

Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 147/No. 51/December 23, 1981

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

SBC seminaries enroll 10,000 for first time

By Norman Jameson

NASHVILLE (BP) — A modest 2.6 percent increase at Southern Baptists' six theological seminaries pushed total enrollment to more than 10,000 for the first time.

Including the 509 enrolled in non-credit courses, campus enrollment in all categories for the fall 1981 terms is 10,058, up 251 over fall 1980, according to statistics released by the seminaries.

Enrollment in courses expected to lead to graduate degrees, as reported Oct. 1 to the Association of Theological Schools, is 9,298, up 2.9 percent over the 9,033 reported last year. ATS statistics show the remainder enrolled in associate or diploma programs.

Enrollment at the 192 seminaries reporting to ATS was 50,559, an increase of 1.9 percent, according to Marvin Taylor, ATS statistician.

Southern Baptist seminaries account for 18.4 percent of the enrollment in seminaries in the U.S., up from 18.2 percent last year.

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., enjoyed the largest numerical increase among SBC seminaries with 138, showing an increase for the 17th consecutive year and putting their total at 3,934, including 97 non-credit students.

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., realized the greatest percentage growth. Its increase

to 628 in all programs from 590 was 6.4 percent.

Two seminaries, New Orleans and Midwestern, suffered slight decreases. New Orleans dropped seven to 1,341 including 103 non-credit students, and Midwestern in Kansas City, dropped eight to 520 including 38 non-credit students.

Enrollment at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., increased 22 to 1,268 in all programs, which includes no non-credit students.

Southern seminary in Louisville, Ky., continues as the second largest SBC seminary with a gain of 68 students to 2,367, including 248 non-credit.

The six seminaries graduated 2,282 students between Oct. 1, 1980, and Oct. 1, 1981. That total includes Southwestern, 843; Southeastern, 285; Southern, 576; New Orleans, 338; Midwestern, 108; and Golden Gate, 132.

SBC seminaries double their outreach through their cooperative effort in the Seminary External Education Division, which this year enrolled 10,347 students in 401 seminary extension centers and through the independent study institute.

The centers are in 40 states, West Germany, Cuba, and Diego Garcia, an island in the Indian Ocean. Independent study students live in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, District of Columbia, and in 19 other countries.



CHRISTMAS BIKES — Bill Wilson (left), pastor of Brentwood Baptist Church; Joe Cimino (center), the church's Royal Ambassador director; and Bill Morris, director of the Franklin Children's Home, pose with 71 new bicycles and their 71 proud owners. The bikes were given by church members who contributed to an RA project to give Christmas presents to children at the home. (See story on page 5.)

Gabhart plans retirement from Belmont presidency

Herbert C. Gabhart, president of Belmont College in Nashville for over 22 years, will retire from that post on May 31, 1982. In accepting his resignation, the college trustees voted to name Gabhart as chancellor of the Tennessee Baptist institution.

Gabhart, 68, came to the school as president on Aug. 1, 1959, from the pastorate of McLean Baptist Church of Memphis, where he had served for nine years. Previously, he had been pastor of First Baptist Church, Williamsburg, Ky., for eight years.



Gabhart

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

Morris Early, chairman of the board of trustees, said the position of chancellor was created so that Gabhart can continue to play an important role in communicating Belmont College to its

community and constituency.

The trustee chairman emphasized that the position of chancellor will not necessarily become a permanent position at the college.

When Gabhart reached the normal retirement age of 65 in 1979, the trustees asked him to continue as president on a year-by-year basis.

"His leadership has provided the college with extensive growth and inner academic strength," Early commented. "The enrollment of the college has grown from 360 in 1959 to over 2,000 this year counting the special students."

In 1959 Belmont College offered two degrees in nine areas of study. Now the school offers six degrees in 35 areas of study.

During Gabhart's tenure, eight new buildings have been constructed and other facilities renovated.

The trustees' policy and personnel committee will serve as a search committee to recommend a new president to the board of trustees. Robert Woody, pastor of Bluegrass Baptist Church of Hendersonville, is chairman of the committee.

Stringfield to replace Kidd as top hospital executive

At a meeting of the trustees of Baptist Hospital of Nashville, Gene Kidd announced his plans to step aside as the facility's chief executive officer and assume the position as president emeritus at the end of this year. Kidd has served as administrator for 28 years.

The trustees then voted to name the executive vice-president, David Stringfield, as chief executive of the Tennessee Baptist facility, effective Jan. 1, 1982.

Kidd, 61, joined the hospital's administrative staff in 1954, coming to Nashville from the position of administrator of Phoebe Memorial Hospital, Albany, Ga.

During Kidd's tenure, Baptist Hospital has grown from 210 beds to 724 beds, making it the largest hospital in the area. Early next year the hospital will begin a \$46-million renovation and reconstruction project, which Kidd as president emeritus will oversee.

In addition to his service at the hospital, Kidd has served as chairman of the American College of Hospital Administrators and as president of both the Tennessee Hospital Association and the



Kidd



Stringfield

Southeastern Hospital Association. He is a former member of the Council on Management and Planning of the American Hospital Association and the Tennessee Board of Nursing.

Stringfield is a native of Nashville and a graduate of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, and Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

He served as assistant director of the Tennessee Hospital Association, director of the Tennessee Nursing Home Association, and as assistant director of the Milwaukee (Wisc.) County Hospital before coming to Baptist Hospital in 1968.

No 'Reflector' mailed next week

The Baptist and Reflector will not be printed and mailed next week.

The Tennessee state Baptist newspaper is printed every week of the year — except New Year's week. Therefore, there will be no issue dated Dec. 30, 1981.

This issue (Dec. 23, 1981), our 51st of the year, closes Vol. 147 of the Baptist and Reflector.

The next issue of the Baptist and Reflector will be dated Jan. 6, 1982, and will begin the 148th year of publication.

Accused killer ruled competent for trial

DAINGERFIELD, Tex. (BP) — Alvin Lee King III, the man charged with killing five people at First Baptist Church of Daingerfield on June 22, 1980, has been ruled competent to stand trial.

King has been confined to Rusk State Hospital for the past 17 months, where he underwent psychiatric examination and is now considered capable of standing trial for murder.

He is accused of bursting into a Sunday morning worship service at the east Texas church and spraying the crowd with bullets. Five persons were killed and 10 injured. King later shot himself.

Personnel actions highlight meeting of HMB trustees

ATLANTA (BP)— In a string of personnel actions the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board elected three staff members and three national consultants, and accepted with "deep regret" the resignation of HMB Evangelism Vice-president C. B. Hogue.

Hogue, the board's director of evangelism for more than eight years, resigned effective Jan. 15 to become pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church in Tulsa, Okla., returning to the state where he was evangelism director before joining the HMB staff.

Two other Home Mission Board staff members were transferred to newly-created positions.

E. Warren Woolf, director of the personnel division for the past 10 years, was named to a new position as national consultant for student work under the department of special mission ministries. Woolf was director of that department from 1966-71, and previously was director of the Baptist Student Union at Georgia Tech in Atlanta for 15 years. As a consultant, Woolf will work out of his home in Atlanta.

Mrs. Katherine Roberson, director of personnel employment services in the HMB personnel division, was transferred to a new position as director of marketing services in the promotion department, effective Feb. 1.

Two new staff members from Alabama and New Mexico were elected by the board.

Kenneth Chadwick, language missions director for the Baptist Convention of New Mexico since 1975, was elected to a new position as assistant director for ethnic church growth in the language missions division, effective Jan. 1. A native of Arkansas reared in California, Chadwick is a former home missionary in New Mexico and former pastor of Spanish-speaking churches in California.

Jack Washington, director of Christian social ministries for Birmingham Baptist Association in Alabama since 1974, was elected a researcher in the research division, effective Jan. 1. Washington, born in Arkansas and reared in Texas, is a former pastor in Texas and Alabama and a former chaplain in Oklahoma. He will fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Kirk Hadaway, now research director for the Center for Urban Church Studies, Nashville.

In addition to Woolf, national consultants were named in the evangelism section and rural-urban missions department.

Dale Holloway Sr., supervisor of elementary education for the Mississippi Department of Education, Jackson, Miss., and bivocational pastor of Day

Paul Woodford accepts Lewisburg pastorate

Paul Woodford accepted a call to the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Lewisburg, a ministry he began in October.

Woodford, who came to Lewisburg from the pastorate of Ripley's First Baptist Church, has led churches in Mississippi and Louisiana, as well as Tennessee. He is a member of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Committee on Committees.

Woodford is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, of which he is a former faculty member; the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Miss.; and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, La.

Star Baptist Church, Florence, Miss., was named national consultant on bivocational ministries for the rural-urban missions department, succeeding the late J. T. Burdine Sr. Holloway will assume the position Feb. 1, continuing to live in Florence, Miss.

Dean Finley, campus minister for Campbellsville College, Campbellsville, Ky., was named national consultant for youth evangelism, succeeding Dave Bennett. A native of Missouri, Finley is a former BSU intern in Springfield, Mo., and leader of the National Student Ministries "Share Team" in 1975. He will move to Atlanta, effective Jan. 1.

In addition to filling the six national staff and consultant positions, HMB directors approved a contract with the SBC Stewardship Commission to work with the HMB church loans division in conducting a fund-raising campaign to raise \$10-million for new mission churches built as part of Bold Mission Thrust efforts.

The board also approved wording of a clause in church loan contracts which requires churches that receive loans from the HMB to be "in friendly cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention," and giving a legal definition of that phrase. The clause gives the HMB the right to accelerate the maturity of the debt or to foreclose on the loan if a church with an existing loan is "disfellowshipped" by the association, state convention, or SBC.

In a devotional message during the meeting here, SBC Second Vice-president Don Kim, pastor of Berendo Street Baptist Church in Los Angeles, urged Southern Baptists to pray for an effort to establish 1,000 Korean Baptist churches by the end of the decade.

Pointing out there are now more than 200 Korean Baptist churches in the SBC, Kim observed many of them are "baby" churches. "We need to train them, equip them, and teach them the Southern Baptist way of life, including the need for support of the Cooperative Program," Kim said.

Polish spokesman assures Baptists borders open for food supplies

ZURICH, Switzerland (BP)— Although the declaration of martial law in Poland imposed Dec. 12 closed that country's borders, a Polish spokesman has assured European Baptists that food in any quantity will be allowed into the country.

A spokesman for the Polish embassy in Bern, Switzerland, said in a Dec. 15 telephone interview that any food parcels in whatever quantity, even truckloads, will be allowed into the country with only customs verifications necessary.

"These would be really welcome in the present situation," the embassy representative said.

Knud Wumpelmann, general secretary of the European Baptist Federation, said he is confident the latest relief shipment, a truckload of medicine worth more than \$39,000 but purchased for \$13,000, already had reached its destination at Bialystok, where Polish Baptists operate a home for elderly people, before borders were closed.

In all, Baptists have sent six truckloads, mostly foodstuffs, to Poland. The European Baptist Federation and the German Baptist Union have spent \$260,870 for those shipments. The figure



NEW OFFICERS — Newly elected officers of the Nashville Baptist Hospital's board of trustees are (left to right) A. E. Batts, secretary; Franklin Paschall, chairman; Russell Birmingham, vice-chairman; and Kenneth Ross, treasurer.

