatives of the association are Carroll Griffin, West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson; Mack Hannah, First Baptist Church, Chattanooga; Dave Paxton, Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour; and Tony Rankin, Lincocoy Hills Baptist Church, Nashville.

Speaker for the meeting was Wendell Newman of the church recreation department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

During the TBRA meeting, plans were discussed for the March 19-20, 1982, Recreation Mini-Lab at Henry Horton State Park. The lab is open to churches who are interested in starting or maintaining a recreation ministry.

Eleanor Yarborough, newly-named TBC consultant in church recreation, was introduced at the meeting.

The primary purpose of TBRA is to provide fellowship and information for ministers of recreation and youth in Tennessee Baptist churches.

Church raises \$1-million in day

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP) — Members of First Baptist Church, Orlando, gave \$1-million in a single day as part of a drive to raise \$2.6-million of land in southwest Orlando.

The 5,500-member Southern Baptist congregation has raised \$2.3-million since its fund drive began in September, and they plan to have it all by Thanksgiving.

"The financial miracle we are witnessing is beyond human achievement," Pastor Jim Henry wrote in his newsletter. A Nashville native, Henry was pastor of Two Rivers Baptist Church there before moving to Orlando.

The \$2.6-million is just for the land, nearly 150 acres in southwest Orlando. It will take more fund-raising to finance a new 5,000-seat sanctuary, parking for 3,000 cars, a school, and a high-rise apartment building.

The church will retain its downtown 1,800-seat building as a satellite for those members who wish to worship there when the primary location is moved, probably within three years.

More than \$1.75-million of the total has been in cash, and the rest was in the form of gifts, including an antique car, wedding rings, and a registered Hereford bull. Several personal checks were for more than \$100,000.

Our People and Our Churches . . .

PEOPLE . . .

Mount Lebanon Baptist Church, Maryville, ordained Carson Acuff, Gordon Collins, Jack Hackworth, Melvin Harmon, Andy Long, and Harry Pickrell as deacons Sept. 27. Eugene Leamon is the church's pastor.

Joe Halliburton, Jerry Bass, and Harold Ross were ordained Oct. 4 into the deacon ministry of Grace Baptist Church, Murfreesboro. J. T. Young is the pastor of the church.

Park Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville, ordained Bill Smith into the gospel ministry Nov. 8. Park Avenue ordained Smith at the request of the Evansville, Ind., mission that called him as pastor. Bob Mowrey is the pastor at Park Avenue.

Brent Morris was ordained Oct. 4 as a deacon of First Baptist Church, Pulaski.

Rick Wise was ordained to the deacon ministry of Lincoln Park Baptist Church, Knoxville, on Oct. 18. The pastor of the church is Ted J. Ingram.

Woodland Baptist Church, Jackson, ordained Thomas L. Powell to the gospel ministry Oct. 25. Thomas is interim pastor of Volunteer Baptist Church, Bristol. Participants in the ordination service were Lamar Booth, John E. Taylor, Quinton Powell, and Woodland Pastor Bob Ervin.

First Baptist Church, Caryville, honored Zora Murphy in an Oct. 11 service. Mrs. Murphy, church clerk for 32 years and a Sunday School teacher for 42 years, was given a plaque, certificate, and corsage to mark the occasion. Herbert Jones is the church's pastor.

Jimmy Ramage and William Strauss were ordained recently as deacons of Bennington Park Baptist Church, Memphis. J. Paul Palmer is the pastor of the church.

Mount Juliet's First Baptist Church ordained as deacons Steve Armistead, Wayne Campbell, Fred Corely, Gary Deaton, Mike Flowers, Danny Fouch, Tom Mehaffey, and Rodney Pugh. Wilson Baptist Association Director of Missions Robert Agee presented the ordination message for the Oct. 4 service. The church's pastor is Billie Friel.

Robert Rion was recently ordained into the deacon ministry of Stones River Baptist Church, Smyrna. Harry Nichols and Tom Bryant assisted Pastor Jim Growden with the ordination service.

Shiloh Baptist Church, Kingston, ordained Doyle Clark and Dennis and J. D. Presley as deacons Sept. 27. The pastor of the church is Don Long.

Lawrence W. Jones was ordained as a deacon of Calvary Baptist Church, Elizabethton, on Oct. 4. Ray Sorrells is the church's pastor.

Bill Gattis was ordained Oct. 4 into the deacon ministry of Ivy Memorial Baptist Church, Nashville, where Harlan B. Williams is pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Meador were honored on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary, Oct. 25., at First

Baptist Church, Ridgetop, where they are members. The couple's pastor is Douglas Adams.

Pleasant Heights Baptist Church, Columbia, ordained Tom Bradley, Larry Brewer, and Dan Nelson as deacons Oct. 4. The church's pastor is Duane Tindell.

Charles E. Cooper and W. R. Marshall were ordained into the deacon ministry of Lamar Heights Baptist Church, Memphis. The pastor of the church is James C. Redding.

Northside Baptist Church, Clarksville, recently ordained Alan Peebles to the gospel ministry. Peebles is entering the Boyce Bible School of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Laurin Suiter is the pastor of Northside.

James Filson and Lewis Reding were ordained as deacons of Madison Creek Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, where James G. Munro is the pastor.

Malcolm Gean and Harry Brown were ordained as deacons by Hillcrest Baptist Church, Dyersburg. Pastor Joe Trybone brought the charge to the men and the church.

Walter Garrett and Billy Hicks were ordained as deacons of Ellendale Baptist Church, Ellendale, on Nov. 8. Gordon Crocker, director of missions for the Shelby County Baptist Association, delivered the ordination sermon. James D. Witherington is the church's pastor.

LEADERSHIP . . .

Stevens Street Baptist Church, Cookeville, recently called Judy Ogren as minister of youth. Miss Ogren is a student at Tennessee Technological University, also in Cookeville. Dewey B. Robinson is pastor of the church.

Sam Douglass accepted a call from Calvary Baptist Church, Knoxville, to come as assistant pastor. Douglass was previously minister of education and evangelism at Ridgcrest Baptist Church, Greeneville, Tex. He is a graduate of Texas A & M University, College Station, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. Bob Burch is the pastor of Calvary.

