

Baptist and Reflector

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News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

Draper rejects bylaw for state nominations

By Dan Martin

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptist Convention President James T. Draper Jr. has rejected a proposal to "depoliticize" the presidency of the 13.8-million member denomination.

At a meeting in the SBC building Sept. 16, Draper, pastor of First Baptist Church of Euless, Tex., declined to support a proposal which would have made substantive changes in the only real power an SBC president possesses: appointments to the powerful Committee on Committees and the Resolutions Committee.

The changes were proposed by a group of "moderates" led by Cecil Sherman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Asheville, N.C.; Bill Sherman, pastor of Woodmont Baptist Church of Nashville; and Ed Perry, pastor emeritus of Broadway Baptist Church of Louisville, Ky.

The appointive power of the presiden-

cy has been a point of controversy in the 13.8-million-member denomination for the past several years, as one group has publicly stated its intention to control the election of the president, using his appointive powers to turn the convention to a more fundamentalist stance.

The president appoints a lay person and an ordained person from each of the 26 cooperating state conventions which qualify for representation as a Committee on Committees. That committee nominates two persons from each state to serve on a committee on boards, which, in turn, nominates trustees for the 20 SBC agencies.

The moderates' proposal would require the SBC president to seek and obtain nominations from state convention leaders in appointing the members of the Committee on Committees and Resolutions Committee.

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Foreign Mission Board appoints Tennessee couple as missionaries

RICHMOND, Va. — Two Tennesseans were among 21 people named missionaries by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board Sept. 14 at the board's home office here.

Mr. and Mrs. Terry L. Ridenour will serve in Kenya, where he will be a secondary teacher and she will be a church and home worker. They currently attend Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Born in Oklahoma, Ridenour also lived in Texas while growing up. He is a graduate of Oklahoma City University and Memphis State University. He also attended the University of Oklahoma, Norman. He has worked as a teacher and basketball, baseball, and football coach

in Memphis, and as a high school principal in Waynoka, Okla.

Born and raised in Memphis, Mrs. Ridenour, the former Katherine Lane, considers Bellevue Baptist Church there her home church.

She is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and achieved registered nurse standing by examination in Oklahoma. She has worked as a nurse in Oklahoma City; inservice director at a hospital in Moore, Okla.; instructor/psychiatric nurse at a hospital school of nursing in Memphis; quality control coordinator at a Memphis hospital; and nurse consultant at a nursing home in Waynoka, Okla.

The Ridenours have two children: Leah, born in 1976; and Rachel, 1978. The family will go to Pine Mountain, Ga., in January for a 12-week orientation before leaving for Kenya.



Mr. and Mrs. Terry Ridenour



FEEDING FLOOD VICTIMS — Victims of Trenton's flood last week found concern and a hot meal provided by Tennessee Baptists through the Brotherhood department's disaster van. The disaster team served about 800 meals in two days to flood victims. See stories and additional photos on pages 6-7.

Board votes to recommend \$18-million mission goal

By Al Shackelford

The Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention voted at its meeting last Friday to recommend to November's state convention that next year's Cooperative Program budget-goal will be \$16.8-million with a \$1.2-million Bold Mission challenge goal.

In other actions, the board will recommend to the state convention that three TBC institutions be permitted to change their names and that the TBC president appoint a 15-member committee to study the relationship between TBC institutions' trustees and the Executive Board.

The \$16.8-million Cooperative Program basic budget-goal for the November 1982-October 1983 convention year would be a 7.7 percent increase over the \$15.6-million basic budget-goal for the current convention year. The recommendation will also provide that 36 percent of these gifts would be shared with missions and ministries supported by the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program. This would be increased from 35.75 percent in the current year's budget.

Of the \$16.8-million, TBC causes would receive \$10,752,000 (7.27 percent above the \$10,023,000 for this year) and SBC causes would receive \$6,048,000 (8.45 percent above the \$5,577,000 for this year).

In the proposed budget, the Tennessee section would have a 4.31 percent increase for administration and departments and agencies related to the administrative section; 6.99 percent increase for convention ministries departments; and 9.54 percent increase for educational institutions.

The board will recommend to the state convention that two of its hospitals be permitted to change their names: Baptist Hospital, Nashville, to Baptist Health Care Systems, and East Tennessee Baptist Hospital, Knoxville, to East Tennessee Baptist Health Care Systems.

A similar change was approved by the 1981 TBC concerning the Baptist Memorial Health Care Systems of Memphis.

Another recommendation would permit the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation to change its name to Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes. The TBSC would also be permitted to change its program statement to include "elderly handicapped."

The Executive Board will also recommend that the TBC messengers authorize a 15-member committee to study and report on inter-relationship and communication problems between the TBC institution's board of trustees and the Executive Board. If approved, the committee would be appointed by the current TBC president, Wayne Allen of Memphis.