Union reaches expansion goal, qualifies for challenge grant

JACKSON — Barely eight months after it entered its expansion program fund drive, Union University has reached its \$1,550,000 goal and has qualified for a matching \$200,000 challenge grant from The Kresge Foundation.

"We are pleased to announce that we have sufficient cash and pledges on hand to close the campaign before the end of the year," said Development Director Larry Stewart.

The announcement comes a month after Stewart told the college's Board of Trustees that the campaign lacked \$100,000 to qualify for the Kresge gift. The total amount had to be raised before the end of the year or Union would lose the offer, the development officer said.

The most ambitious undertaking since the college relocated in 1975, the program calls for nearly \$1.4-million to be earmarked for the first major expansion of the Penick Academic Complex.

Since the campaign began, the college has spent about \$500,000 on priority items which included eight additional student apartments, four classrooms, and an extension of the dining hall. Those summer projects, completed in late August, added about 7,500 square feet to the

160,000-square-foot academic complex. The student apartments were additions to the married student complex, but are being used for overflow housing for single students.

When the remaining funds are received, Union will construct a student educational/activity building on the southwest corner of the complex. The largest expenditure at about \$800,000, the addition will provide the college with its first fully-functioning student center consisting of a six-lane Olympic-size swimming pool, a mini-gym, and recreational area.

Expansion of the Emma Waters Summar Library, increasing shelf capacity from 80,000 to 120,000 volumes, will also be completed with funds from the campaign. The \$125,000 addition on the southern side of the complex will also create space for the 3,200-volume Dr. Robert G. Lee Memorial Library.

Remodeling of the college bookstore and other unspecified areas of the complex will be completed at an estimated cost of \$235,000.

McKinney moves to Kingsport church

Litz Manor Baptist Church, Kingsport, recently called Johnny F. McKinney to come as its pastor.

McKinney came to the church from Southside Baptist Church, Johnson City. He is a former pastor of other Tennessee and Kentucky churches.

A native of Johnson City, McKinney is a graduate of Milligan College, Milligan College, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He is presently enrolled in the seminary's doctor of ministry program.



McKinney

Eastwood church calls Wilkerson

Eastwood Baptist Church, Nashville, called Herbert M. Wilkerson as pastor, a ministry he began Nov. 11.

Wilkerson came to Eastwood from the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Pegasus. He is a former pastor of other Tennessee, Florida, and Oklahoma churches, and the founder of Trover Boys' Ranch in Stuart, Fla., at which he also began a Christian school.

Wilkerson attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Free Will Baptist College, Nashville; and Dallas Bible College, Dallas, Tex.

High school students lose high court appeal

By Stan Haste

WASHINGTON (BP)—A group of high school students seeking to hold prayer meetings at their upstate New York school lost their legal battle here as the U.S. Supreme Court declined to review two lower federal court rulings against the students.

The action, taken unanimously and announced without comment, came just one week after a major ruling that students at state colleges and universities have a constitutional right to worship on campus. In writing for an 8-1 court majority in that case, however, Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr. warned that the decision should not be interpreted as signaling a similar result in the New York case.

Six students at the Guilderland, N.Y., high school took their principal, superintendent of schools, and school board to court nearly three years ago after Principal Charles Ciacio and the board refused to grant them permission to conduct prayer meetings inside the school either before or after the school day.

But twice, in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York and at the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, the

students lost. They asked the Supreme Court last year to hear their appeal, claiming that the court of appeals decision "ignores the fundamental right of missions of students to be free of governmental control of their associations and the free flow of ideas."

They also claimed that in the use of school property for religious purposes, "a high school, during non-school hours, is identical to a college or university."

By rejecting those claims, the Supreme Court let stand the October 1980 court of appeals ruling which held in part that school officials had a "compelling state interest" in refusing the students' request. Sanctioning the prayer meetings, the lower court ruled, would have violated the no establishment of religion clause of the First Amendment "by creating an unconstitutional link between church and state."

Further, the Circuit Court of Appeals held in its unanimous ruling, "the prayer meetings would create an improper appearance of official support, and the prohibition against impermissibly advancing religion would be violated."

School officials were further justified in denying the request, the ruling went on, in that they would have been forced to monitor the student group to insure

safety and order, and "more importantly ... to guarantee that participation in the prayer meetings would always remain voluntary."

Unlike the Dec. 8 Supreme Court decision holding that religious groups on college campuses have a constitutional right of free access to a public forum, the court of appeals held that "... a high school is not a 'public forum' where religious views can be freely aired."

The decision concluded: "We must be careful that our public schools, where fundamental values are imparted to our children, are not perceived as institu-

tions that encourage the adoption of any sect or religious ideology."

By refusing to review the lower rulings, the Supreme Court technically did not endorse their findings but for reasons it chose not to disclose decided the time was not right for review of the issue.

Its action apparently means that the high court will avoid, at least for the time being, a major public flap over the sensitive issue of religion in the public school classroom such as that which followed its landmark 1962 and 1963 rulings that states may not require religious devotions in the schools.

Baptists applaud decision allowing worship on campus

WASHINGTON (BP)—Baptist church-state experts and student work leaders are applauding the U.S. Supreme Court's Dec. 8 decision declaring that students at state universities have a constitutional right to conduct worship services on campus.

In Washington, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Executive Director James M. Dunn said the court's 8-1 ruling "should cause all church-state separatists to rejoice."

Dunn said the constitutional danger facing the court in *Widmar vs. Vincent* was an effort by the state "to stifle the free exercise of religion," a posture "we dare not permit." At issue was a policy of the University of Missouri-Kansas City barring religious services from campus buildings and property on grounds that to permit them would amount to an unconstitutional establishment of religion.

Dunn said the effort to ban worship on college campuses represents one of "two tyrannies" faced by those who would defend church-state separation. The other, he said, is the temptation to "allow any religion, especially our own, to use the authority of the state to promote or favor any faith."

Baptist Joint Committee General Counsel John W. Baker, who wrote a brief for the agency on the side of 121 students who challenged the ban, said the decision "greatly expands the religious rights of students."

Noting that the eight-member court majority decided for the students on the basis of their First Amendment rights of free speech and association rather than that of free exercise of religion, Baker said the distinction "does not diminish the importance of the decision." By holding that student religious groups have the same access to campus facilities as secular organizations, "the way was opened for a broader variety of campus student ministries by all religious faiths," Baker said.

Baker emphasized further that the *Widmar* decision "should not be read as a reversal of the prayer and Bible reading cases of the early 1960s. The bans against government involvement in religious exercises remains firm."

George W. Jones, executive secretary of the Association for the Coordination of University Religious Affairs, said the court's ruling "vindicates the kinds of arrangements our group has been working at for the last 10 to 15 years."

A Southern Baptist and director of religious programs at Ball State University, Muncie, Ind., Jones said that while the ban on student worship in Kansas City was "extreme," similar pressure against religious activities has been encountered elsewhere. Some state schools on the west coast and in the Northeast have sometimes been "hostile" toward religion, he said.

BMH trustees approve plan for \$6.7-million expansion

MEMPHIS — The board of trustees of Baptist Memorial Hospital here has approved a \$6.7-million building program which calls for the development of a new campus for the institution's school of nursing.

The new campus, featuring a four-story building with dormitory space for 240 students and modern recreation facilities, will be located on the north side of Union Ave., between Pauline and Camilla, adjacent to the present nursing school and one block east of BMH Medical Center.

Construction should begin about May 1982, with completion expected 18 months later.

The new facility, which includes a

gymnasium, racketball court, game room, and a 60- by 100-foot indoor swimming pool, is needed to care for the growing enrollment at the nursing school, according to hospital administrators.

Other features of the nursing school include faculty offices, a 20-bed teaching laboratory, a library, and an audio visual room.

First floor of the facility will be devoted to classrooms, the second floor to faculty offices, and the third and fourth floors to dormitory space. The recreation facilities will occupy the east side of the new building.

In other action, the trustees elected William A. Crabill of Marks, Miss., as chairman for a one-year term. Crabill is vice-president of Marks Seed Co., Big 3 Lumber Co., and Valley Gin Co.

W. Fred Kendall II, pastor of First Baptist Church, Union City, was chosen first vice-chairman and John B. Strickling of Osceola, Ark., a retired farmer and businessman, second vice-chairman. F. Irvin Hays, pastor of Bartlett Baptist Church, Bartlett, was named secretary.

Volunteers needed for Upper Volta

The Upper Volta Hunger and Relief Project, co-sponsored by Tennessee Baptists and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, is in urgent need of a construction foreman and a French-speaking logistics person.

Volunteers for these positions are needed to work through June, although 90-day periods may be arranged.

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

Interested persons should contact Carroll Owen, director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Ministries Division, P.O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027.

Proffitt named DOM for Lawrence Co.

Frank Proffitt accepted a call from Lawrence County Association of Baptists to come as its director of missions, a ministry he began Dec. 1.

Proffitt came to the position from the pastorate of Fort Robinson Baptist Church, Kingsport. Previously, he was pastor of First Baptist Church, Wilmington, Ill.; First Baptist Church, Hampton; Fordtown Baptist Church, Kingsport; and Flag Pond Baptist Church, Flag Pond.

Proffitt is a past vice-president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Pastors' Conference, and a former chairman of the TBC Committee on Audits. He was a moderator of Holston Baptist Association and Illinois' Three Rivers Baptist Association; vice-moderator of Watauga Baptist Association; and a member of several associational committees.

The new director of missions earned a certificate of theology from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.



Proffitt



VOLUNTEER NEEDS — Archie King (seated), Tennessee Brotherhood director, looks over a computer printout of overseas volunteer needs with (from left) Brotherhood Commission staffers Frank Black and Norman Godfrey, and Ed Bullock, Foreign Mission Board's coordinator for short-term volunteer enlistment. King participated recently in a volunteer involvement discussion at the FMB.

EDITORIAL

Changes in Tennessee Baptist leadership

The end of a year often brings changes in things other than the calendar. This is certainly true in the life of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Four events are occurring this month in the service of four special individuals who have had a great influence on the life of our convention and its institutions.

Three of these leaders will retire at the end of December; the fourth announced this month that he will retire next May.

All of them have made significant contributions to Tennessee Baptists, each in different fields of service. We would not attempt to rate their importance or their accomplishments, so we will use the journalistic tactic of listing them alphabetically.

Alice Byram

On Dec. 31 Mrs. Byram will retire from the position of executive assistant in the administrative office of the TBC Executive Board.

Because she has basically served "behind the scene," Mrs. Byram is probably not well known to rank-and-file Tennessee Baptists. Yet, to those who have served on the Executive Board or any committee of that board or the state convention, her influence and contribution are above question.

Mrs. Byram is an excellent organizer, and much of the work done by the administrative office is a tribute to her guidance, skills, and faithfulness.

In her 26 years of denominational service, she has capably assisted four TBC executive secretaries — Charles Pope, W. Fred Kendall, Ralph Norton, and Tom Madden.

This diminutive lady has been a vital part of hundreds of committee meetings — never pushing or even offering her opinions without prodding — but serving as a necessary source of information. She has the uncanny ability of either knowing the background of any issue or knowing where to find that data.