Mike Higgins resigned the pastorate of Northport Baptist Church, Newport, effective Oct. 4.

Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Kingston, called Phil Carlisle as minister of music and education, a ministry he began Oct. 4. Carlisle came to the church from Washington Pike Baptist Church, Knoxville. Ray Maddox is the pastor at Cedar Grove.

Jack Dykes was called as assistant pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Jonesboro, a position he began Sept. 20. James Adams is the church's pastor.

Bell Avenue Baptist Church, Knoxville, called Herman J. Ellis as minister of education. Ellis has served as interim minister of education since June. The pastor of the church is Lloyd Bardowell.

Thomas McClanahan accepted a call from Miracle Baptist Church, LaVergne, to come as minister of education and music. Carl Scarlett is the pastor of the church.

First Baptist Church, Hickory Withe, recently called David Goff as minister of youth. The church's pastor is Jack Kwok.

Robert H. Wilson resigned as minister of education of Red Bank Baptist Church, Chattanooga, effective Nov. 14. Wilson has accepted a similar position at Willow Meadows Baptist Church, Houston, Tex. Fred Steelman is the pastor at Red Bank.

Northside Baptist Church, McMinnville, recently called Pete Hatcher to come as minister of music and youth. Hatcher is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro. The pastor of the church is Jack J. Rinks.

Noel M. Wright III resigned as minister of education at Balmoral Baptist Church in Memphis, effective Nov. 15. Wright accepted a call from First Baptist Church, Benton, Ark., to come as minister of education and administration. Arlis F. Grice is the church's pastor.

Beech Grove Baptist Church, Mercer, recently called Clyde Cobb as interim pastor.

Keith Sanderson was called as minister of music and youth by Mercer Baptist Church, Mercer. Sanderson, who began Oct. 4, is a student at Union University, Jackson. Jack W. Sinclair is the pastor of the church.

James G. Munro resigned as pastor of Madison Creek Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, to accept the pastorate of Bridgewater Baptist Church, Somerville, N.Y. Munro's last day at Madison Creek was Nov. 16.

Larry E. Wiley accepted a call from First Baptist Church, Greeneville, to come as minister of music and youth. James Best is the church's pastor.

Bob Spears joined the staff of Eastland Baptist Church, Nashville, as minister of music and education. Spears' first day in the ministry was Oct. 25. The pastor of the church is J. L. Ford.

Kermit Brann retired from the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Sharon, and will move to Tupelo, Miss.

R. M. Everett accepted a recent call from Smoky View Baptist Church, Maryville, to come as interim pastor.

Bethel Baptist Church, Townsend, called Carl Headrick as minister of music. Larry Beeler is the pastor of the church.

Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Obion, accepted the recent resignation of its pastor, David Bartholomew.

Gary Armstrong was recently called as minister of youth by Ebenezer Baptist Church, Greenbrier. The pastor of the church is Dan Farmer.

Oakland Baptist Church, Springfield, recently called Bob Swift as interim pastor.

Rusty Martin resigned as minister of youth at Broadmoor Baptist Church in Memphis effective Nov. 8. Martin will go to Whitesburg Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala., as minister of youth education. Jack May is the pastor at Broadmoor.

Steve Merrell was called as minister of music and youth by Jasper's First Baptist Church; Merrell, who began the ministry Oct. 1, was previously minister of education and youth at Hickory Tree Baptist Church, Balch Springs, Tex., and minister of music at Kings Point Baptist Church, Chattanooga. A native of Chattanooga, he is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. The pastor of the church is Billy W. Ellison.

James E. Bond resigned the pastorate of Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Signal Mountain, to become pastor of First Baptist Church, Kennesaw, Ga.

CHURCHES . . .

Members of Bennington Park Baptist Church, Memphis, voted to enter the third phase of their building program, which will add classrooms and a kitchen and dining area to their location. J. Paul Palmer is the pastor of the church.

Red River Baptist Church, Adams, dedicated its new educational building and baptistry during a Nov. 1 service. James Clapp is the church's pastor.

Bertie Moore, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Toone, led the church's first service in its new sanctuary, Oct. 4.

Thompson Creek Baptist Church, Como, celebrated its 150th anniversary Sept. 13. The church, the oldest in Weakley County Baptist Association, was presented a plaque by R. L. Newman of the Tennessee Baptist Historical Society. The pastor of the church is Don Malone.

REVIVALS . . .

Memorial Baptist Church, Crossville, had revival services Oct. 11-16, with Willie Honea, of South Carolina, as the evangelist. H. C. Couch, pastor of the church, reported several rededications.

Fairview Baptist Church, Corryton, was led in revival Oct. 11-16 by Donnie Cantwell as the evangelist and Mark Lowry as music director, both of Virginia. Fairview pastor Alvin Tallant recorded 12 professions of faith, one commitment to the ministry, two new members by letter, and 200 rededications and commitments.

John Norman, pastor of Gum Springs Baptist Church, Walling, led Indian Creek Memorial Baptist Church of Smithville in revival services Sept. 20-27. Indian Creek Pastor Oscar Trainer reported five professions of faith, five new members by letter, and several dedications.

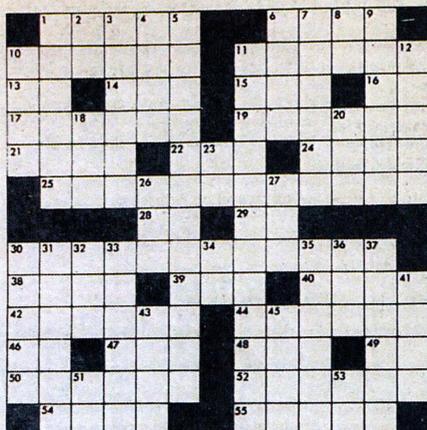
Revival services were held recently at Zion Hill Baptist Church, Turtletown, with Gene Schmid of Cookeville as the evangelist. There were six people baptized into the fellowship of the church, and 25 rededications. Charlie Ivey is the church's pastor.

Providence Baptist Church, Seymour, had recent revival services in which there were 18 professions of faith. Wade Clemons was the evangelist for the revival; Kenneth Stansberry is the pastor of the church.