In other action the Executive Board voted to ratify action taken by its administration committee at a called June 22 meeting, that the state convention not exercise its option to repurchase Belmont Plaza, an apartment building for

(Continued on page 3)

BSSB requests recommendations

NASHVILLE (BP) — Response has been good to requests for nominations for a president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board according to the chairman of the search committee, John J. Bryan.

Bryan of Bluefield, W. Va., urged all interested Southern Baptists to submit recommendations before the Oct. 1 deadline, emphasizing that "any Southern Baptist is encouraged to make a nomination." He said the seven-member committee would like to receive nominations from a wide cross-section of the denomination.

Bryan, a layman and medical doctor, said recommendations should be made in writing and include a complete biographical sketch of the nominee and a concise statement of the reason for the nomination.

Recommendations should be mailed to Bryan at P.O. Box 1728, Bluefield, WV 24701.

When the board's trustees elected the search committee in August to seek a successor to Grady Cothen, guidelines also were adopted calling for the new president to be elected in February 1983 or as soon thereafter as possible.



DEVASTATION — Nairobi City Councilman Ndururu Kiboro shows Missionary Charles Tope the scene of an early morning fire in Nairobi's Mathare Valley slum area. Tope, other missionaries, and Kenya Baptists are providing food and blankets for about 4,000 persons left homeless.

Baptist relief team aids Nairobi slum fire victims

By Robert O'Brien

NAIROBI, Kenya (BP)— Southern Baptist mission personnel and Africans distributed about \$5,000 worth of food and blankets to destitute victims of a fire which destroyed part of Nairobi's Mathare Valley slum area.

Nairobi City Councilman Z.W. Ndururu Kiboro, who personally donated \$500, praised Baptists for being the first group to help 4,000 victims, mostly children, left homeless when the fire gutted about an acre of the makeshift shantytown. "Other organizations are just talking about helping," Kiboro said. "You Baptists are doing something."

The fire destroyed a medical clinic operated by the National Christian Council of Kenya, but stopped three feet short of a clinic operated by furloughing Southern Baptist Missionary Physician John Adams of Texas. The Mathare Valley Baptist Church meets in the Baptist clinic.

While the team distributed 1,000 sacks of cornmeal, a truckload of cabbages, and 1,000 blankets to the disaster victims, members of Mathare Valley church handed out gospel tracts in Swahili, told the recipients about Jesus Christ, and invited them to attend church.

Baptist leaders in Kenya hope the relief response, funded through the Foreign Mission Board's hunger and disaster relief funds, will be the first step in a long-range plan to provide a comprehensive, self-help hunger and relief program for Nairobi's slum areas.

Most area residents, attracted from rural areas by the city's glitter, have little or no education or employment. They live in 6x9-foot cardboard, clapboard, and tin shanties with dirt floors and no water, electricity, or sanitation facilities. Most couples share the tiny living space with seven to 10 children.

Missionary Charles Tope, former Oklahoma pastor, who was in charge of the relief effort, said evangelism and church development will be an integral part of any plan to help the physical needs of the people.

"This opportunity to help people will give us many contacts and possibilities for the future to reach people for Christ," said Patrick Kimani, pastor of the struggling, 60-member Mathare Valley Baptist Church.

Kimani helped design a screening system to determine eligibility for relief

supplies. While some ineligible persons did filter through, they were met with tough opposition from Kiboro, a diminutive Kikuyu tribesman, who descended on them waving a stick.

One singled out by Kiboro was a slum landlord who was sent scurrying. "This food is for the people who need it, not a landlord who tries to take advantage of them," Kiboro said.

TBC to offer conference for church secretaries

The first Tennessee Baptist church secretaries' conference will be held Oct. 11-13 at Manley Baptist Church, Morristown.

During the three-day conference, a new organization for Tennessee Baptist church secretaries will be formed. The organization and the conference will be designed to unite church secretaries and offer practical assistance in skill development and other needs unique to church secretaries.

Lucy Hoskins of the church administration department of the Baptist Sunday School Board will lead a two-part session on the professional image of the church secretary. She also will conduct a study on interpersonal relationships.

Other topics will include staff relationships; improving secretarial skills, the church secretary in a one-woman office; preparing newsletters, bulletins, and mailouts; basics of writing and communications; the educational secretary, pastor's secretary, financial secretary, and music secretary; and several areas of spiritual growth.

Other conference participants include Will Beal, church administration department, Baptist Sunday School Board; Mrs. Martin Bradley, Executive Board assistant in the executive secretary's office of the Tennessee Baptist Convention; Don Dillingham, minister of education, Manley Baptist Church; Richard Emmert, pastor of Manley Baptist Church; Bob Ethridge, office of communications, Sunday School Board; Mrs. Bob Ethridge, secretary, Judson Baptist Church, Nashville; Mrs. William Fox, secretary in the evangelism department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention; Mike Hodges, minister of music at Manley Baptist Church; James McCluskey, pastor of Wallace Memorial

Aide clarifies Reagan views on U.S. as 'chosen' nation

By Stan Hastey

WASHINGTON (BP)— President Ronald Reagan does not agree with the view of leaders of the religious right that the United States is a "chosen" nation in the sense that Israel was chosen as God's special people in Old Testament times.