We would be neglectful if we did not add what a tremendous help she has been to the staff of the Baptist and Reflector in producing and interpreting background and procedure on various issues.

In recent years, Mrs. Byram also has served as registration secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, a service she will continue in retirement.

Frank Charton

After 26 years as director of the church music department, Charton will retire from this post Dec. 31.

It would be impossible to understand all that Char-

ton has done during these years to raise the standards and inspiration of church music in the churches of our state.

Although an accomplished musician in his own right, Charton has never sought or demanded the spotlight. An example of this is how he has used his position of music coordinator of the annual state convention — not to perform himself — but to give the opportunity for Tennessee church musicians to lead the congregational singing and provide special music.

He has been the "encourager" of church ministers of music. His concern has not been only for the full-time musicians in the "big" churches, but he has also provided training sessions and retreats for the volunteer music directors of our churches.

Another of his significant contributions has been the training and use of college students to work with churches during the summers.

Charton was one of the founders of the Tennessee Baptist Chorale, an organization of ministers of music, which performs so ably at each state convention.

It would be difficult to determine all that Charton has meant to church music in our state, but we feel it is not too much of an exaggeration to say that he has had a definite influence in the music you hear in your church services each Sunday.

Herbert Gabhart

Last week Gabhart tendered his resignation as president of Belmont College, effective May 31, 1982.

The college was only eight years old when Gabhart left the pastorate of McLean Baptist Church of Memphis to become the second president of the Baptist school. Baptists had purchased the campus and were attempting — with great hardship — to renovate the facilities and seek accreditation as a senior college. At that time there were 360 students, 265 of which were full time. Today, counting special students, enrollment has reached 2,000, according to college sources.

When Gabhart became president on August 1, 1959, the college offered two degree programs in nine study areas. This has now grown to six degree programs in 35 study areas.

During these 22 years, eight new buildings have been constructed and other facilities renovated. Endowment has risen from \$483,000 to \$1,202,881. Property value has grown from \$2.5-million to more than \$11-million.

Much of what Belmont College has become is due in large measure to the spirit and tenacity of Herbert Gabhart.

Gene Kidd

After 28 years as the chief executive officer for Baptist Hospital of Nashville, Kidd will step down from that post at the end of this month.

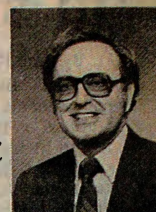
Although Kidd's contribution to this Tennessee Baptist institution cannot be completely measured in statistics, the growth of Baptist Hospital during these years has indeed been impressive. When Kidd came to the Nashville hospital in 1954, there were 210 beds in aging buildings. Presently, there are 724 beds in the facility — making it the largest hospital in the middle Tennessee area. In addition, many services have been added, making Baptist Hospital truly a "full service" institution.

Never one to be satisfied with any accomplishment, in 1976 the hospital purchased the old St. Thomas Hospital across the street and converted it into a progressive care center.

Plans are well underway for replacement of older buildings and renovation of the present facilities in a \$46-million project which will begin in early 1982. As president emeritus, Kidd will oversee the renovation project.

The development of Baptist Hospital into one of the leading hospitals of Tennessee and the nation is a true indication of the significant contribution of Gene Kidd.

Cicero's comment



By the editor

"Is there a Santa Claus?" an eight-year-old girl inquired of the New York Sun in 1897.

Her letter, which noted that some of her friends were telling her there was no such person, inspired the now famous editorial (frequently reprinted every Christmas) which begins, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus."

Virginia, if you were to ask your question in 1981, there would be little doubt as to the answer.

If you could have sat in front of a television set on Thanksgiving Day, you would have seen gigantic Christmas parades in several North American cities and Hawaii. All of the people who lined those streets had come to pay homage to Santa Claus.

If you could today walk down Main Street (you pick the town), you would see hundreds of images of Santa Claus on street signs, billboards, and store window displays.

If you could see the letters and catalogues that come in the daily mail, you would see many pictures of the "jolly old elf" — each testifying that he is alive and well.

If you could see the many Santa Clauses — at least one in each shopping mall — and the children lined up to make their Christmas wishes known, you would certainly know that others believe in him.

If you could visit the department stores and see the thousands of possible gifts for Santa to deliver on Christmas morning, you would know that the 1981 merchants are supporters of the "spirit of St. Nicholas."

If you could note the advertisements on television and radio and in the newspapers and magazines, you would determine that the advertisers believe in Santa Claus.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus — in 1981.

But Virginia, our problem in 1981 is not trying to convince the world that there is a Santa Claus, but to convince your modern-day counterparts that there is a Jesus Christ.

Many in our era deny that Jesus was born to a virgin named Mary as God's Son. They say that He didn't have the power to perform miracles. They believe that His life ended on a cruel cross atop Mount Calvary.

Today, Jesus is ignored or forgotten by many of our citizens during this season of the year.

After all, Virginia, Christmas is really the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

**BAPTIST
AND
REFLECTOR
brings you
news first.**

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 83,243

Alvin C. Shackelford, Editor

Baptist and Reflector

Charlie Warren
Associate Editor

Steve Higdon
Assistant Editor

Eura Lannom
Advertising, Subscriptions

Martha Buster
Production Assistant

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

Published weekly except New Year's week by the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention at Brentwood, Tennessee 37027. Subscription prices: \$4.60 individual; clubs of ten or more, \$4.30; church budget, 7.1¢ per family per week when sent to 50 percent or more of church homes. Second class postage paid at Brentwood, Tennessee, and at additional mailing office.

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

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

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Roy Miller, chairman; Raymond Boston, vice-chairman; Harold Allen, Wayne Allen, Ansell Baker, Stanley Brumfield, E. E. Carrier, William Coles Jr., C. Ed Harris, James Hatley, Fred Kendall II, John Loida, Rudy Naway, James Porch, Dennis Pulley, John Shepherd, Fred Steelman, and Matt Tomlin.

RA project brings Christmas happiness

If you are playing "Santa Claus" for 71 children, how do you decide what to leave under each child's tree?

The Royal Ambassadors at Brentwood



ASSEMBLY LINE — Buddy Carnutt (background) and Mark Bradley (right), laymen at Brentwood Baptist Church, assist a child from the Franklin Children's Home in assembling a bike.

Baptist Church, Brentwood, found just the thing — but it would not fit under the tree.

Joe Cimino, the church's RA director, learned that the children at the Baptist Children's Home in Franklin did not have bicycles. As an RA missions project, Cimino and his RA counselors decided to try to locate some used bikes which they could repair, paint, and generally recondition. These could then be given to the Franklin home.

As they began to promote the idea, a few church members donated some used bikes, but there were not enough to really fill the need. Someone suggested trying to raise money to purchase new bicycles.

Money began to trickle in. The project got its biggest boost, however, when an anonymous donor contributed enough money to buy about 40 bicycles.

Then the church's adult Sunday School classes began to promote the project, and people began to give. By the middle of December, the RAs had enough money to purchase 71 brand new bicycles.

With the counsel of the staff at the Franklin home, Cimino was able to determine the sizes of bikes needed. The project was almost complete.

But there was still one problem. New bicycles come unassembled.

So Cimino and the other RA leaders decided to plan a bike assembly party for the RAs and their dads. On December 17, about 40 men from Brentwood Baptist Church, mostly fathers of Royal Ambassadors, along with an equal number of RAs, gathered in the activity building of the home to assemble 71 bicycles.

Joining them enthusiastically were 71 children from the home. Each man was assigned to work with one or two children from the home to help assemble the bikes. Each child's initials were etched into the bicycle so there would be no difficulty telling the bikes apart, since each bike was identical to the others of the same size.

In about an hour and a half, 71 shiny new bicycles were ready for their test runs, and 71 excited children were ready to try them out.

Cimino confessed that the RA bike project had turned out completely different from what he had initially envisioned, but "God's plans are always better than ours."

After the bike assembly party, one RA youngster told his dad that the Crusader (younger RAs) motto is "Helping Others in Jesus' Name."

"I think this is the best job we've ever done of helping others in Jesus' name," the dad concluded.

For 71 children, the Christmas season was one they would not soon forget.



FINISHING TOUCHES — Three Children's Home lads put the final touches to one of the new bicycles.

Personal perspective

By TOM MADDEN
TBC executive secretary

Recently, nearly every time I read a paper or listen to a newscast, I hear reference to the report that Mr. Khadafy of Libya is reported to have sent a squad of "hit" men to assassinate our president and other leaders of our national government. I do believe we are wise to take such threats seriously.

It may be because we are hearing these threatening actions at the Christmas season, but nearly every time I hear or read such reports I think of the time God sent His only begotten Son into the world. He did not come covertly, but the angels announced His birth. The prophets had announced He would come, even predicting the place of His coming. He did not come bearing weapons of destruction but came to give His life that we might have eternal life.



Madden

I have returned to read again what our Lord said when He returned to Nazareth, where He had grown up. When He entered the synagogue, which was His custom, they gave Him the prophecy of Isaiah. When He opened the book, He found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me., because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord" (Luke 4:18-19).

I am grateful our Lord came to earth. He only stayed 33 years, but He is still alive and one day is coming again. When He does, every eye shall see Him.

Merry Christmas!



MINI-BIKES — Two of the younger children from the Franklin home display their new bicycles, gifts from members of Brentwood Baptist Church.

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.

Mission Challenge

Dear editor:

From the pen of Spurgeon Paschall, pastor of Northside Baptist Church in Charlottesville, Va., I read this startling statement in his Newsletter: "If we win this world to Christ, we must average winning no less than 63-million people a year, for this is the rate that the population is increasing in the world. The major increase is in the Third World, Central America, and the East where we find the greatest poverty and the least knowledge of Jesus. Experts say that the population could jump from the present four billion to seven billion by the year 2000."

What a challenge for us to do our very best to surpass our goal of \$50-million in our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and

our giving through our Cooperative Program.

Our Foreign Mission Board is depending on us.

Mrs. L. E. Minton
32 Woodmere Apartments
Crossville, TN 38555

Serious, solemn thought

Dear editor:

The most serious and solemn thought that I have ever had I think is this: that as a Christian, I can have and know the mind of God.

That fact puts a tremendous responsibility upon me to be a good steward of the mind that Yahweh has given me.

See, please, Philippians 2:5 in the Jerusalem Bible.

O. Meredith Smaw
1612 16th Avenue, South
Nashville, TN 37212

Citizen's Corner

By Jerry M. Self
Public affairs and Christian life consultant

While we celebrate Christmas on Friday, our Jewish friends have been observing Hanukkah all this week. This Jewish holiday is a great monument to freedom of religion.

Between the times of the Old Testament and the New Testament, the Syrian king, Antichus Epiphanes, attempted to force the Jewish people to forsake their worship of God. The Maccabean revolt rewarded his efforts with an embarrassing God-given defeat.

Judas Maccabeus rededicated the Temple which had been desecrated.

The story is told that only enough oil was available to burn for one evening, but for eight full days the lamp stayed lit in the Temple.

In Jewish homes this week, one candle has been lit, then two on the second evening, and so on until eight candles will be lit on the final night of Hanukkah. The ceremony symbolizes the growth of light when a remnant remains faithful.

Baptists rejoice in the birth of the Messiah and in the freedom to sing that good news this week and all year long.