John Adams, pastor of McKenzie's First Baptist Church, led Hillcrest Avenue Baptist Church, Dyersburg, in a recent revival. Joe Trybone, pastor of the Hillcrest Avenue church, recorded one addition by letter and several rededications.

Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 10



ACROSS

- 1 "and — with thy foot" (Ezek. 6)
- 6 An alcaide
- 10 Shrub genus
- 11 Thither
- 13 Avenue: abbr.
- 14 "break also the —" (Amos 1)
- 15 Gold in Barcelona
- 16 Exist
- 17 Deserves
- 19 Priest (2 Ki. 16:16)
- 21 Skin disease
- 22 Cut off (Mark 14:47)
- 24 Seaweed
- 25 "— the earth" (Psa. 65)
- 28 Direction: abbr.

- 29 Place (Deut. 2:29)
- 30 "heaps — — — which" (Neh. 4)
- 38 Descartes
- 39 Warp yarn
- 40 "before the judgment — of Christ" (Rom. 14)
- 42 Og was king of — (Deut. 3:3)
- 44 Girl's name
- 46 "the children of —" (1 Chron. 7:12)
- 47 The alphabet
- 48 Warrior
- 49 Knight of St. Andrew: abbr.
- 50 Alert
- 52 "Blessed are they which do —" (Matt. 5)

- 54 Sem's father (Luke 3:36; poss.)
- 55 Jewish home or community service

DOWN

- 1 "the same shall —" (Luke 9:24)
- 2 Thallium: abbr.
- 3 Has milky-white skin and hair and reddish eyes
- 4 "Children, have ye any —" (John 21)
- 5 "with all — and supplication" (Eph. 6)
- 6 Corruption: abbr.
- 7 "— thine eyes with eyesalve" (Rev. 3:18)
- 8 Identification: abbr.
- 9 Excludes
- 10 Porridge
- 11 "rest in —" (Lev. 26:35)
- 12 Hit again
- 18 Cheer
- 20 Dimaggio, for one
- 23 "for — is spoiled" (Jer. 49)
- 26 Employ
- 27 Irish Republican Brotherhood: abbr.
- 30 Path
- 31 "should I — the days" (Psa. 49)
- 32 Weights: abbr.
- 33 "lest — — — thee" (Prov. 9)
- 34 United Brethren: abbr.
- 35 "chief man of the —" (Acts 28)
- 36 Bishopric
- 37 Crave
- 41 Like a lion (Psa. 7:2)
- 43 Finnish seaport: poss.
- 45 Lighthouse
- 51 River in Italy
- 53 Germanium: symbol

CRYPTOVERSE

QAT BTFCJ DEGGHI CJH QAAGEKJ LFM

Today's Cryptoverse clue: Q equals F

Southwestern seminary trustees vote to merge with BGCT school

FORT WORTH, Tex. (BP) — In a "historic and unprecedented" move, trustees of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary voted to merge with the Mexican Baptist Bible Institute in San Antonio.

The action, which came during the trustees' annual fall meeting Oct. 19-21, provides for Southwestern to assume control and ownership of the institute from the Baptist General Convention of Texas. The proposal must be approved by two consecutive annual meetings of the BGCT. The first vote will be taken during the convention's annual meeting Oct. 27-29 in Waco.

Plans for the transfer of control and operation will begin immediately, according to officials of both institutions. Official control would come following an affirmative vote at the 1982 BGCT meeting in Corpus Christi.

Under the new arrangement, the San Antonio school will be known as Hispanic Baptist Theological Seminary. Major emphasis will be in training Hispanic ministers in noncredit diploma, associate degree, and master's degree programs.

Instructors in accredited programs would be adjunctive teachers on the Southwestern faculty and would be elected by Southwestern's trustees.

Trustees of Southwestern will be the governing body for the Hispanic seminary. An executive council nominated by trustees would serve as the liaison between the school and the entire board.

Daniel J. Rivera, MBBi president, would continue as chief administrative officer of the new seminary.

The State Missions Commission of the BGCT currently governs MBBi and would continue to provide supplemental

funding and program guidance, according to Charles McLaughlin, commission director.

The merger was initiated by James H. Landes, executive director, and other BGCT officials.

"This should be the Hispanic training center for the whole world," Landes said. "It could not be as long as it was tied only to Texas."

In other action, the board approved several new courses, made one faculty appointment, elected new officers, and heard the annual report of seminary President Russell H. Dilday Jr.

Four communications courses were added to the curriculum as part of the new Center for Christian Communication Studies which has been established at Southwestern.

James E. Coggin, pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth, was elected chairman of the trustee board. He previously served as chairman, 1967-69.

Ralph Pulley, Dallas attorney, was elected vice-chairman. James E. Carter, pastor of Fort Worth's University Baptist Church, was re-elected secretary.

Missouri Baptists upgrade college

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (BP) — Approval of an \$11.6-million budget and the upgrading of Hannibal-LaGrange College, Hannibal, to senior college status highlighted the 147th annual meeting of the Missouri Baptist Convention in St. Louis.

Hannibal LaGrange College, as a senior college, will be able to offer a full range of baccalaureate degree programs. Currently, the school offers only three baccalaureate degrees — theology, church music, and religious education. It will immediately offer a bachelor of science in education degree for music majors and add other degrees through 1985.

No messenger spoke against the Executive Board recommendation to upgrade the school to four-year status, and only a handful of negative votes were recorded when the actual vote was taken.

The \$11.6-million budget for 1982 is divided into an operational budget of \$11.2-million and a challenge goal of \$400,000. Thirty-five percent of all undesignated receipts will be channeled to Southern Baptist Convention causes, an increase of one-half percent from 1981.

T. T. Crabtree, pastor of the 3,400-member First Baptist Church of Springfield since 1971, was elected convention president. The Tennessee native is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and was pastor of churches in Jackson, Humboldt, and Memphis before moving to Missouri.

Messengers approved resolutions against abortion, except to save the life of the mother and in cases of proven incest and rape, and against gambling and domestic violence.

In other resolutions, Missouri Baptists were urged to care for "the truly needy" in light of cutbacks in government assistance, promote better race relation, and encourage multilateral arms negotiations as a step toward world peace and local security. They voted to support alcohol treatment programs, the preservation of the family farm, and to oppose tuition tax credits.