That assessment of the president's view came from Edwin Meese III, counselor to the president, in a Sept. 14 working luncheon with 15 editors and writers from the religious press.

Asked to explain what Reagan meant in a Sept. 9 Kansas State University speech when he declared that America was "set apart" by God, Meese said the president was referring to his "sense of historical purpose" for the U.S., not to "theological perceptions per se."

When a reporter pointed out that leaders of the religious right, including Moral Majority founder and president Jerry Falwell, use such language to designate the U.S. as a successor people to Israel under a new covenant with God, Meese said Reagan does not share that view.

What the president means in such references, Meese went on, is that when a nation has been blessed, it has a "corresponding responsibility" to use its blessings for the common good. Thus, Meese explained, when Reagan refers to America as a nation "set apart," he is referring to the "potential," "possibilities," and "mission" of the country rather than to a narrow nationalistic theology.

The editors and writers, meeting for the second time in recent weeks with Meese, heard the Cabinet-rank official declare that Reagan is committed to the so-called conservative "social issues" put on the back burner during the administration's first year and one-half in office because of the president's desire to focus on his economic program.

Such issues, Meese said, deal with "American values" and include abortion, prayer in public schools, tuition tax credits, and crime.

Despite a steady stream of criticism from the new right that the White House has ignored such matters, Meese said administration officials have been working on them "literally since Jan. 20 of last year," the day Reagan was inaugurated as the 40th president.

All these issues "deal with moral, family, and intellectual values" about which the president feels strongly, Meese said.

In a surprise appearance before the group, Reagan focused his comments on the current battle in the U.S. Senate over tuition tax credits, reiterating his view that they should be passed as a matter of "fairness" to parents who pay local property taxes to support public schools, but then must pay tuition to send their children to private schools.

He also defended his plan against charges that tuition tax credits will benefit the wealthy more than the poor and will encourage more "white flight" from public schools. Neither is the real issue separation of church and state, Reagan said, declaring that an "overwhelming majority" of parents choose private schools not because of religion but because of "the desire and the belief" that their children will receive a better education there than in public schools.

"We are going to do everything we can" to insure that Congress passes a tuition tax credit measure, he declared, adding, "I believe in this body and soul."

On the abortion controversy, Reagan likewise pledged again to fight for a Constitutional amendment banning the practice except to save the life of the mother. "I am going to fight as long and as hard as I can" for such an amendment, he declared.



Miss Adkinson



Bass



Mrs. Brown



Rose

Union to host library lab

Union University, Jackson, will host the Tennessee Baptist media library lab, Oct. 9, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The lab, to assist church media library personnel and other interested church members, is sponsored by the church media services office of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Conferences include "How to administer and promote a church media center," "How to process media," "How to classify, catalog, and maintain media," "How to use audiovisuals," "How to develop a media education program," "How to use your church media center," and "How to use Bible study helps."

Conference leaders are Jean Adkinson, consultant in the church media library department of the Baptist Sunday School Board; Harold Bass, librarian at Union University; Helen Brown, president of the Concord Baptist Association's church media organization; James Rose, consultant in the church media library department of the Sunday School Board; and Ed Tarpley, sales coordinator for Acme School Supply, Nashville.

Eleanor Yarborough, church media services consultant for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, will coordinate the lab. There will be a \$4 registration fee, according to Mrs. Yarborough.

Senate panel endorses tuition tax credit bill

By Larry Chesser

WASHINGTON (BP) — After two days of intense negotiations and struggle, the Senate Finance Committee cleared a significantly modified version of President Ronald Reagan's tuition tax credit proposal for Senate floor action.

Senate Finance Chairman Robert J. Dole held off efforts to attach amendments likely to doom the bill, supported by what he termed a "fragile coalition." The final vote — delayed until Dole had enough votes to defeat one final amendment he opposed — was 11-7.

The measure faces an almost certain filibuster on the Senate floor which means supporters would have to muster 60 votes to allow enactment before Congress adjourns in early October for the November elections. It is unclear whether the bill would be considered in a post-election lame duck session President Reagan has called to deal with appropriations bills.

The anti-discrimination provisions of the tax credit bill proved the thorniest issue for the committee to resolve. Dole's task in holding the coalition together was to satisfy both those who insisted the bill contain strong enforcement authority against schools which racially discriminate and those opposed to Internal Revenue Service oversight of private schools.

After the committee accepted a series of administration-backed changes strengthening the bill's anti-discrimination language, it went even further in adopting, 10-8, an amendment by Senator Bill Bradley which would give IRS joint enforcement authority with the Justice Department — a move opposed by the administration.

Acknowledging the bill could not be reported without the Bradley amendment, Dole offered a substitute amend-

ment which Bradley insisted protected his concern that tuition tax credits or tax exemptions would be allowed where schools practice racial discrimination.