The lights of Hanukkah are good news also. Freedom to worship as mind, heart, and conscience lead us endures as one of our more precious treasures.



Self

Wanted to Purchase

The Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention wants to purchase a used 24-28 foot house trailer for use in various mission projects. The trailer must have sleeping, kitchen, and bath facilities.

Contact: Archie King
Tennessee Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 347
Brentwood, TN 37027
Telephone (615) 373-2255

Gibson County layman collects rare Bibles

By Joe Westbury

DYER — During this holiday season, family Bibles receive extra attention as they become the center of activity at reunions and readings of the story of the birth of Christ.

Most families keep their prized heirlooms on a bookshelf or coffee table as a testimony to the long-standing faith of their forefathers and ancestors. Ernest Lumpkin of Gibson County keeps his in a bank vault to assure they will be around for future generations to enjoy, though none are directly related to his family tree.

Lumpkin, a collector of old Bibles and other rare items, does not know how many Bibles he has acquired during the past two decades but he is always on the lookout for just one more. Though he is not a scholar on his numerous translations, he definitely knows a good buy when he sees one and is happy to add it to his holdings.

A lifelong member of First Baptist Church in nearby Rutherford, he first became interested in old Bibles when he purchased an 1820 edition in the 1960s. Since then he has been drawn into a hobby that has carried him to antique shops through 45 states and as far away as Europe and England.

"With one exception I've never sold a Bible after I bought it, though I don't always actually pay cash. I'll trade or swap most anything to get a Bible that I'd like to have," he said.

Lumpkin once traded a Civil War musket for an old Bible and on another occasion swapped an old Model A Ford for a rare collector's edition. "I do more trading than buying because it's hard to settle on an exact price on many old items. On most deals, the item you want is only worth what you're willing to pay, which is highly negotiable between buyer and seller."

When he recently displayed his collection for the first public showing at Union University, most onlookers were surprised at the range of his holdings and the history through which the more than 40 books had passed.

His pride and joy is a rare Latin Bible that was in use 12 years before Columbus discovered America. The Jerome Latin Vulgate was printed in 1480 in Nuremberg, Germany, just 32 years after Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press. The first letter of each chapter features an ornate capital letter drawn by hand in various colors by Monks.

The Latin Vulgate was the first Bible

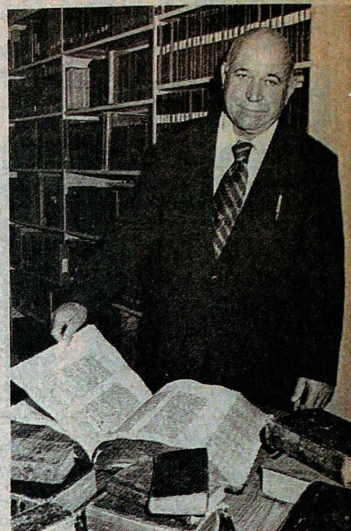
known to have been used in Great Britain, and was the version used by John Wycliffe to translate the first Bible into English in 1382. (However, Wycliffe's versions were all handwritten and not widely circulated until they were printed in the mid-1500s.) Lumpkin's large 501-year-old Vulgate pre-dates the first complete Bible to be printed in English by 55 years, when Miles Coverdale published his translation in 1535.

Also on display at Union were 1589 and 1599 editions of the Geneva Bible, nicknamed "Breeches Bible" because of its unusual translation of Genesis 3:7. In its account of Adam and Eve, the translation reads: "Then the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig-tree leaves together, and made themselves breeches."

The oldest Breeches Bible, which Lumpkin found in an antique shop in London, was printed 22 years before the publication of the Authorized King James Version in 1611. Several King James Bibles are included in his collection, with the earliest being a 1619 edition.

Other entries in the exhibit were a 1702 Latin New Testament, a 1797 Bible, an 1809 prayer book, an 1836 Lutheran Bible in German, an 1837 Polyglott Bible, an 1857 American Bible Society version, and a World War I soldier's Bible with the original metal cover to protect the bearer from gunfire.

Lumpkin also has a few artifacts he picked up on a visit to the Holy Land. He has two olive oil lamps dating to the time of Christ as well as two Roman spear



501-YEAR-OLD BIBLE — Lumpkin's favorite Bible is a 1480 Jerome Latin Vulgate, featuring ornate capital letters which were hand colored by German monks.

points fashioned from metal and stone. The feet of a primitive idol from Jerusalem is also one of his curios.

Though he enjoys letting the public view the treasures, he rarely makes them available for public viewing. Once the exhibit is over, he does not rest easy until they are returned to their vault in a local bank.

SWBTS asks Supreme Court to review suit with EEOC

FORT WORTH, Tex.(BP) — Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has filed a petition with the U.S. Supreme Court requesting that the Supreme Court hear the seminary's four-year-old lawsuit with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The application is the procedure through which the court is asked to hear the seminary's appeal of a decision by the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans, according to Jenkins Garrett, seminary attorney.

The petition is being filed by Garrett and the firm of King and Spalding of Atlanta, Ga. Former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell is a member of the Atlanta firm and a long-time friend of seminary president Russell H. Dilday Jr. Also joining the case is Charles Allen Wright of Austin, Tex., an expert in constitutional law.

In a July 17 decision, the Fifth Circuit Court ruled that the seminary is a "wholly" religious institution entitled to the status of the church, but that employees who perform tasks "which are not totally ecclesiastical or religious" are not ministers entitled to First Amendment protection.

The ruling was made after the EEOC appealed to the Fifth Circuit Court. A lower court decision by U.S. District Judge Eldon Mahon in Fort Worth in January 1980 had refused to grant EEOC's request to force the seminary to file employee information forms.

The original lawsuit was filed by EEOC in 1977. The seminary officials declined to file Form EEO-6 which gave demographic information on all seminary employees.

Two major questions for review are being presented to the Supreme Court. The court is being asked to decide if the equal opportunity clause of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 authorizes EEOC to have jurisdiction over the religious affairs of the churches. Also, the court is being asked to determine if the religious clauses of the First Amendment forbid EEOC from taking jurisdiction over the religious affairs of the churches.

According to Garrett, the Fifth Circuit Court decision grants EEOC jurisdiction over churches with more than 15 employees. This violates freedom of religion as found in the First Amendment, Garrett said, because the federal court said EEOC would have the jurisdiction to decide which employees perform ministerial tasks and which do not.

Garrett said the Supreme Court will consider the application and decide if they will grant permission for the appeal to be filed. If so, attorneys for the seminary and EEOC would file a brief with the court, and then present oral arguments if requested to do so. If the court denies the request, Garrett said, the case would revert to the Fort Worth court for Judge Mahon to decide how the ruling will be applied.

Young Venezuelan returns home without needed kidney transplant

NEW ORLEANS, La.(BP) — Dalia Carmona, the nine-year-old girl who was flown from Venezuela to New Orleans in August for a kidney transplant, is expected to return home without a new kidney as soon as an infection clears.

Eliu Camacho, pastor of the First Spanish Baptist Church in New Orleans, who has assisted the girl, her mother, and sister since they have been here, said legal problems connected with her age have hindered the operation.

However, during their stay the mother and 15-year-old sister, Sorayo, have made professions of faith and been baptized.

While living in New Orleans, Mrs. Carmona and Sorayo have been cared for in homes of two Baptist families, Natividad Perez, a member of Camacho's church and the Luis Rodriguez family in Kenner, who are members of the Bethany Baptist Church.

Dalia, who was released from the Charity Hospital after the initial treatment, must be returned there frequently to undergo treatment on a dialysis machine, Camacho said.

"Recently infection set in where the catheter was placed in her leg. As soon as she is able to travel, she will return home," Camacho said. "But the New Orleans hospital will release her only when it is confirmed that a Venezuelan hospital is prepared to provide her care."

At home, Dalia will be on the list for a new kidney at two hospitals, the one in New Orleans and the one in Venezuela. "However, if no kidney compatible to her is located in two years, Sorayo will be of legal age to offer a kidney," he said.

When Dalia's problem was discovered in August, Jack Brossette, minister of music at Pineville Park Baptist Church in Pineville, La., a ham radio operator, and other "hams" were instrumental in arranging for Dalia to be brought to the United States.

Dalia was flown to New Orleans for treatment when Venezuelan doctors ruled out a transplant because of laws prohibiting a minor sister-to-sister transplant. Similar laws in this country have hindered the process and a compatible kidney was not found from other sources, Camacho said.

Dalia's case received wide news coverage in the South, coverage that prompted some criticism of Charity Hospital, a tax supported hospital, for providing such expensive services free to a non-resident.

Man turns scrap into crosses

ST. JAMES, Mo.(BP) — Fred Tetley brings scrap wood to First Baptist Church in a box and gives it to visitors.

Before he gives it away, though, he carves it into crosses and puts his name and the date on the back so guests can remember their visit.

In just a year, Tetley has made over 800 crosses and distributed them to guests and friends in nearly every state. As head usher, he makes a note of visitors and greets them with the gift after church.

All of the crosses are made from fine woods like walnut, cherry, and mahogany. Tetley, who became a Christian 11 years ago when he was 66, gets the wood from people who have torn down old houses, schools, and other buildings.

A retired mechanic who can make a cross in 15 to 20 minutes, Tetley does not brag about his unusual ministry. "The Lord told me to do it, and I did it," he says simply. "That's all I know."

BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR
brings you news first

Our People and Our Churches . . .

CHURCHES . . .

Pine Grove Baptist Church, Mountain City, met for services in its new building for the first time Nov. 8. Haskel Ingram is the pastor of the church.

First Baptist Church, Tullahoma, celebrated its 125th anniversary Dec. 6. The day's events included a high attendance campaign, dinner on the grounds, a missions emphasis, and a message on the church's history by Fred Kendall, former executive secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The pastor of the church is James Porch.

Smith Fork Baptist Church, Watertown, held a note-burning ceremony Nov. 8, symbolizing the retirement of a note on an addition to the church's parsonage. The balance was recently raised when Smith Fork members met a challenge pledge from a member of the community. James G. Williams is the church's pastor.

A note-burning ceremony was the focal point of a day of celebration at Walnut Hill Baptist Church, Harriman. Guest speakers, a Thanksgiving meal, and a homecoming were also part of the festivities. James G. Wilson is the pastor of the church.

Macedonia Baptist Church, Cleveland, recently completed its activities building. The pastor of the church is Reed Wright.

A Nov. 29 note-burning service at Unity Baptist Church, Luray, marked the completion of payment on its gymnasium and activities building. The building was completed in 1974. The church's pastor is Fred J. Ward.

REVIVALS . . .

East Alcoa Baptist Church, Alcoa, was led in a Nov. 1-8 revival by Earl Taylor as the evangelist. The church reported eight professions of faith, 15 new members, and 166 commitments.

A two-week revival was held recently at Carson Island Baptist Church, Maryville, with Tommy Self as the evangelist. Tyson McKeehan, pastor of the church, reported one profession of faith, one addition by letter, two commitments to the ministry, and 21 rededications.

Eight professions of faith and 35 other commitments were recorded during revival services at Delano Baptist Church, Delano. Glen L. Sheppard, of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, was the evangelist. The church's pastor is John Powers.