The 1982 Missouri Baptist Convention will be held in Kansas City, Oct. 25-27.

HMB commissions 29 chaplains, 75 missionaries in joint service

ATLANTA (BP) — In the largest commissioning service in its history, the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board commissioned 75 missionaries and endorsed 29 chaplains in a joint service.

Carl Hart, director of the HMB chaplaincy division, explained there have been three previous services where chaplains were endorsed, but never before had home missionaries and chaplains been commissioned in the same service.

"Before, too many people had just looked upon chaplains' endorsement as a stamp of approval, but this recognizes the role of chaplains and says to Southern Baptists they too are missionaries," Hart added.

"In fact, they are the least expensive missionaries we've got, since their salaries are paid not by the mission boards but by the institution which hires them."

The 29 chaplains endorsed by the board included 12 military chaplains and spouses, nine hospital chaplains, seven industrial chaplains, and one for business-industrial chaplaincy.

The 75 missionaries commissioned included 28 involved in church extension, most as church planter apprentices; 14 in Christian social ministries; 16 in rural-urban missions; four in evangelism; and three in black church relations.

All missionaries commissioned had previously been appointed by the board, and most already are serving on the field.

The commissioning service was held at Roswell Street Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga., with a 150-voice choir and a 15-piece brass ensemble from the church providing special music. Nelson Price, pastor, welcomed the 1,000 persons attending.

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TENNESSEE BAPTIST

Children's Homes

P. O. Box 347
BRENTWOOD
37027

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/TREASURER
EVANS B. BOWEN

Your Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes has been assessed by the I.R.S. with penalties and interest based upon the assertion that the Children's Homes work is not "exclusively religious" and can be considered solely as charitable work, hence not an integrated auxiliary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The I.R.S. has advised us and numerous public officials who have inquired that while the Children's Homes have been determined to be exempt from Federal Income Tax it is "required to file an annual return for the purpose of carrying out the internal Revenue laws." The I.R.S. written position is that:

"As the principal activity of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. is the operation of an orphanage, a charitable, rather than religious activity, it has been determined that the organization does not meet the exemption for filing..."

On February 13, 1981, the Children's Homes notified the I.R.S. of its position, which it had first taken in 1977, challenging the regulation, the plain meaning of the language of the regulation and the violation that such filing and payment of penalties would entail under the First Amendment of the Constitution.

On August 3, 1981, the Homes was officially advised by the I.R.S. that it was assessed for penalties and interest for failure to file for the years 1977, 1978 and 1979 in the amount of approximately \$15,000.00, which increases each day by interest thereon. Of course, this does not include the additional years of 1980 and 1981 for which the Children's Homes has taken the same position.

This is not the first stand that your Children's Homes has taken on this Constitutional separation issue. In previous years we had determined that the funds which were coming to our dependent children from federal payments of any type should be used and/or maintained solely for the child for whom it was provided. Furthermore, we determined that we would not sign a Declaration of Integration Compliance for we felt that was unnecessary involvement and that it was our Christian duty to live above such a requirement which we have steadfastly done. This is one of your agencies which has not accepted any State or Federal assistance to, or direction of its program for the care of children in the child-care ministry of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. We will not, and cannot, compromise on this position! So strongly do the Trustees feel on this matter that if required to so comply they would recommend to this Convention that we withdraw as Tennessee Baptists from the child-care ministry, leaving it to charity and state and public organizations to care for the children and use the dollars which are committed to the Lord Jesus Christ in ministry and in work which is not deluded by government control and entanglement which so seriously limits or defeats our exclusively religious use of the mission funds.

The churches of America have almost unanimously opposed these regulations and that opposition has now been spearheaded and is resting in the hands of Tennessee Baptists through the Tennessee Baptist



EVANS B. BOWEN determined to be exempt from Federal Income Tax it is "required to file an annual return for the purpose of carrying out the internal Revenue laws." The I.R.S. written position is that:

PROVIDING FOR THE CHILDREN

TBCH is now constructing a cottage in Johnson City. This is a new concept that we call a Satellite Home. This Satellite Home will function under the supervision of the Chattanooga Superintendent. Providing this facility will help meet the needs of dependent children in Upper East Tennessee.

We are also in the process of completely refurbishing two of the older cottages on the Chattanooga Campus. This is meeting a need that has existed for a long time making a more pleasant home environment for the children in those cottages — enabling us to do a better job.

Many have dreamed for a long time of an Activities Building at the Chattanooga Campus but current programs make it increasingly more difficult to appropriate funds for this facility. We ask each of you to share this need with your churches and pray with us that God will provide TBCH with the "over and above" money to construct this much-needed building. We look forward to the day when Chattanooga will enjoy such a facility.

TBCH has recently completed three new staff apartments at the Memphis Home. They are a much-needed asset on the campus — providing space for houseparents to have a place to live on their relief days.

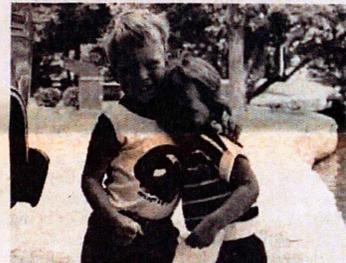
TBCH is moving toward the building of a Maternity Home. We have rendered maternity care through the years but through the use of facilities other than our own.

Maternity Home facilities should enable Tennessee Baptists to minister within the framework of their beliefs. We do not believe in abortion but we know there are still unwanted babies. TBCH's answer to this problem is to provide a place to minister to the mother and baby by establishing a Christian Maternity Home in which pre-natal and post-natal care is given. This will probably result in more babies for adoption.

We care because Jesus compels us to care and, through the concern of Tennessee Baptists, He continues to provide for the children.



TBCH Provides a Warm Bed



TBCH Provides Lots of Love

Children's Homes' refusal to file or pay the penalty for the failure to file the 990 Form.

Why are we so leading the fight???