The Dole substitute would delay the effective date of the bill until the attorney general certified to the secretary of the treasury that the Internal Revenue code — as interpreted by the Supreme Court or amended by Congress — prohibits granting tax-exempt status to private schools "maintaining racially discriminatory policy or practice as to students."

Since a private school must qualify for tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue code for parents of its students to be eligible for the proposed tuition tax credits, the effect of the Dole language would put the bill on hold — if passed — until the Supreme Court disposed of the pending Bob Jones University and Goldsboro Christian Schools case. The authority of IRS to deny tax-exempt status to racially discriminatory private schools is the issue.

Should the high court rule IRS is without such authority the bill would then not take effect until Congress passed a law providing that authority.

In addition to the anti-discrimination changes, the committee lowered the maximum credit allowed under the bill and the maximum family income to qualify in order to reduce the cost of the program to the federal treasury.

The original Reagan bill would have allowed a maximum credit of \$100 in fiscal 1983, increasing to \$500 by 1984 and thereafter for half the tuition paid. The committee reduced the maximum credit to \$300 when the bill is fully phased in.

Under the Reagan proposal, families with incomes of \$50,000 and below would qualify for the full allowable credit, with partial credits allowed for families with incomes of up to \$75,000. The committee slashed the qualifying figure to \$40,000 with a phase out at \$50,000.

The committee also went against the administration in offering an amendment to make the tax credits refundable to low income parents whose tax liabilities are less than the credits involved. This change was reported out as a committee amendment to be offered on the floor.

Senator John H. Chafee offered an amendment declaring no tax credit go to parents of students unless the school involved was accredited. The committee approved a modification suggested by Dole that eligible institutions satisfy the compulsory attendance requirements of the state in which the student resides.

Another Chafee amendment — barring discrimination based on handicap — was approved with the committee understanding that a private school's lack of facilities to handle handicapped persons' special needs would not constitute discrimination.

A Treasury Department spokesman

estimated the program would cost \$229-million in 1984, \$491-million in 1985, and \$703-million in 1986. The figures are slightly higher if refundability is added.

Both Chafee and George J. Mitchell expressed strong skepticism at the estimates, charging the actual cost will be much higher.

FMB names missionaries, sets \$25,000 for Beirut

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Appointment of Southern Baptists for service overseas continued at a record pace as the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board approved 21 new missionaries in September, bringing the year's total to 299.

Expectations of large numbers of appointments in October and December mean 1982 appointments should exceed the record of 355 set in 1981.

The latest appointments included one member of the board staff, Joy Neal, administrative assistant for eastern and southern Africa, and Mike and Kathie Benge Chute. Chute is the former managing editor of Word and Way, the Missouri Baptist state paper.

Miss Neal, former missionary journeyman to Zambia and Kenya, will be Bible correspondence course coordinator in Transkei. She came to the Richmond staff in 1973.

The Chutes will work in Brazil where he will do publications and media work. In recent months both have been public relations consultants at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., where Chute is attending.

At the close of its Sept. 14, business session the board received word a survey team had arrived in Beirut, Lebanon, to work with missionaries in determining relief needs there. Immediate release of \$25,000 in general relief funds will pay for repairs at the Beirut Baptist School, which housed refugees and a small medical clinic during the summer's fighting. The money will also replace some furnishings and provide supplies.

John Cheyne, senior consultant for human needs ministries, and Don Rutledge, photographer, are in Lebanon and plan to visit refugee areas in Sidon in southern Lebanon.

FMB President R. Keith Parks told the board relief allocations for the first eight months of this year increased 113.9 percent over the same period last year. A total of \$1,038,826 released in July and August brought total allocations to \$4,301,896, more than double the

\$2,010,606 released during the first eight months of 1981.

Southern Baptists gave \$2,744,207 through Aug. 31, a 26 percent increase over gifts during the comparable period last year. Largest amounts released in the past two months went to Bangladesh and Brazil, with smaller allocations spread across the world.

A total of \$394,000 went to Bangladesh to establish goat and fish projects, dig wells, continue a village development project, and fund a vocational carpentry project to teach handicapped young men a trade. Money for Brazilian relief went to a variety of projects, including \$131,372 for expansion of an agricultural training project in Ceres and \$49,000 for an irrigation dam as the first phase of a community development program in Sio.

A \$143,000 allocation will help establish an agricultural school in the small Central American country of Belize, where good soil and climate fail to produce adequate food because of primitive farming methods.

In other action, the board upgraded the titles of two administrative staff members and named a new associate for south and southeast Asia. Homer Beaver, assistant to the president, was named vice-president for administration and the title of Charles Bryan, vice-president for overseas operations, was changed to senior vice-president for overseas operations to reflect the priority of overseas work in the board's structure.

Bob Nash, missionary to the Philippines for 18 years, will become associate to the director for south and southeast Asia Jan. 1. Working under Area Director Bill Wakefield, Nash will share field liaison responsibilities with Missionary Jerry Rankin.