Harmony Baptist Church, Elizabethton, was in revival recently with Reece Harris as the evangelist. Interim Pastor Earl Campbell reported two professions of faith and three new members by letter.

PEOPLE . . .

Al Lepper and Lee Layton were ordained into the deacon ministry of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City, on Nov. 22. Larry M. Taylor is the church's pastor.

Hurricane Grove Baptist Church, Shelbyville, ordained Leroy Jenks and Billy Williams as deacons. The church's pastor is Bob Ruehling.

True Faith Baptist Church, Union City, recently ordained three as deacons: Mike Brinkley, Jeff Hamlin, and Wayne Reagen. Henry Callison is the pastor of the church.

Paul Edmiston and Bob Williams were ordained as deacons Nov. 15 at Hopewell Baptist Church, Savannah. Randy Isbell is the church's pastor.

Toone Baptist Church, Toone, ordained Lawrence Kirk and Bill Tubbs as deacons Nov. 1. The pastor of the church is Dan Emerson.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Nibert celebrated their 50th anniversary Nov. 1. The Niberts are members of Red Bank Baptist Church, where Fred Steelman is pastor.

First Baptist Church, Whitwell, ordained Ron Namanny into the gospel ministry Oct. 25. Michael McGough is the pastor of the church.

Glen Woodward was ordained as a deacon by Bethel Baptist Church, Shelbyville. Carl Bond is pastor of the church.

MK in Singapore dies in accident

SINGAPORE (BP)—Marilyn Morris, 13-year-old daughter of Southern Baptist Missionaries Buddy and May Morris, died Dec. 15 in Singapore of accidental asphyxiation.

The Morrisises, Oklahoma natives, said they went to check on Marilyn when they realized she was taking too long for her evening bath. They found her sitting in the bathroom, not breathing. She had turned on the wall-mounted gas water heater and apparently busied herself with other things while waiting for the water to get hot. Apparently, inadequate ventilation caused her to become sleepy and to be asphyxiated.

Appointed in 1965, the Morrisises worked in Taiwan until 1968 when they transferred to Singapore. He is a general evangelist and she is involved in home and church work.

Marilyn is survived by her parents and two older brothers, Bruce and Gerry, both in the United States.

Burial will be in Singapore.

First Baptist Church, McKenzie, recently ordained Pierce Smith as a deacon. John D. Adams is the church's pastor.

Don Bradford was ordained to the gospel ministry Nov. 1 at Oak Grove Baptist Church, Athens. Bradford is serving the church as interim pastor.

LEADERSHIP . . .

Mount Lebanon Baptist Church, Maryville, recently called Roger Murphy as minister of youth. Murphy came to the church from the membership of Monte Vista Baptist Church, also of Maryville. Eugene Leamon is the pastor at Mount Lebanon.

Dan C. Watkins resigned as minister of education of First Baptist Church, Jackson, to accept a similar position at Columbia Baptist Church, Falls Church, Va. R. Trevis Otey is the pastor of the Jackson church.

Shady Grove Baptist Church, Flag Pond, accepted the recent resignation of its pastor, Ephram Lane Meadows.

Oakfield Baptist Church, Oakfield, recently called Bill Brown as minister of music and Jimmy Williams as minister of youth. Both are students at Union University, Jackson. Kelly Weaver is the pastor of the church.

West Union calls Trezevant native

Eddie Mallonee, a native of Trezevant, accepted a call from West Union Baptist Church, Dresden to come as its pastor.

Mallonee, who began the pastorate Oct. 4, was formerly minister of youth at First Baptist Church, Dresden, and Bethel Baptist Church, Greenfield. He is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, where he is currently enrolled in the seminary extension program.

At the request of West Union, Mallonee was ordained Nov. 8 by the Bethel church. Participating in the service were Bethel Pastor Wayne Perkins; Carroll-Benton Baptist Association Director of Missions James E. Humphreys Jr.; and Weakley County Baptist Association Pastors Roy Auvenshine and Dwayne Ervin.

Spacing gifts prolongs joy

WACO, Tex. (BP)—Too many toys at Christmas may confuse your child, says a Baylor University psychologist.

According to Helen Benedict, assistant professor of psychology, young children can only focus on two or three colorful toys at one time. After that, they tend to lose concentration, she says. On Christmas morning, they may open their gifts too quickly because they are mentally unable to deal with so much novelty.

Parents who want to give a lot of gifts to their children at Christmas might put some of them away after they are opened, Benedict suggests. Then the child can focus on two or three favorite toys, and the others may be brought out one by one during the coming weeks, even until spring.

By age seven or eight, a child may develop more control over outside stimulation, she says. Older children often experience peer pressure to get what their friends are getting for Christmas, but Benedict thinks parents should stick to their own standards of giving. "I don't know a single child who has suffered psychologically from not receiving enough designer clothes for Christmas," she says.

Parents can help their children by keeping the excitement in balance, Benedict believes. Spacing out the celebration is part of the secret.

"Whatever happened to the 12 days of Christmas?" she asks. "One gift a day was a pretty good idea, wasn't it?"

Harold Firestone recently resigned as pastor of Mount Harmony Baptist Church, Riceville.

Valley Road Baptist Church, Athens, called Bob Stinnett to come as interim pastor.

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Decatur, accepted the resignation of its pastor, John Rogers Jr.

Ninth Street Baptist Church, Erwin, called Mike Bernard as minister of music and education. Allen Davis is the church's pastor.

Norman Chase resigned as minister of music at Central Baptist Church, Chattanooga, after 12 years in that position. The church's pastor is Jerry Songer.

First Baptist Church, Old Hickory, called Ron Wade as minister of youth. Norris G. Hite is the pastor of the church.

James Chatham accepted a call from Long Hollow Baptist Church, of Goodlettsville, to come as its minister of education. The pastor of the church is W. W. Harrison.

Prospect Baptist Church, Hollow Rock, called Mike Bryan as minister of youth activities. Bryan came to the church from First Baptist Church, Troy.

Westover Baptist Church, Jackson, accepted the resignation of Associate Pastor Jerry Essary, effective Nov. 30. Essary accepted a call from First Baptist Church, Houston, Tex. to come as associate pastor.

Arnold Womac accepted a recent call from Marshall Hill Baptist Church, Niota, to come as interim pastor.

'Sister' churches build relationship

Building on a foundation begun during the summer months, First Baptist Church, Bruceton, and Bethel Baptist Church, Niles, Mich., have added bricks and mortar to a sister church relationship in which they are involved.

Allan Poage, pastor of the Michigan church, was the special guest of the Bruceton church Dec. 6. Poage preached during the morning worship, met with church leaders to discuss future plans, and attended a churchwide fellowship held to allow Bruceton members to get to know him.

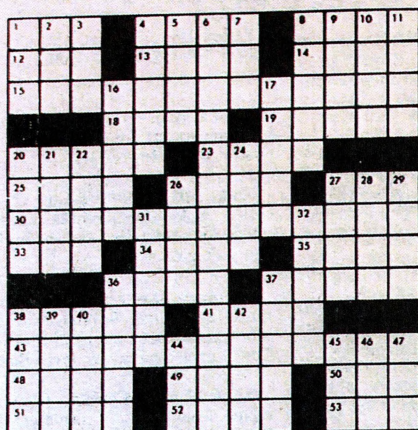
Dennis Pulley, pastor of the Bruceton church, said the relationship began when a 35-member youth choir went to Niles this past summer to assist the Michigan church. Aware of the needs of the Michigan church, First Baptist Church, Bruceton, decided to assist financially through a monthly contribution as a part of their budget.

Continuing the sister church relationship, Bruceton church members will return to Niles in August 1982 to do community surveys, conduct backyard Bible clubs, and hold leadership training sessions. They will also send a work crew to assist construction needs and the youth choir will return to help the Niles church project an image for Southern Baptists. During the summer of 1981, the youth choir sang in shopping malls and even in a county fair.

Pulley said Poage's visit "deepened our commitment." The Carroll-Benton Baptist Association, which includes First Baptist Church, Bruceton, has a sister relationship with Michigan's Southwest Baptist Association. Poage is moderator of the Southwest association.

Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 10



ACROSS

- 1 Heavens shall give it (Zech. 8:12)
4 Paving stone
8 Emaculate
12 Wattlebird
13 Pang
14 River (Dan. 8:2)
15 "And came and — to you" (Eph. 2)
18 In a line
19 End of two cities (2 Pet. 2)
20 "I will not —" (2 Cor. 13)
23 "fallen into —" (Luke 14)
25 Jason's ship
26 Hebrew letter
27 "They — my path" (Job 30)

- 30 "is contrary to —" (1 Tim. 1:10)
33 Have in Glasgow
34 Barge
35 Recorded proceedings
36 Musical instrument (1 Cor. 14:7)
37 Sold in the temple (John 2:14)
38 Tree
41 Author Ferber
43 "Doth he not —" (Ezek. 20:49)
48 Lachryma
49 Maple genus
50 Eggs
51 Chalice veils
52 Whimper
53 Arabic letter

CRYPTOVERSE

REK SXOKO AN MESXAMU IETOKOL
SXCS NXCJJ MES FO KOTOCJOL

Today's Cryptoverse clue: T equals V

DOWN

- 1 "— the tip of his finger" (Luke 16:24)
2 "upon an obedient —" (Prov. 25:12)
3 Trouble
4 Falcon: var.
5 Resound
6 "And — — — have they not" (Rom. 3)
7 Spreads to dry
8 "That he was gone to be —" (Luke 19)
9 King of Israel (1 Ki. 16:6)
10 It was blue (Ex. 28:28)
11 Expires
16 The priest (Ex. 28:1)
17 Limn
20 Obi
21 Malaysian boat
22 Chills and fever
24 Early Britisher
26 Hebrew month
27 "and five golden —" (1 Sam. 6)
28 Before: prefix
29 "that shall he also —" (Gal. 6)
31 "and they all — of it" (Mark 14:23)
32 Harlot (Josh. 6:17)
36 Harkens
37 Tangle
38 Fictional dog
39 Graf —
40 Fruit
42 Sketched
44 Card
45 Kind of tide
46 Stowe character
47 Cutting tool

'Reasonable doubt' standard dropped in obscenity cases

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that juries in obscenity cases do not have to apply the "beyond a reasonable doubt" standard when deliberating whether the materials are obscene.

States may require the standard in civil cases involving obscene materials if they so choose, but "that choice is solely a matter of state law," the high court held in an unsigned 6-3 opinion. The federal constitution, the majority said, does not require such a standard.

Santa Ana, Calif., officials brought the appeal after a trial court imposed the "beyond reasonable doubt" requirement on a jury hearing a case involving 17 films shown at a local theater. Applying the standard, the jury concluded that 11 of the 17 were obscene beyond a reasonable doubt, while four were not obscene. It was unable to reach a verdict on the other two.

Following the decision, the City of Santa Ana filed a cross-appeal, arguing in a

California appeals court that the "beyond reasonable doubt" standard is generally recognized to apply to criminal, not civil cases. But the state court upheld the jury finding.

In reversing the California panel, the high court majority declared that the Supreme Court "has never required the 'beyond a reasonable doubt' standard to be applied in a civil case." Two other standards of proof, "preponderance of evidence" employed in most civil cases and the more rarely applied "clear and convincing" standard, have traditionally been used in civil cases, the court elaborated.