1. Because the concept of church activities is being greatly narrowed in a manner that is not historically valid.
2. The reporting under 990 would constitute an unnecessary and costly burden on the activity of not only the Children's Homes but later, if unresisted, all manner of Church activities outside of the meeting house of the Church walls.
3. The attempted process by I.R.S. represents an unwarranted intrusion and excessive entanglement of a Government Agency in the work and ministry of the Churches, in the world, in the name of our Lord and Savior.
4. Theologically it is offensive to seek to impose a definition of "religion" and "Church" which churches cannot accept theologically.
5. It is an attempt to pry apart the church from its ministry in the world in an attempt to separate church-related institutions from the churches that sponsor them.
6. It ignores agencies which perform ministries essential to the Churches' mission and must not be put in a different category from the worship, fellowship or evangelistic functions of the Church.

To sit back and allow this Government Agency to test the tax-exempt status of each of the missions and functions of the church which are separately incorporated from the church and the Convention is to allow the I.R.S., however well-intended, to define "religion," "church" or "church-relatedness." Enforcement by the I.R.S. of the determination that the Children's Homes is not an ex-



TBCH Provides Spiritual Guidance



TBCH Provides Good Food

clusively religious work of Tennessee Baptist Churches is to allow them to:

1. Analyze the facts of each Church agency on a case-by-case basis, making them the arbitrator and definer of each agency's relationship to the Church or to the Convention of Churches.
2. Evaluate in depth the integratedness and auxiliary nature of the agency or institution in question.
3. Periodic surveillance by the I.R.S. to see if the agency has changed in any way.
4. Make a subjective conclusion about the motivation, intent and spirituality of the agency of the Church and those who operate it.

Our fellow American, William P. Thompson, has said: "If churches don't wake up and do something, they may well be headed for the day when the American Government will confine the free exercise of religion to the Sanctuary, to sacrament and worship... The same narrow confines allowed in the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China."

With this admonition in mind your Children's Homes intends, with the Executive Board of T.B.C. backing them, to pursue all the administrative and judicial avenues available to us to maintain this very precious principle which you and I believe to be so essential to our faith and to our right to worship according to the dictates of our heart until Jesus comes again.

Thanksgiving is part of that season when cool, frosty nights begin to surround us inviting the warmth of a fireplace with the family gathered for fellowship. It comes when football is in fullswing and school children have gone long enough to become anxious for a few days break.



DEAN DOSTER

Thanksgiving brings us to a celebration of God's blessings — a long-standing tradition of our founding Fathers. It is, to many of us, that best holiday of the year because it is a two-day celebration. We get together with our families, with Mom and Dad, to talk about the good old days when everyone was at home, and to laugh together — just leisure time with each other. And yes, we always have turkey with all the trimmings, home-grown vegetables, sweet potatoes, home-made bread, and sometimes even pumpkin pie.

Does this strike a familiar note to you? Many of us do indeed have so much for which we can thank our Lord. However, there are many who have never had the experience of a loving family or a family reunion.

There are hundreds of boys and girls across our home state of Tennessee who have never experienced the touch from a compassionate mother and the concern of a Christian father. They don't know about family affairs like the one I just described. They know only disappointment, sorrow and abuse. For this reason, Tennessee Baptists make every effort to make life at TBCH a happy and wholesome experience.

We hope our children can have turkey and trimmings and pumpkin pie. We hope they can enjoy the Christlike atmosphere of a family setting in one of our cottages. And sometimes, just sit around the warm fireplace with their houseparents and newly gained family.

Most of us will have our families but TBCH's boys and girls have us, Tennessee Baptists.

I hurt when I think of the heartache of many but this Thanksgiving I'll enjoy it all just a little better knowing that Tennessee Baptists are helping the children at TBCH enjoy Thanksgiving, too.

Thanks, Tennessee Baptists, for caring enough to provide the very best Child Care in the name of Jesus.



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BIBLE BOOK SERIES
Lesson for Nov. 29

The King's messengers

By Jerry Oakley, pastor
Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield

Basic Passage: Matthew 9:35 to 10:42
Focal Passages: Matthew 9:36 to 10:1, 5-8, 19-20, 32-34, 38-39

Matthew teaches the reason for the call of the King's messengers and what is expected of them as messengers. There is nothing our world needs more than for God's people to grasp the true reason for messengers (we all are messengers if we are Christians) and the expectations Jesus had and has for His messengers.

In Matthew 9:36-10:1, we are told in picturesque language the motivation that pulses in Jesus for His calling of "laborers." Jesus is traveling around the countryside. As He travels He comes in contact with all kinds of human problems. He saw the problems of the city, the village, and the people who dwelled in the open country. Jesus related directly to each problem. The problems began to gather intensity. He was limited in where He could be at any given time. There was also a limit to what He could personally do. Jesus realized He must have help.



Oakley

He began to pray and urged His followers to pray for men to help in His work.

Why did Jesus feel such a compelling compassion for these people? There was no reason within the people themselves. They were mangled and utterly weary of life. They were laid prostrate by mortal wounds to the spirit. There was no attribute about them that would stir a compelling compassion — unless one was observing them with an eye of love. This is the secret. The people had no compelling worth, but Jesus had a compelling love.

This is still true of humanity. We have no compelling worth. Man is still a creature mired deeply in the quagmire of sin. Jesus, however, still looks with an eye of love. He still is holding out the hand of redemption to all of humanity. He does not select any particular class of people, no particular color of people, no particular culture of people. Jesus is concerned to save all people from the ravages of sin. If a person was or is going to be a laborer in the harvest of Jesus, then they must have this same indiscriminate love for all men.

Jesus selected His 12 disciples, empowered them with His power, and sent

them on His mission. Matthew 9:5-8 reveals a strange-sounding command. They were limited in their mission to the Jews. There are many who find it hard to believe that Jesus issued such a command. It was so foreign to His nature and His view of mankind.

The saying is so unlike the mind of Jesus. He must have said it for no one would have created this saying and attributed it to Him. We can be certain that it was not a permanent command. Matthew 28:19-20, among other passages of Scripture, very definitely eliminates this command from the mind of all Christians.

What is the explanation? As we review this command, in actual fact, it only limits the first journeys of the 12 to Galilee. It gives the Jews the first offer of salvation. The 12 were not equipped to preach to the Gentiles. Jesus seems content to send the 12 to people they could most effectively reach with their message and to an area which was most fertile to hear that message.