Nash will work with missionaries in Guam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Philippines, while Rankin, who began his job at the start of this year, will work with personnel in Thailand, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and India.

The board also approved the final \$910,055 in allocations of capital funds from the 1981 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. More than \$780,000 of this total was made possible because Southern Baptists topped their \$50-million goal by that amount.

Dean Wallace called to first pastorate

Dean Wallace accepted his first pastorate in response to a call from Cooper's Chapel Baptist Church, McKenzie.

Wallace, who began the position Sept. 5, came to the church from the membership of First Baptist Church, Trezevant. At the request of Cooper's Chapel, the Trezevant church plans to ordain Wallace Oct. 24.

A native of Trezevant, Wallace has attended Union University, Jackson.

Executive Board...

(Continued from page 1)

senior adults in Nashville.

When the facility was sold to a group of Baptist laymen in 1980, the documents gave the convention, the Executive Board, or the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation the option to purchase the property should Belmont Plaza Inc. seek to sell it.

On June 8, Tom Madden, TBC executive secretary, was informed that Belmont Plaza Inc. intended to sell the facility, and the TBC had until June 25 to exercise its option. The administrative committee declined the offer.

Last Friday, the Executive Board voted without opposition to "support the administrative committee's decision not to exercise the option to repurchase Belmont Plaza."

The board also approved a motion by Jerry Oakley of Springfield that the board's education committee be asked to study a possible method of providing scholarships at TBC colleges for dependents of pastors or other church related ministers on a sliding scale based on family income.

In other action, the Executive Board voted to commend Knox County Association of Baptists for their leadership in providing a Baptist witness at the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville.

The next scheduled meeting of the Executive Board will be held Nov. 15, before the opening of the Tennessee Baptist Convention at Leawood Baptist Church of Memphis Nov. 16-18. All meetings of the Executive Board are open to visitors.

Dunn attacks Senate panel vote

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Senate Finance Committee's decision to clear a tuition tax credit measure for floor action has drawn a sharp denunciation from a Baptist church-state specialist.

James M. Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, said the committee's approval of a modified version of President Ronald Reagan's tuition tax credit proposal is "beyond comprehension in the face of soaring budget deficits and financially struggling public schools."

Citing a 1982 Southern Baptist Convention resolution, Dunn underscored the threat to church-state separation posed by tuition tax credits.

"With tuition tax credits all Americans will be compelled to pay taxes to support parochial schools whose teachings many of us disavow," Dunn said, adding, "Thomas Jefferson called such tax-supported religious teaching 'sinful and tyrannical.'"

Beyond the threat to religious liberty, Dunn charged that the proposal "seriously threatens public education."

"We don't need government encouragement for a system of private and pauper schools," he said. "Pauper schools is what the public schools would become with decreasing tax support for public education and increasing aid for private and parochial schools."

EDITORIAL

A challenging Cooperative Program recommendation

In one of its shortest meetings in recent years, the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention approved a challenging recommendation to November's state convention for an \$18-million Cooperative Program goal for the November 1982-October 1983 convention year.

The recommendation will provide \$16.8-million for the basic budget-goal, with a \$1.2-million Bold Mission challenge section.

The total \$18-million goal is a 5.9 percent increase over the \$17-million total Cooperative Program goal for the current convention year.

The basic budget-goal of \$16.8-million is a 7.7 percent increase over the \$15.6-million budget-goal for the November 1981-October 1982 convention year.

The Bold Mission challenge section of the recommended goal would be \$1.2-million, compared to \$1.4-million in this year's budget-goal.

Of course the primary interest of budget-watchers focuses on the basic operating budget. Although the 7.7 percent increase recommended is below the increases of recent years, the Executive Board's program committee felt that the convention should have an achievable goal for this section, to assure that there would be funds available for Bold Mission projects.

Cooperative Program receipts for the current year have been running at or slightly below the basic budget-goal on a month-by-month accounting. After 10 months of the current budget year, Cooperative Program receipts are 2.1 percent below the basic budget-goal.

Historically, September and October are big months in giving by Tennessee Baptist churches, so there is optimism that the basic budget-goal of \$15.6-million will be achieved when the books are closed on Oct. 31.

However, TBC Executive Secretary Tom Madden noted that Oct. 31 is on Sunday this year, and therefore, the books will close on Friday, Oct. 29. He stated that if church treasurers were aware of this calendar situation, many of them will choose to send in their churches' mission gifts during October's last week, rather than waiting for the month's final Sunday.

Another significant figure in the recommendation to the state convention will be that the percentage shared with SBC missions and ministries would be increased from 35.75 percent to 36 percent. The share retained for Baptist work in Tennessee would be reduced from 64.25 percent to 64 percent.

We realize that one-fourth of one percent does not sound like a big change — but when you apply it to the \$16.8-million basic budget-goal these amounts emerge: the SBC share would increase from \$5,577,000 to \$6,048,000 or 8.45 percent, while the Tennessee share would increase from \$10,023,000 to \$10,752,000 or 7.27 percent.