Three justices dissented, including William J. Brennan Jr. and Thurgood Marshall, who declared that the Constitution requires a strict standard of proof when First Amendment rights are at stake.

Justice John Paul Stevens also objected, saying he found it "distressing" that the court would consider "novel questions of this character so easy as not even to merit argument." He also expressed surprise "to find the court reaching out to decide such a question when its jurisdiction to do so is doubtful" and when no conflict on the issue exists in lower courts.

Although the majority ruling may help local officials in the regulation of obscene materials by sending them a clear signal that the "beyond reasonable doubt" standard does not have to be applied to determine obscenity, observers believe it does not perceptibly alter the high court's basic view of obscenity.

Devotional

'Do not be afraid!'

By Woody Parker

If one were sitting in his backyard at night, he would probably be frightened if he saw an angel, and the "glory of the Lord."

Such was the case with a group of shepherds two millennia ago. The initial fear of the shepherds was calmed when the angel said, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which shall be to all people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11, NASV).

Jesus' disciples experienced fear a number of times while He was on earth. When they allowed Him to do so, our Lord calmed their fears.

Jesus and His disciples were at sea. A fierce storm caused panic among the disciples. Jesus calmed the storm. His disciples were awe-struck by His power. Perhaps they began to realize that through faith in Jesus their fears could be calmed.

How are we as 20th century disciples to respond to fear? Certainly the initial emotion of fear comes to everyone at various times. Who is not somewhat afraid when he hears of economic doom, or that \$1-million per minute is spent worldwide on the weapons of war, or that there is an epidemic of burglaries and violent crime, or that there may be a job layoff?

These and other circumstances can be devastating to people. The only way to have any peace at all in these days is by putting our faith in the one who said, "Peace, be still."

During this Christmas season, let us put our total faith in Jesus Christ, the "Prince of Peace." We must have full confidence that God is on His throne and that ultimately everything will be all right. The "good news" that Jesus helps us overcome fear is valid only when we accept it.

May we accept that "good news" and enjoy the peace of Christmas!

—Woody Parker is minister of education at Lincova Hills Baptist Church, Nashville.



Parker

Foundation

Lottie Moon

By Jonas Stewart

The Tennessee Baptist Foundation promotes the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

How long do you want to give to this worthy cause, only while you live or do you think it will still be important after you have gone to heaven? You can continue to give. Why not establish a trust, with the Tennessee Baptist Foundation as trustee, designating the income from the trust to go through your church for the Lottie Moon Offering each year until Jesus returns.

Ten thousand dollars placed in such a trust, now or in a will, would yield \$800 or more per year. Other amounts larger or smaller would yield a proportionate amount. A check for this amount would be sent to your church about Dec. 1 each year designating it for this cause. It would bear your name or the name of some other loved one and be a memorial to your faith for all ages to come.

Think what an inspiration this would be to have your name and your contribution published before the church every year while you walk the golden streets. No one knows how many others through the years you would inspire to do the same thing because of your gift.

A completed gift in trust provides a considerable income tax benefit for the donor. The gift is also excluded for estate tax benefits at the donor's death.

If the income is needed for living expenses, it can be paid to the donor or a survivor of the donor as long as either shall live. Only upon the death of the living beneficiaries would the income be paid to the church.

For further information, write to Tennessee Baptist Foundation, P.O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027.

To change or correct your address...

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

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

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

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

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Address all requests to:

Baptist and Reflector
Post Office Box 347
Brentwood, TN 37027

Name Please Print

Address

City

State Zip

Planning meeting uplifts family unit

NASHVILLE (BP)—If Southern Baptist families are to cope with the myriad of problems in today's society, helps must include training and enrichment activities both at church and in the home, family ministry leaders believe.

State family ministry consultants met with personnel from the Sunday School Board's family ministry department to complete plans for a three-year national emphasis, "Strengthen Families, 1982-85."

The emphasis includes projects and resources to involve 500,000 families in regular family worship and Bible study in the home, 50,000 couples in 10,000 churches in a marriage enrichment activity, 1-million parents in 20,000 churches in a parent enrichment activity, and 15,000 couples participating in the Baptist Marriage Enrichment System.

Grady C. Cothen, board president, said continued efforts must be given to "getting the messages of family life to the churches. Family members must relate with one another out of a resident Christian conviction that this is my family and I owe them all I am and have."

Among Southern Baptists, "family lifestyle must become synonymous with Christian lifestyle if we are to really be the light of the world and the salt of the earth," said Joe Hinkle, manager of the family ministry department at the Sunday School Board.

TENNESSEE BAPTIST

Children's Homes

P. O. Box 347
BRENTWOOD
37027

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/TREASURER
EVANS B. BOWEN

In thinking about Christmas, children and what to say about the relationship between the two, many thoughts entered my mind. While thinking, I was reading and came across the following article which seems so ap-

propriate in expressing some of my thoughts. I hope you will share my feelings as you read further. Perhaps this article will remind us once again of the importance of children and our responsibility toward them.



The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes recently purchased one acre of land from University Parkway Baptist Church in Johnson City. The land will be the site of a new Satellite Cottage which will provide a home for a maximum of twelve children. The cottage will function under the supervision of the East Tennessee Home in Chattanooga.

Construction of the cottage began in late October with plans for completion for use projected in late Summer or early Fall of 1982. Norman Construction Company, a local company, is in charge of the building.

The pictures show Dr. Evans B. Bowen, Executive Director-Treasurer of TBCH,

SCENES OF PROGRESS AT JOHNSON CITY



and Harry Butler, the architect, examining the progress of the construction.

When completed, the Satellite Cottage will accommodate up to twelve children, helping to serve the needs of upper East Tennessee.



Support for the new cottage by the local people has been enthusiastic.

Tennessee Baptists continue to move forward as they help more dependent and neglected children.

Jesus set a little child in the midst and said, "Of such is the kingdom of heaven." He was magnifying the importance of youth. Christmas is a time when the world turns its attention toward the children.

C is for the Christ they love! Children of all nations are attracted to Christ. They love Him because He first loved them. They love Him because He came into the world as a little child. They love Him because He gave to them a sense of dignity and worth. They love Him because He died for them on Calvary's cross. The birth and death of Christ magnifies the worth of a child.

H is for the Hope they offer! Someone has said, "Children are our earthly immortality." Imagine an earth without children, as the rest of us march toward the grave. We can mourn the loss of the Whooping Crane or the Bison or the Bald Eagle, but imagine what a tragedy if all our boys and girls disappeared. History would soon cease to be. Children then are our best hope for the future.

I is for the Identity they seek! Many young people are suffering from a loss of identity. The search goes on as they cry out, "Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going?" The Greeks said the secret is, "Be yourself." The Romans said, "Behave yourself." But Jesus said the secret is, "Become yourself."

L is for the Love they give! John Ruskin once said, "Give a little bit of love to a child and you will get a whole lot back." Love that reaches out to others will come back home to you every time. What a blessing it is to share your love with little children.

D is for the Deeds they render! A great man once said, "When God wants something wonderful done, He causes a great child to be born." So we have had Abraham, Moses, Jesus Christ, Michelangelo, Beethoven, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther and others. There are still a great many things to be done in the world in the fields of medicine, politics, music, religion — and a child shall do them.

R is for the Rights they hold! Certainly all children have the right to fulfill their God given potential. They have the right to the nurture and training needed to become self-reliant rather than dependent. They have the right to develop themselves and their talents in such a way that they may become responsible, creative people.

E is for the Energy they possess! If the energies of all the youth of America could be channeled into worthwhile causes, there would be no hunger or poverty.

N is for the Needs they have! Children need food, clothing, and shelter, but they need more. They need someone to care, someone they can trust, a sense of personal self-worth, a sense of belonging, a sense of responsibility. They need education, guidance, discipline, but most of all they need Jesus Christ.

When basic needs cannot be met in a family, children must have some other place to live where they can be met. Through the Child Care ministry we provide for children who have no one to care. Will you join TBCH at this Christmas season and extend a tender, loving arm to these boys and girls to say, "We care about you."

—Used by permission of
Lowell D. Milburn
Oklahoma Baptist Children's Homes



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a time of joy and happiness. It is a time when everyone seems just a little friendlier. There is a bigger smile on most of our faces. Sometimes we seem just a little more courteous. Perhaps this makes for more joy for those around us.

Christmas is a time when we experience the hustle and bustle of shopping. Sometimes this can be frustrating, and yet, we still continue the tradition in order that others might experience the joy of receiving a gift as we receive joy from giving it.

Christmas is the result of God's gift to us, Jesus Christ. God taught us how to give by giving His best and we celebrate Christmas to honor God's gift to us.

We at TBCH hope to continue the tradition of Christmas by giving our best in child care in behalf of all Tennessee Baptists. It is because of you, TENNESSEE BAPTISTS, that many needy children will experience joy and happiness this Christmas. The children have clothing, shelter, food, education, and even many nice Christmas gifts, but most of all they have someone who loves them because of you.



T B C H OFFICERS FOR 1982
Pictured with TBC President, Wayne Allen (standing center) and Dr. E. B. Bowen, Executive Director TBCH (seated right) are newly elected officers: Chairman, Dr. Clifton Woolley (seated left); Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Vivian Cunningham; Secretary, Rev. Ted Ingram (standing right).

HONOR A LOVED ONE

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

Date _____

Name of Deceased _____

Name of Honored _____

City and State _____

Letter of Acknowledgement to go to: _____

Full Name _____

Street Address _____

Donor is—

Name _____

Street Address _____

City and State _____

Mail to:

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

BIBLE BOOK SERIES

Lesson for Dec. 27

Miracles by the King

By Jerry Oakley, pastor
Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield

Basic Passage: Matthew 14:1-36

Focal Passages: Matthew 14:15-27, 33

The verses of Scripture in Matthew 14 are filled with truth for our day.

Many people read these verses and are "turned off" by what they call the absurdity of the miracles. Physical miracles are even harder to deal with by this group than miracles of healing. They can always discuss psychological and psychosomatic qualities in the healing miracles, but physical miracles are just there — problems to be faced.

Many people do not seek an answer to the miracles. They are content to accept their validity by faith, while others must find an explanation and try to understand each part of the occurrence.

Both approaches are valid approaches and must be treated with respect. The danger is that we become so involved with the discussion of the validity of the miracles that we miss the truths taught in the Scripture relating them. Christians involved in both of these approaches believe that God has sufficient power to perform the miracles. Faith cannot place a limit on God's power. The discussion would hinge on the methods chosen by God to perform the miracles.

I must accept the Scriptural account as valid and explicit in its detail and shall not discuss its validity further.

We first have the account of the feeding of the multitude (14:15-21). The disciples wanted to send them away to the nearby towns for food. Jesus was moved by the sight of the people tired and hungry. Probably there were those in their number without enough money to buy food. Jesus fed them.

Jesus fed these people because they were hungry. There was no question of their character. I am sure there was a mixture of types of people represented in their group. A hungry man, if he is the worst in the city, touches the heart of God, and we as followers of God must feed him. This is not all a man needs, for a man does not live in the physical dimension alone, but also in the spiritual dimension. We must provide bread accompanied with the Word of God which is the spiritual bread of life.