Jesus now begins to give more general instructions to His followers. These instructions look beyond the immediate followers down the corridor of time to all subsequent disciples. He instructs them not to worry about what they will say when they are confronted by a hostile world. The Spirit of God will speak within them.

Delivering God's message is the function of God's people. In Matthew 10:32-34, the necessity of this task is pressed home once again by Jesus. He tells us, if we translate literally, "Everyone therefore who shall confess in Me before men, in him will I also confess before My Father." Note the preposition "in." It is vitally important to our understanding of this relationship to Jesus. We are to confess Jesus in the sphere of His life. He is to compose the very atmosphere in which we live. If we deny Jesus, we are separated from Him. He is also separated from us and will deny us before the Father.

Later in verses 38-39, Jesus further emphasizes the need of complete dedication from His messengers. Messengers must deliver their message to the world at all cost. The Christian must be willing to give his life in agony. The message of God must be delivered.

There is no place for a policy of safety and timidity in the Christian life. However, if the Christian gives his life to Jesus, he shall save it.

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES
Lesson for Nov. 29

Love one another

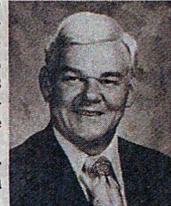
By David J. Irby, chairman, department of religion and philosophy
Union University, Jackson

Basic Passage: 1 John 4
Focal Passage: 1 John 4:7-21

This week's focal passage, 1 John 4:7-21, forms the heart of John's entire epistle and contains one of the most profound treatises on Christian love to be found in the New Testament. Its emphasis is upon the source, nature, and practice of Christian love.

Source of Christian love

The focal passage begins with an exhortation to love: "Let us love one another" (v.7). This exhortation is found again in verse 11: "We also ought to love one another," and in verse 21: "He who loves God should love his brother also." Christians therefore are exhorted to love. They are commanded to love (see John 13:34-35; 1 John 2:7-11). Yet, this command to love cannot be obeyed unless one first is loved.



Irby

The well-spring of Christian love (agape) does not reside in man but in God. "Love is of (from) God" the writer declares in verse 7. Although commanded to love, the Christian cannot do it apart from God. We cannot give what we have not received. Verse 19 states the matter simply: "We love because He

first loved us." Note that the King James Version reads: "We love Him because He first loved us." The first reading is preferred and it means that the only reason that Christians love at all is because God first loved us. Therefore, God is the source of all agape love in the world.

Nature of Christian love

Having established the fact that love originates in God, the writer indicates the nature of that love. It is something expressed or manifested. Love is more than a feeling for others, however benevolent it may be. It is a feeling expressed, a benevolent action intended for the well-being of others.

"God is love," the writer declares in verse 16, but he does not stop with this statement about God's being. God's love was manifested by His action in sending His Son that we might live through Him. (v.9). He states the same truth in verse 10: "God loved us and sent His Son to be the expiation for our sins."

Truly God is love. This statement is one of three great triads in 1 John: God is light, God is righteous, and God is love. Yet we would never know Him to be love apart from what He did. We know what God is only because of what He did and does for us. Love, therefore, is the unselfish, benevolent action of reaching out to others to enhance their lives.

Practice of Christian love

This lesson reminds us that love is not fulfilled simply by our receiving God's love. It has to be passed on to others. It is only as we love others that His love is perfected in us (v.12).

But whom are we to love? We are to love our brothers and sisters in Christ. God loved the world. We are to love the brothers. The practice of Christian love is directed not to the world (1 John 2:15-17), but to the brothers! This theme dominates the passage for this lesson and is found throughout the epistle (see 1 John 1:9-11, 3:11, 23).

If a Christian does not love his brothers, he cannot love a lost world. If he does not love his brothers, he does not love even God (4:20). However, as we love each other and seek each other's welfare above our own, God truly abides with us and His love is perfected in us (4:12).

There is a legend that the Apostle John, the traditional author of this epistle, lived his final years in Ephesus. When he was old and infirm, the story goes, he would be carried into the church where he was pastor. When asked if he had a word for his fellow Christians, he always said, "Little children, love one another."

Penn.-Jersey sets three-year goals

ERIE, Pa. (BP) — The Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey laid down a host of goals for 1982-85 during their annual convention in Erie.

Messengers voted to increase Sunday School enrollment from the current 18,000 to 25,000 by Oct. 1, 1985. They also want to add at least 85 new congregations to the 162 churches and chapels they now have and will encourage at least 125 churches to increase their percentage of mission gifts through the SBC Cooperative Program.

They adopted a convention operating budget of \$1,313,646 of which \$398,000 is anticipated income from the convention's churches and chapels. The convention will forward 26.5 percent of the latter figure to national SBC causes, the same percentage as in 1981.

Other development goals adopted include having 2,500 members trained in witnessing; 5,000 in missions education through Woman's Missionary Union or Brotherhood involvement; 150 churches in direct mission projects outside their church field; 1,000 family units committed to family worship and Bible study in the home; and streamlining the process of calling and orienting mission pastors.

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"For wrath killed the foolish man" (Job 5:2).

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LIFE AND WORK SERIES
Lesson for Nov. 29

Freed by the gospel

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

Basic Passage: Galatians 1:1-24
Focal Passages: Galatians 1:1, 9-17

God provides a great truth for us in the six chapters, 149 verses, and 3,098 words which comprise the epistle to the Galatians. This Galatian letter is the Magna Charta of the spiritual life. This epistle gives us the Christian's Bill of Rights.

This is the epistle that delivered us from selective cooking! Those in Old Testament times could not eat pork; we may eat pork. The saint in the Old Testament could not wear garments of mixed threads; I can wear a garment of wool and dacron mixed.



Stow

What was right and wrong in the Old Testament does not necessarily apply in the New Testament, and vice versa. In the Old Testament they worshipped on the seventh day of the week; we worship on the first day — altogether different! They could not eat certain birds, animals, and things in the sea. We can eat anything that will not eat us first.

It is the Galatian letter that sets forth the difference between law and grace; the old administration and the new administration. "The law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ" (John 1:17).

God's freedom (grace) flows like a river. Historically, He has chosen to reveal Himself as liberator. Unfortunately there are many who have dammed up the river of freedom with their own ideas of freedom.