The 64 and 36 percentages would also carry over into the Bold Mission challenge section. As in the current year's budget-goal, Tennessee funds received in the challenge section would be divided with 35 percent for TBC educational institutions and 65 percent for Bold Mission Thrust projects.

A breakdown of the budget will be printed in a later issue of the *Baptist and Reflector*.

Yes, faced with the economic conditions in our nation, the Executive Board will recommend a challenging, visionary budget-goal to the state convention in November. But it is well within our reach. Let us prayerfully give this recommendation our committed consideration.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Rediscovering identity is challenge to Southern Baptists

By Presnall H. Wood, editor
"Baptist Standard," Dallas, Tex.

Speaking to the Sunday School Board, Jimmy Draper, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, noted that the Southern Baptist Convention is "trying to discover who we are."

Discover who we are? An intriguing thought! The president of the SBC could well be on target.

"Identity" was predicted to be one of the critical issues facing Southern Baptists in the '80s, and it appears that prediction is coming true.

But why are Southern Baptists caught in an identity crisis? Many reasons could be given, but heading that list might be the prosperous and national platform Southern Baptists enjoy. It seems that it was easier for Southern Baptists to know who they were when they were on the outside of national influence looking in, rather than on the inside looking out. In the not-too-distant-days-ago when Southern Baptists had to explain who they were and what they believed, they seemed to stay more in step with what they should be.

But now Southern Baptists are known — nationally and internationally. Being known, various political and religious groups court their influence. Interdenominationalism appears attractive to some Southern Baptists.

But another glaring reason for the identity crisis is that in many churches, training has been put on the shelf. There was a day when church training, study courses, and other curricula on Baptist history, beliefs, methods, and heritage were as much a part of a church member's diet as a revival meeting. Southern Baptists knew who they were because they faithfully followed a study of what they believed and where they had been.

There are other reasons, but however Southern Baptists lost their identity, many Southern Baptists would agree with Draper that they are somewhat adrift as to knowing who they are.

Who are Southern Baptists? Liberals they are not. Oh, there may be some with liberal leanings, but most Southern Baptists have not been nor would ever want to be a part of the National Council of Churches. Even a casual reading of the Baptist Faith and Message would rule out Southern Baptists being liberal in theology.

But neither are Southern Baptists fundamentalists. Oh, there may be some with fundamentalist leanings, but most Southern Baptists have not forgotten the J. Frank Norris anti-denominational battle of this century with vicious attacks upon leaders, institutions, and agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention with the cry of modernism. Although Southern Baptists share many of the doctrinal beliefs of fundamentalism, they have generally refused the spirit of the movement.

Who are Southern Baptists?

They are people of God who are conservative in theology and propagate distinctive beliefs. The 17 statements found in the Baptist Faith and Message comprise a consensus of their beliefs. "Baptists emphasize the soul's competency before God, freedom in religion, and the priesthood of the believer; however this emphasis should not be interpreted to mean that there is an absence of certain definite doctrines that Baptists believe, cherish, and with which they have been and are now closely identified," is the firm word of the preamble of the Baptist Faith and Message.

But Baptists are also missionary in organization. It is impossible to become acquainted with the history of Southern Baptists without being aware of their emphasis on missions and evangelism. The proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ is still the rallying cry for Southern Baptists to work together. The Bold Mission Thrust movement, designed to tell the world of Christ by the end of this century, could well be an essential part of the therapy for Southern Baptists to rediscover their identity.

The ingredients for rediscovery of identity are there for Southern Baptists. But the looming obstacle could be attitude.

Southern Baptists cannot rediscover who they are with the arrogance of a traditional liberal or the mean spirit of a traditional fundamentalist.

A solution? Southern Baptists might rediscover who they are by getting to know other Southern Baptists as they are.

In getting to know each other, it just might be that Southern Baptists would take a giant step in finding out who they are. And in the process become the people of God they should be.

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Prayer aids Daniels in Miss America pageant

By Steve Higdon

Seconds before the final two names were to be announced, Chattanooga Desiree Denise Daniels was confident she would be crowned Miss America for 1983.

Seconds after her name was announced for the first runner-up position, Miss Daniels was still confident she had been a winner. For, no matter what her outcome was to be in the Sept. 11 pageant finale, she knew it would be God's answer to her prayers.

"It seemed everything was leading up to my being Miss America," said Miss Daniels, who entered the pageant as the current Miss Tennessee. "I thought the Lord wanted me to win. I had prayed 'Lord, if You want me to have it, let me

win; if You do not want me to have it, do not let me win.' That's why there had to be a purpose in whatever happened — He would not have let me win anything if He had not wanted me to.

"Because of my prayers," Miss Daniels explained, "the Lord stayed with me during the pageant. He gave me a kind of peace while I was on stage. I was never nervous. I thought that even if I tripped and fell down the runway, I would still win if it was the Lord's will for me."