John 6:15 tells us that after Jesus fed the multitude they were going to crown Him king. Jesus refused. They were go-

ing to follow Him because of material benefit. This is not the basis that Jesus wants to be Lord of a person's life. The multitude would have been glad to follow Him as king if He would feed them. Many today would follow Christ as king for material benefits but shy away from spiritual demands. Jesus rebuked material ideals and stressed the supremacy of the spiritual and that order is still in effect.

Next we study the account of Jesus walking on the water (14:22-27). When the people began to try to make Jesus king by force, the disciples undoubtedly joined in their efforts or more probably led them. They were evidently swept up in the spirit of the mob, for they still shared the Pharisaic hope of a political king. This hope did not die easily and lifted its persistent head often in the thoughts of the disciples. Judas may have betrayed Christ in an effort to force Him to establish His earthly kingship.

After Jesus was risen they came back with the same question, "Dost thou at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" How often this is true even in the life of a devout believer. We have a mental image of who we want Christ to be in our lives. Then, even if this is contrary to His will, we persist in molding Him to our image, rather than allowing Him to mold us in His image. This is what brings tumult and doubt into our souls. It is only when Jesus is allowed to work His will in our lives that we find peace.

"Jesus constrained His disciples to get into a ship." The word constrained means compelled or forced. When Jesus sent the disciples away, He was better able to control the crowd. That they did not want to leave and continued in the area for some time is reflected in the fact that they were rowing across the Sea of Galilee in the "fourth watch." The Sea of Galilee was probably four and a half to five miles across at this point. The fourth watch was from three to six o'clock in the morning. They had remained in the area in their boat for some time, but to their credit, they had eventually followed the instructions of Jesus.

Once the disciples were able to accept His instructions they were faithful in their obedience. They were caught in a storm. They were capable sailors that could have sat out the storm in safety by altering their direction, but they continued into the face of the winds. Why? Jesus instructed them to go to the other shore and these blundering, frail, faulty men were determined to carry out His directions. They were failing in their task. The storm was preventing them from achieving success.

The storm came, not when they were following their own choice, but when they were carrying out the instructions of Jesus. Storms come to the lives of righteous as well as the wicked. It is often in these times of storm that we realize our need of God. Perhaps this is one of the reasons storms come. When the disciples were almost defeated, Jesus came to them with new strength and led them to safety. Jesus was watching them all the time and came to their side when He was needed.

Jesus still watches over His own and comes with new strength when needed. When this occurs, our need of Him is brought clearly in focus. We worship Him anew even as the disciples worshipped Him in their boat.



Oakley

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

Lesson for Dec. 27

Jesus as Messiah

By Robert M. Shurden, associate professor of religion
Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City

Basic Passages: Mark 8:27-29; Luke 24:25-26; John 1:35-42; 7:25-31

Focal Passages: Mark 8:27-29; John 7:25-31

Whether Christian or not, people seldom speak of Jesus of Nazareth without some reference to His messiahship. We call Him "Jesus Christ," or just "Christ," and each time we do, we acknowledge Him as Messiah to some degree or another.

Many overlook this fact since the term "Christ" has, for all practical purposes, become used as a proper name. But Christ is not His name. It describes His function, activity, and mission. He was Jesus, the Christ, and His role as Christ involved messiahship, for both words represent the attempt of different languages to communicate a single idea.

"Christ" in English, "Christos" in Greek, and "Messiah" in Hebrew mean "anointed one," and they refer to one who has been chosen and commissioned for a particular task or mission. In the Old Testament, "messiah" denoted Israel as the elect people of God (Habakkuk 3:13), the kings (2 Samuel 1:14), and even a Persian ruler like Cyrus (Isaiah 45:1). Patriarchs, prophets, and priests were also designated as messiahs. However, by the beginning of the first century the term had acquired a more technical usage. It had become employed to describe an ideal king anointed by God to deliver his people and establish the kingdom of God in righteousness (Daniel 9:26-27; Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 2).

The expectation of a messiah permeated Jewish thought at the beginning of the Christian era, but there was no uniform interpretation of the specific type of messiah which was expected. Some envisioned the coming deliverer to be a second and greater David (Psalm 89:19-27). Others expected him to assume the role of a warrior, a second and greater Judas Maccabeus, who had helped achieve freedom from oppressive Greek rulers of Syria during intertestamental times. Still other Jews expected the messiah to be a supernatural savior from another world. Messianic conceptions were diverse, but one essential idea characterized them all. The messiah would bless the people of Israel by liberating her from her oppressors, rule over her as king, subject other nations to her political and religious influence, and be the presence of God Himself among His people.

Within this climate of expectation Jesus lived, ministered, and died, and came to be acclaimed by many as the long awaited Christ. At the baptism experience, John described Him as the coming one, the Lamb of God who would take away the sin of the world (John 1:29-30). Andrew, one of John's disciples, exclaimed to his brother, Simon, "We have found the Messiah" (John 1:41). And sometime later as Jesus questioned His disciples concerning their conception of Him, Simon Peter responded, "You are the Christ" (Mark 8:29). Following Jesus' death and resurrection, He was described repeatedly as Christ by writers of the New Testament. Without question, first century followers of Jesus experienced Him as the Messiah, but most of them seemed to have expected

Him to be political and nationalistic in nature. The inquiry of John the Baptist from prison (Matthew 11:3), the despair of disciples after Jesus' death (Luke 24:17-21), and the question of His followers prior to the ascension (Acts 1:6) reflect a nationalistic misunderstanding of the type of messiah Jesus came to be.

This confession of Jesus as the Messiah, coupled with a confusion about the type of messiah He was, probably explains the nature of the Biblical evidence concerning Jesus' use of the term. According to the gospels, Jesus showed considerable reluctance in using the word Christ to describe Himself. This does not mean He was not the Messiah, for He did employ the term occasionally (Mark 12:35; Matthew 23:10), acknowledged His messiahship when others addressed Him as such (Matthew 8:29; Mark 14:61; John 4:26), and performed certain deeds which were messianic in nature (Matthew 21:1-5). However, He chose to silence all who would have published the idea that He was Messiah throughout Palestine (Mark 1:34; 3:12; 8:30).

Such behavior by Jesus stemmed from His desire to correct or define more sharply the common conception of messiah (Mark 8:31). He was a Christ of suffering, of service to the poor and needy. Political force was not a method of His redemption. His throne would be a cross and not a sword. Consequently, He avoided a term loaded with incorrect connotations and chose Son of Man to describe His messianic work.

He was unique in the combining of messianic deliverance and suffering service and it is not surprising to discover those closest to Him, like Peter, (Mark 8:32) having trouble assimilating that notion into their lives. Nevertheless, He delivers by sacrifice for others, and as His followers, we are challenged to act accordingly (Mark 8:34-35).

Samford dean named Palm Beach president

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (Pa.) — Claude H. Rhea Jr., dean of the Samford University school of music in Birmingham, Ala., has been named president of the Palm Beach Atlantic College.

Rhea, who will assume the presidency of the 14-year-old Baptist college Feb. 1, 1982, succeeds George R. Borders, who resigned to become executive secretary of the Florida Baptist Foundation in Jacksonville.

A native of Missouri, Rhea has been dean of the school of music at Samford since 1969.

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

"For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed" (Luke 12:2).

Winebarger
CHURCH FURNITURE
AND STAINED GLASS
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24502

- CHANCEL FURNITURE
- CHAIRS • PEWS
- CUSHIONS

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

LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Lesson for Dec. 27

Freed for service

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

Basic Passage: Galatians 5:13 to 6:10

Facial Passages: Galatians 5:13-16, 22-25; 6:2, 7-10

As a child I had a favorite place to play. It was beneath four large cherry trees that grew at the edge of our yard, adjacent to our cotton field.

I was often warned to stay under the cherry trees and out of the cotton field. Under those trees, I was free to make believe I had my own farm, house, roads, and many other features thought up in the mind of a child. But the cotton field only a few steps away was strictly off limits.

These were the loving boundaries drawn by a loving father. Our Heavenly Father has given us our own special place and our own special freedom — freedom not to do what we want but freedom to do what we ought. The freedom we have come to know in Christ is illustrated by Paul's wonderful letter to the churches of Galatia.

This freedom carries with it a great responsibility. This responsibility is expressed in service to Him. This service is not born out of the strength of our fleshly energies and powers but from the Holy Spirit living within. "The letter killeth but the Spirit giveth life" (2 Corinthians 3:6) especially in the area of service.

Conduct for serving (5:13-16)
One of Paul's favorite words is "walk." He uses it in verse 16 to say "walk by the Spirit" (NASB). He wants his Christian friends to carry out their responsibilities in a spirit of love (v. 13) out of their own making but generated by the Holy Spirit. Where literalism and harsh regulations exist, it is difficult for me to render his best service, especially in a loving way.

One church had drafted a set of constitution and by-laws. The intent was to help the church carry on the Lord's work decently and in order. But one member searched for some infraction of the rules in nearly every business meeting. Waving the constitution before the congregation, many uneasy moments would be spent in satisfying the brother's egalistic spirit. Such an atmosphere does not foster the best in terms of responsible service. The conduct for responsible service is Spirit-led conduct that is evidenced by love in serving one another.

Counsel in serving (5:18-25)

To prevent such occurrences, the Christian needs the wise leadership of the Holy Spirit (v. 8). Spirit-directed service is never offensive. The works of the flesh soon become obvious. Paul found it necessary to list some of these. The strong contrast given here is to indicate that freedom under Christ does not give rise to such heinous sins. Rather, freedom under the counsel of the Holy Spirit will give rise to the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Sincere Christian character is not just living by a set of rules and regulations, self-imposed or otherwise. Christian

character and conduct are revealed by the fruit of a person's life. The fruit of the Holy Spirit manifested in a life will be a singular fruit with nine flavors. It is interesting to note that the first three fruit flavors deal with our spirit within, the second set of three deals with relationships without, and the final three deal with our relationship above.

The upper portion of a rose bush froze out last winter leaving only the stub of the plant in the spring. The bush began to grow, giving hope to the owner that his favorite rose had not been lost in the winter's cold. He discovered later in the spring, much to his disappointment, that the bush had been grafted and the root system was a wild rose. The fruit only expressed what was in the roots. If our lives are rooted in Jesus Christ and we are led by the power of the Holy Spirit, it will show in the fruit of our service to others.

Most of our problems in service stem from a demanding of rights which should have been surrendered long before. We are reminded of this in verse 24 where Paul says, "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." The model for Paul and for us is the servant model exemplified by our Lord.

Companionship and service (6:2, 7-10)
Any load is lighter when shared with someone. Jesus again is our example as He invites us to become a yokefellow with Him. He says "for My yoke is easy and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:28). Paul suggests that there are burdens that need to be shared. He also says there are burdens that have to be borne individually (v. 5).

One burden that should be shared is the service burden. God never intended that His work be a "Lone Ranger" endeavor. He anticipated the need we would have in drawing strength from one another. He has wisely set each member in the body and gifted each person by the power of His Spirit that we might be the family of God, the body of Christ, a building fitly joined together, freed to serve in a responsible manner. Responsi-

ble service means that we draw strength from one another by sharing.