Paul encountered such and addressed this problem in his letter to the churches of Galatia. These Judaizers who claimed to be Christians, came preaching a different message from the one Paul had preached. They claimed that faith in Christ was not sufficient. They thought that these Gentile converts needed to take upon themselves the Jewish law including circumcision. In addition, they denied Paul's apostleship.

The source of the gospel (1:1)

Paul affirms that his apostleship and the good news of Christ had come to him from God, not men. After his identity as the author in verse 1, he gives his usual greeting of grace and peace. These blessed commodities of grace and peace come down from above from the divine dual source, God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ. Grace and peace

are the fuel the child of God consumes on his way to heaven.

Paul begins nine of his New Testament letters by asserting his apostleship. This was in dispute in many places, so he said here, "Paul, an apostle," then he goes on to declare, "not of man," (he was not a man-made apostle), "neither by man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father."

This great title, "God the Father," is reserved just for God the Father. The Lord Jesus is just as much God as the Father, and the Holy Spirit is just as much God as the Father, but you never read in the Bible, "God the Son," or "God the Holy Spirit." This does not mean there is any inferiority whatsoever in the Godhead, but this majestic title should be underscored.

The course of the gospel (1:9-15)

The gospel Paul had proclaimed had taken a strange course. Paul's heart was broken over the situation. He could hardly fathom that his converts were about to turn away from the truth which he had taught them. This was a serious issue. It is still a great problem. I have often thought that, for Baptists who believe in the gospel of grace, a pastor's work would be easier if it were a gospel of law. Then instead of spending so much time promoting attendance at meetings and other church related matters, we could hold excommunication over the heads of members. Nevertheless, I still would opt to keep it a "grace" gospel.

Paul traced the course of the gospel through his own life. He traced its headwaters back to the throne of God (v. 12). He continued the flow into his life when he recognized himself as a sinner rebelling against God (v. 13). God's grace had delivered him from his past life and given him a new purpose for living (v. 15-16). It had set him free.

"Free at last, free at last!" were the cries heard after the great civil rights movement in our country a few years ago. This should be the cry of every child of God who has been set free by God's

glorious gospel of grace.

The force of the gospel (16-17)

The force of the gospel is clearly seen in verse 16. Paul said he was called by God's grace, "to reveal His Son in me." This expression is loaded with meaning. It could be interpreted to mean that Christ was to be revealed through Paul. Or it could imply that Christ was revealed to Paul. But much more is implied in these words.

The gospel of grace had touched Saul at the very depths of his soul. It was a deep personal encounter with the Jesus he had so despised. God had taken the blindness from his eyes, and now he could clearly see who Jesus really was. This great revelation found the basis for Paul's doctrines in all of his writings — Christ in you the hope of glory.

This was the force of the gospel then and it still works today.

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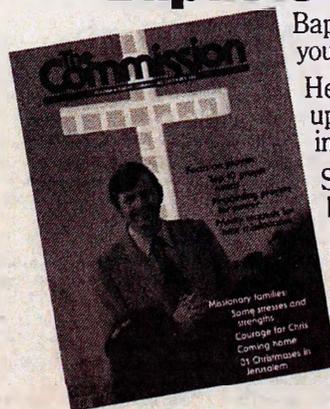
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Couple recalls trauma of Thanksgiving 1980

By Gail Rothwell

NASHVILLE (BP)— When Ann and Charles Smith say, "Whether I live or die let it all be for the glory of God," they say it with conviction born of experiences which began a year ago.

Six days before Thanksgiving 1980, the Smiths survived the Las Vegas MGM Grand Hotel fire that killed 83 persons. They were in Las Vegas to talk with church leaders about starting singles work there. Mrs. Smith is a consultant in single adult ministry at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

They were apart when the fire was discovered and remained separated during their individual efforts to escape the

smoke and flames. Mrs. Smith suffered a compound leg fracture when she dropped to a balcony below. Smith was uninjured, and they were reunited at Sunrise Hospital seven hours after their ordeal began.

As the Smiths look back over the past year, several impressions stand out.

"The physical and emotional aspects have affected me more than I expected," said Ann. "I feel like I have been trying to lead a normal life in abnormal circumstances."

Also, Ann's injury gave her a new sensitivity to handicapped persons. "During the past year, there have been times when I was totally dependent on Charles for everything," she said. "During part of that time, I lost all motivation."

Charles said isolation has been his most overwhelming feeling. "Isolation comes because it is very difficult to go through an experience of this kind, care for your wife, and maintain a helpful relationship with clients. It is hard for anyone to understand what you've been

through. There is no way to adequately verbalize those feelings."

The Smiths agree that the fire has caused them to reflect upon the meaning of their lives.

"The experience made me aware that I am probably needier now than at any other point in my life," Charles said. "I'm at a stage where I need to be given to."

Ann said the tragedy has made her more aware of what a self-oriented and self-centered world she lives in and how transient life really is.

"One of the greatest truths I've discovered this year is that we Christians need to develop a new sensitivity to others," she said. "We need to be able to exhibit real love, without placing undue expectations on each other."

When traveling, Ann and Charles now take added precautions. They have a policy never to stay above the third floor of any hotel. They always familiarize themselves with the location of fire exits and the hotel's fire system.

The Smiths believe the trauma of the MGM Hotel has helped them to grow closer to God and to each other and has given them a new appreciation for life.

"I know God is working for my good in everything," Ann said. "If I'm committed to Him, there will be no experience which can come to me which I cannot use to grow."

Devotional

Give thanks

By Ron Phillips

One stormy autumn night in 1860 a side wheel steamboat, "The Lady Elgin," collided with a lumber schooner, broke up, and sank in Lake Michigan a mile offshore from the village of Winnetka, Illinois. Of the 393 people aboard, 279 drowned.

Among the heroes of that tragedy was Edward Spencer, a college student. A strong swimmer, he plunged into the lake and swam out to people still afloat, towing them to safety one after another.



Phillips

After 17 round trips, Spencer became delirious from the strain. He was rendered an invalid through his exposure and strain. He was confined to a wheel chair the rest of his life.

On one of his birthdays years later, someone asked Edward Spencer about his most vivid memory of that heroic day in his life. His reply, reported in a Chicago newspaper, was the fact that not one of the 17 people returned to thank him.