Miss Daniels, 22, is the daughter of Myrna and the late Bill Daniels. A member of Central Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Miss Daniels is active in the church choir, handbell ensemble, and age-group activities. She is also a

member of the Baptist Student Union at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where she is a senior accounting major.

The trek to the Miss America pageant began in 1980 for Miss Daniels, when she won the title of Miss Chattanooga and was fourth runner-up in the Miss Tennessee contest. "I came home thinking I would enter again, but I felt like I needed about two years of work," she recalled.

In 1981, she entered the Miss Tennessee pageant again, but was disqualified because her title as Miss Hamilton County was an appointed one and not one received in a contest. "I was talked into competing and felt like I was disqualified because I stepped out of the Lord's will," she claimed. "I knew I needed more time to prepare myself spiritually, mentally, and physically."

In July, Miss Daniels was crowned Miss Tennessee at the Jackson pageant, which meant she could then vie for the Miss America title. Preparation for the contests included strict daily schedules for all of her activities, especially Bible study and prayer.

Her devotion to proper self-preparation made her enthusiastic about the national event. "If excitement and confidence mean anything, she'll win," Elise Boaz of Memphis, Miss Daniels' chaperone to the Miss America contest, was reported to have said of her before the finals.

Upon arriving in Atlantic City, Miss Daniels quickly made friends with the other contestants. "I remember watching on television, thinking that these girls must be the most perfect girls in the world. But, when I got there, they were very nice, just like somebody next door."

The first disappointments for the hopeful candidate came when she did not win the talent or evening gown competitions. It was her rendition of *Don't Cry Out Loud* which had won her the talent competition in Jackson, and she felt it would happen again. But, she was totally surprised when she won the swimsuit competition — an event she had not won before.

The reigning Miss Tennessee felt she fared well during her seven-minute interview, another category considered by the judges. There she discussed the need to have stricter penalties for those driving under the influence of alcohol — a problem of which she knows the horrors as her father was killed in an accident caused by a drunken driver.

Shortly after the events of the contest's last evening had begun, Miss Daniels was chosen as one of 10 finalists. Although she was being seen by an estimated television audience of 80-million, it never crossed her mind to be scared because of her determination to win and the peace she felt about being in the Lord's will.

Then it came time for emcee Gary Collins, host of the syndicated *Hour Magazine*, to present the winner and four runner-ups. "After he called the name of the first three girls, and only two were left, I felt like I was going to win," she remembered. "Then they called my name as first runner-up. I was disappointed, because I felt that God wanted me to win. Then I realized whatever happened was His will."

"Maybe the Lord knew my personality would not be conducive to Miss America," she speculated. "It's very hard, and it takes a person who is willing to let other people tell them what to do everyday. If it would have happened to me, I might not have enjoyed the year."

After the pageant, Miss Daniels



Miss Tennessee Desiree Daniels
Miss America runner-up

learned that she was only one point shy of receiving the crown herself, and that she had achieved a higher ranking than any Miss Tennessee in the past 35 years.

Even without the title, Miss Daniels will receive several benefits from her pageant experience. "As first runner-up, I received all of the scholarships I could ever want," she said. "I won \$15,000 as runner-up, \$1,500 for winning the swimsuit competition, and \$3,000 from the state contest. I plan to use it to finish my degree and then get a master's."

"Also as first runner-up, I have the benefit of being as close to the title as anybody could ever be. When Miss America cannot make an appearance, it is up to me," she stated, adding that she is already booked through November as Miss Tennessee.

Another benefit, she feels, is that the contest will help launch her into the entertainment world. She hopes to pursue a singing career, in both Christian and "crossover" music.

For some time now, she has presented concerts for churches and community organizations, and has performed as part of the Chattanooga Singers and Singing Mocs of UTC. She spent three weeks in Haiti as a singer with a revival team formed through her church.

Jerry Songer, her pastor, commended Miss Daniels for her achievements in the contest.

"It was like watching a dream come true," he said. "She is a wonderful, beautiful girl; a committed Christian. Her life is exemplary."

"Desiree has a lot of charisma," Songer added. "It runs in the family, as her uncle was a former Mr. America. I just don't see how they could pass her up."

Miss Daniels believes there is a definite place for Christians in beauty contests. "The Lord can have a purpose for young women in pageants. For example, Cheryl Prewitt (Blackwood), a former Miss America, was able to spend the whole year telling of her Christian beliefs. I don't think pageants are egotistical, cheesecake, or unspiritual. I know it was the Lord's will for me."

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.

Constitutional crisis

Dear editor:

Jerry Self's public affairs column in the Sept. 1 issue called the bill which would strip the Supreme Court's power a Constitutional crisis, because it would upset the balance of power established in the Constitution.

The real Constitutional crisis is that the Supreme Court is the present day tyrant instead of King George III of 1776. The Supreme Court, according to the Constitution, is to rule on the constitutionality of laws passed by Congress. They are in fact making laws at their whim regardless of whether it is mentioned in the Constitution or not.