Paul gives a warning in these verses that may be applied to legalistic service. The Greeks thought of planets as wandering bodies. The word "deceived" (v. 7) is *planao* similar to our word "planet." The writer desires that we not become wandering bodies in our service. If we serve God out of sheer responsibility, we will reap the harvest of the flesh. But we are encouraged that no true service to the Saviour goes unnoticed or unrewarded. God counsels us to never give up, to never quit. The wise man of the Proverbs said, "a just man falleth seven times and riseth up again" (Proverbs 24:16). It is another way of saying you can't keep a good man down.

We are reminded to "do good" to all, but Paul especially notes those in the "household of faith." These are our companions in service. Responsible service will involve others. As we close the old year and face the new one, may God help us to be responsible servants for Him.

FMB sends vaccine for rabies victims

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has sent 20 doses of human diploid rabies vaccine to Baptist missionaries in Yemen where at least five missionary children were bitten by a rabid cat.

Several Yemini families have lost children and at least one adult has died at the Baptist Hospital, Jibla, said Sarah Thomas, missionary teacher who just returned to the United States on leave.

Rabies is common in Yemen because animals are seldom vaccinated, said Mrs. Thomas, but the missionary children were bitten when supplies of human vaccine were also low. The U.S. Embassy agreed to provide the first round of vaccine and try to secure another round, she said, but the Foreign Mission Board is sending 20 doses to complete the series.

Hugh Provost, missionary pharmacist appointed in April, will carry the vaccine when he travels to Yemen right after Christmas. Available only through public health departments, the vaccine was obtained through the Virginia Health Department, said Franklin T. Fowler, the board's medical consultant.

Besides the five children, Mrs. Thomas said she and several other adults had played with the cat and must take the vaccine.

Student leaders plan for growth

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptist state and denominational student leaders finalized plans for a 1982-83 enlistment/new work campaign to organize 300 new Baptist Student Unions, reach 1,280 campuses, and involve 200,000 students in BSU by June 1, 1983.

The Sunday School Board's National Student Ministries staff and state student directors and associates were told by NSM new work consultant Bob Hartman. "Our college campuses are a ripe mission field. By reaching these students we can change the country, but only if we act through the power of God."

Hartman said a recent survey showed there are currently 12.3-million students on U.S. campuses. Of these, 628,650 indicate a Baptist preference, but only 154,819 students are involved in BSU activities.

Plans for the enlistment/new work emphasis include training state representatives, a Bible study program, "Jesus Reaching People," and increased promotion of the adopt-a-state program where an established BSU is encouraged to adopt a new or weak BSU. More than 30 states are now participating in the program.

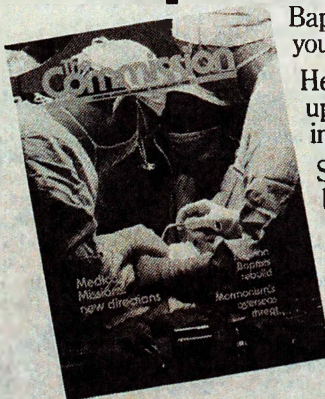
In conjunction with the state directors meeting, directors and advisers from the National Baptist Student Union held their fifth annual planning meeting.

In other sessions, plans for reaching 1982-85 Bold Mission Thrust goals for student ministry were discussed. These include involving 50,000 students in witness training, 225,000 students annually in Baptist student ministries, assisting churches in reaching and baptizing 45,000 students, and assisting churches in reaching students for Bible study through the Sunday School.

FOR SALE

1928 model Austin Pipe Organ,
3 manuals, 15 ranks, 22 couplers
Now playing — immediately
available, buyer must remove
Call First Baptist Church,
Gadsden, Alabama
(205)547-6828

To understand being a Baptist in this world, you need to know what Baptists are doing in this world.



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

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

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

The Commission, Dept. TND4
Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23230.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

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

CHURCH FURNITURE

Pews, Pulpits, Altars, Communion Tables
Free Brochures - Free Estimates
Write R.G. Ketron Church Furniture
or 3401 Montlake Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37920
Call: Phone (615)577-8716

World misunderstands meaning of Christmas

By James T. Draper Jr.

Christmas is a mysterious blend of contradictions.

It is simple, yet profound; quiet, yet vociferous; theological, yet social; factual, yet emotional; historical, yet eternal. It would be an understatement to say it is a time of gross misunderstanding.

It is certain that God's meaning in Christmas can never be understood completely until Christ is given priority in our hearts and lives. The babe of Bethlehem must become the Lord of life for us if we are to properly celebrate this special day.

Christmas means that a way has been opened into the very presence of God; a way has been prepared for sinners to be forgiven. Truth has been revealed in this world of spiritual ignorance. Light has emerged out of the darkness. Sight has come for the spiritually blind. Deliverance is present for the captives of evil.

The means is now available for men and women to live as brothers and sisters and for love to become a way of life for the whole world. There are so many things about the Christmas story that cast prophetic meaning into our days. These ingredients in the narrative have significant value for our consideration.

His birth came in simple and humble surroundings. The first visitors to His delivery room were shepherds who were among the most common of the society into which Jesus was born. These facts remind us that in every generation there are those who welcome Him with humble hearts, and He is pleased to dwell with them.



The smug complacency and indifference of those travelers who filled the inn that night are sadly reflective of our own day. Their physical desires were cared for. They were oblivious to the fact that the Son of God lay close by. They were satisfied with food and entertainment provided for them. This is a prophetic warning to our 20th century, sophisticated, pleasure-seeking, materially-minded, and complacent world. With all our luxuries we have no time for Him.

The people of the first Christmas were troubled and fearful people. The shepherds were so frightened by the supernatural appearance of the heavenly messengers that the first words to them were, "Fear not!" Herod was so troubled that he feared a baby boy might take his throne. The mothers of Bethlehem were frightened by the evil decree of the threatened and threatening monarch. Weeping filled the streets as they held the lifeless forms of slaughtered baby boys in their arms.

Jesus' coming was accompanied by fear, death, and despair. Yet, with His coming, the greatest miracle could not have occurred. While His coming was accompanied by fear, death, and despair, it was actually the end of fear, death, and despair. "Good tidings of great joy to all the world" was declared. The dreaded enemies of life found their demise and defeat in His coming. When He is enthroned in the hearts of mankind, His peace and love will fill the earth as the waters fill the seas.

Christmas will never be rightly understood apart from the cross of Calvary. He was uniquely born to die. The myrrh given to Him by the wise men was used to embalm and to anoint the bodies of the dead. It was an eloquent testimony of the true significance of His coming. This crucified Christ was resurrected from the dead and now lives to dwell within us.

As he is given a place in our hearts, the meaning of Christmas will emerge as real in our experience.

—Adapted from the December 1981 issue of *The Student*, copyright 1981 by the Baptist Sunday School Board. Draper is pastor of First Baptist Church, Euless, Tex.



POOR AMERICANS — "Last year, 29.3-million Americans (or about 13 percent of our population) could be classified as 'poor,' according to a federal report. The 1980 poverty threshold for a non-farm family of four in the United States was \$8,404. The real median income for an American family last year plunged 5.5 percent — the largest drop since World War II — because of a 13.5 percent inflation rate and the general economic slump." (PARADE, 10/18/81)

DEFENSE SPENDING PROPOSALS — Senator Mark O. Hatfield (R-Oregon) says in his newsletter that "defense spending proposals must be modified. The Administration proposes to spend \$1.46-trillion dollars for defense over the next five years, increasing the annual expenditure from \$142-billion in 1980 to \$367-billion in 1986. Even after adjusting for inflation the increase is three times what we spent for the Vietnam War build-up. The 1982 military budget will equal what the entire federal budget spent in 1970." (HATFIELD BACK-GRINDER, November, 1981)



BOOK FAIR — Dorothy Ballard, Lois Lusty, and Ethel Lusty, members of Nashville's Inglewood Baptist Church, look at children's books during the senior adult book fair held recently at Nashville's Baptist Book Store.

Guyanese feels pacemaker will aid parents' conversion

HOUSTON (BP)— A young Guyanese Baptist woman, who just three weeks before had been near death, flew home to Guyana Dec. 6 with a new pacemaker and a testimony she prays will help win her Hindu parents to Christ.

A hastily arranged trip to the United States was climaxed Nov. 19 when a team of surgeons at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in Houston implanted the life-saving device in the chest of Rukhmin "Juliet" Ram.

Troubled with a heart that beat only half the normal rate for the past eight years, Miss Ram had become seriously ill a week earlier. When her rate slowed to 20 beats per minute, a cardiologist said her only hope was to have a pacemaker implanted, surgery unavailable in Guyana.

Miss Ram's close friends, Southern Baptist Missionaries Charles and Mary Love, and other Baptists helped pave the way for the life-sustaining surgery, which was provided free for Miss Ram, daughter of cane field workers.

To Mary Love, who traveled with her failing Christian co-worker, the frantic

mission of mercy was a miracle-laced trip.

When their first attempts to phone friends in Miami were unsuccessful, the Loves got in touch with Ken Binks, a Texas acquaintance who had been to Guyana to help with evangelistic training. Binks, a layman at Alta Vista Baptist Church, Pasadena, Tex., returned their call with the news that the surgery could be done at no charge at St. Luke's.

As they prepared to leave Guyana, Mrs. Love said God opened doors which do not easily open — an emergency medical visa, emergency tax clearance for both women, airline tickets confirmed at the last minute, and Miss Ram's positive response to drugs that quickened her heartbeat and sent oxygen to her brain.

After Miss Ram's discharge from St. Luke's, the Binkses cared for her until doctors cleared her to return home to the east coast area of Guyana.

"It is all because of the Lord," Miss Ram said of the trip and surgery that saved her life. "Because of this, I believe my family, my mom and dad — will become Christians."

Mrs. Love thought back a few days: "The father, a Hindu, had taken my hand before we left and said 'Now I place her in your hands.' I said, knowing full well the seriousness of Juliet's case, 'I'm glad she is not in my hands alone, but in God's.'"

Despite her health problems, Juliet Ram had been Sunday School superintendent for her church, a student at the Baptist Lay Leadership Institute, and a children's Sunday School workshop leader.

**BAPTIST
AND
REFLECTOR
brings you
news first.**

Parachutists 'land' Bibles

ZEPHYRHILLS, Fla. (BP) — When parachutists from 23 countries dropped in on Zephyrhills, members of First Baptist Church greeted them with orange juice, coffee, and Scriptures.

Zephyrhills, in central Florida, was the site of the Fourth World Parachute Championships, the first time the event has been held in the United States.

The eight-day event brought volunteers from around the state to share the gospel with the parachutists, who execute intricate designs in four- and eight-man teams nearly two miles in the air.

The cooperative effort involving Florida Baptist Convention agencies and First Baptist Church was supported also through aid from the American Bible Society, which provided many of the Bible materials in native languages. Teams participated from as far as the Federal Republic of China, Germany, Brazil, and Egypt.

"One of our greatest concerns was to get copies of God's Word into the hands of those who could take it back into places where Bibles are not available," said Lenton Turner, pastor of First Baptist Church. "We want to share the gospel in any way that the Lord would allow us to share it, and we feel that this was a great way to share it with the world."