Humanity's failure to express genuine gratitude burdened the heart of our Lord while He walked the earth. In Luke 17:11-19, we observe a lesson in gratitude and ingratitude. Ten lepers met our Lord as He journeyed toward Jerusalem. Their disease, considered to be the world's most terrible malady, was called "the living death." Josephus declares that lepers were treated as dead men. Sores, scabs, and boils covered the bodies.

Jesus had compassion on the lepers. He instructs the 10 to go show themselves to the priest. As they were going they were cleansed. Instantly the pain stopped. Immediately the hideous sores left their skin. The once sore and crusty skin was now as smooth as that of a new born baby. Jesus had removed their reproach. They were whole.

One of the 10, a Samaritan, ran back to Jesus and with a loud voice glorified God. As he shouted praises to God, he fell down on his face before Jesus. He kissed His feet and thanked Jesus again and again.

Jesus then asked the question, "Where are the nine?" Only one had come back to give thanks. The other nine had forgotten to give thanks. How callous of them to forget. It seems that one would never forget so great a miracle.

Indeed, men do forget to say "thank you" to the Lord Jesus. We are far more callous than the lepers. Our disease was worse than theirs. Our sin sickness had kept us separated and hopeless. We were dead in trespasses and sin. Jesus came and gave His life to save us.

When is the last time you thanked Him with a heart overflowing with love. During this season of thanksgiving, find a private place and tell Jesus how grateful you are for Him.

—Phillips is pastor of Central Baptist Church, Hixson.



REFLECTION — One year ago Charles and Ann Smith survived the Las Vegas MGM Grand Hotel fire which claimed the lives of 83 persons.

Argentine street honors missionary

CIPOLLETTI, Argentina (BP)— The Argentine city of Cipolletti has named a street to honor the memory of long-time Southern Baptist Missionary George A. Bowdler.

Bowdler, who died in 1972, probably would have been delighted because he traveled by horse and sulky through the town and for hundreds of miles around for years before the area had paved streets and cars.

A pioneer missionary evangelist in central Argentina, Bowdler spent two decades (1934-55) starting churches in the Rio Negro Province, including First Baptist Church in Cipolletti, the small city he used as a home base. Appointed by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in 1919, he directed two Baptist schools in Buenos Aires before moving to Cipolletti. He retired in 1956.

More than 500 people attended the street-naming ceremony, including Missionary Bruce A. Romoser and members of the 12 churches of the Rio Negro-Neuquen Baptist Association.

Cipolletti Secretary of Government Nestor Malianni, in reading the city ordinance authorizing the naming, said, "This municipality considers it a pleasure to honor this pastor, who very unselfishly gave of himself to spread the word of the gospel."

Bowdler's widow, Ruth N. Bowdler, lives in Richmond, Va., and could not attend the ceremony. Their four children include George A. Bowdler Jr., former Southern Baptist missionary to Guatemala, and William G. Bowdler, who was assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs during President Carter's administration.

Volunteers transform Rice home into Southern Baptist landmark

By Patti Stephenson

NORTHBORO, Mass. (BP)— When Christian Service Corps volunteer Bill Crofts first came to Northboro looking for the Luther Rice home, people scratched their heads and could not recall such a place.

But, thanks to Crofts and other volunteers, the Luther Rice home will soon become a Southern Baptist landmark in this small New England town near Boston, where Rice, the far-sighted man who organized Baptists nationally, was born in 1783.

To celebrate his 200th birthday in 1983, Southern Baptists have undertaken the restoration and development of his birthplace. The property, acquired by the SBC Home Mission Board in 1968, is also the site of the Luther Rice Memorial Church and the offices of the Baptist General Association of New England.

A national committee appointed by HMB President William G. Tanner is overseeing renovation of the turn-of-the-century house built on the same foundation where the Rice home originally stood.

A nearby barn and blacksmith shop will house a visitors' center, library, conference center, and a historical collection of Rice's writings. Musical dramas depicting his life and Southern Baptist history will be presented in an outdoor amphitheater.

Volunteers are providing most of the labor for this restoration, according to Bill Wilson, HMB director of Christian Service Corps.

Following plans designed by architect Hamish Frazier, another Christian Service Corps volunteer, Crofts and his crew tore out the downstairs kitchen and moved it upstairs; installed plumbing fixtures for an upstairs bath; and replaced several windows.

The second floor will be used as an apartment for the curator of the property. Rufus Crozier, a former professor at Missouri Baptist College in St. Louis, and his wife now live in the home as Mission Service Corps volunteers.

The first floor is being restored in the federalist style of the early 19th century, when Rice's work was just beginning. Mrs. Cecil B. Day of Atlanta is furnishing these rooms with period antiques. They will be open for tours, but will also provide a meeting place for Baptists, according to M. Wendell

Below, chairman of the restoration committee and director of the HMB mission ministries division.

There is much to be done before the June 18, 1983, dedication, Below noted. He predicted the finished homesite will be "much like a state park with a Christian witness" where visitors can see "what Southern Baptists are doing in missions around the world."

Wilson said it is a fitting memorial for the man who most influenced early Baptists to organize in support of missions.

"New England is where Baptists began in America," he explained. "Roger Williams came here to start the first American Baptist church. Yet when New Englanders hear of Southern Baptists, they say 'who?' We hope a visit to the Luther Rice home will help answer that question."



CAREER DEVELOPMENT STUDY

—Seven years after graduating from Harvard University Law School, 25 percent of the men but only one percent of the women in the class were partners in law firms. Among graduates of the university's school of public health, the average salary for men was \$37,800 a year as opposed to \$21,300 for women. These were among the findings of a survey of seven Harvard graduate school classes done by Susan Bailey and Barbara Burrell of the university's Office of Institutional Policy Research on Women's Education. The survey examined the careers of the 1972 graduates of the schools of law, dentistry, design, divinity, education, public health, and arts and sciences seven years after the students received their advanced degrees. Women graduates had consistently lower salaries and fewer responsibilities, whether or not they were single or were married with children. ... The Harvard study shows that job discrimination exists even for those women who are trained for the better paying professions." (THE TENNESSEAN, 9/3/81)