They invented the "right to privacy" for potential abortees and placed that right above the right of "life" which is guaranteed in the preamble of the Constitution. They did this based on their own situational ethics, not on the Constitution.

In the Aug. 11 *Baptist and Reflector*, you reviewed the court's decision reflecting on religion. Chief Justice Burger wrote in the *U.S. vs Lee* case, "Not all burdens on religion are unconstitutional. The state may justify a limitation on religious liberty by showing that it is essential to accomplish an overriding governmental interest." He did not find that in the Constitution! He probably got it from Russia which has religious liberty in their Constitution, but the overriding needs of that state make it necessary to jail, torture, etc. those who try to protect that liberty.

We are fast becoming a people not ruled by our elected representatives, but by the "untouchable" Supreme Court. They are our new "divine right kings." We need some severe Constitutional changes to become again a free people ruled by law and not by whim. The book, *The Second American Revolution* by Whitehead will open your eyes.

Joel Johnson
Rt. 3, Matson Rd.
Jonesboro, TN 37659

Meaningless labels

Dear editor:

You were right on target with your recent editorial (July 14) about school prayer — AMEN!

Now about "denominational loyalists" vs. whatever the others of us are called. The 1981 Tennessee Baptist Convention Annual figures show the host church of

the 1981 Tennessee Baptist Convention gave \$1,300 through the Cooperative Program. The pastor is on the Executive Board. This church gave \$100 to Nashville Baptist Association.

The church of a former president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention gave a fraction over 5 percent through the Cooperative Program and less than 1 percent to associational missions. This man is a member of the Executive Board.

The list could be longer were I to take the time and space to go through the annual.

So do you define a "denominational loyalist" as one who supports the Cooperative Program and associational missions or one who "earnestly contends for the faith once delivered to the saints" or how?

I have a heart feeling that when I stand before "Him with whom we all have to do" He won't ask me whether or not I was loyal in support of the Cooperative Program, but He will ask me whether or not I was loyal to His Word — ALL OF IT!

Yes, I am a believer and supporter of the Cooperative Program; always have been. The churches where I have pastored for more than 40 years have been. So do not call me a traitor or rebel, just because I believe that "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God." Besides, I could not rightly discern which is inspired and which is not. If I take it all and all is inspired, I have lost nothing. If I accept only part and all of it is inspired, I have lost everything.

Marvin E. Hines Sr.
Dover Rd.
Clarksville, TN 37040



World's Fair prayer requests

This week pray...

—that attendance for the activities at the Baptist Pavilion will continue to be at or near capacity.

—for those who were reached through off-site ministries this summer, that they will respond to follow-up contacts.

—for the choir of Calvary Baptist Church, Knoxville, which will sing at the Baptist Pavilion Sept. 25.

Share
Baptist and Reflector
with a friend

Tennessee Baptists aid flood victims in

The rising water from the Forked Deer River was totally impartial, flooding whatever stood in its path. Rich and poor, black and white, businessman and farmer — all were devastated.

In spite of the flood's impartiality, however, the majority of those caught in the path of the floodwaters were both poor and black. Hundreds of homes and about 50 businesses in Trenton were hit as 13 inches of rain forced the river from its bed. About 30 percent of Trenton was underwater, according to news reports.

Civil Defense officials estimate

damages to homes and businesses at more than \$4-million, with crop damages adding another \$11-million.

The team of Baptists that rushed to the scene with the Tennessee Baptist disaster van also showed no partiality. Setting up the feeding unit about a block from the Trenton town square, the team began feeding hot meals to anyone who stopped by. They also delivered meals to victims who could not get to the van.

The request for aid came from Trenton Mayor Leo Maness and other city officials to the Brotherhood department of

the Tennessee Baptist Convention at noon on Monday, Sept. 13.

Bob Johnson, pastor of LaGuarda Baptist Church, Lebanon, led the team which included Julian Stone, a member of Johnson's church; Robert Agee, director of missions for Wilson County Baptist Association; James McBurnette of Parkview Baptist Church, Lewisburg; and three members from East Commerce Baptist Church, Lewisburg: James England, Harvie Allison, and Curtis Price.

Archie King, director of Brotherhood

for Tennessee Baptists and coordinator of the TBC disaster program, was attending a conference in Oak Ridge when the call for help came. King joined the team as soon as he could get to Trenton.

Local Baptists also responded quickly, assisting the team in preparing and serving meals and organizing efforts to help the flood victims in other ways.

Ken Sparkman, director of missions for the Gibson County Baptist Association, worked with the disaster team and helped coordinate the response of local Baptists.

Several pastors and many of their lay people assisted the team.

The pastors included Vester Carter, Hillcrest Baptist Church, Trenton; Jim Davidson, Immanuel Baptist Church, Trenton; Mark Howard, First Baptist Church, Trenton; Mike Kemper, Whitehall Baptist Church, Trenton; and James Powers, Southside Baptist Church, Humboldt. Lay people from several of these churches helped, along with lay people from First Baptist Church, Humboldt.

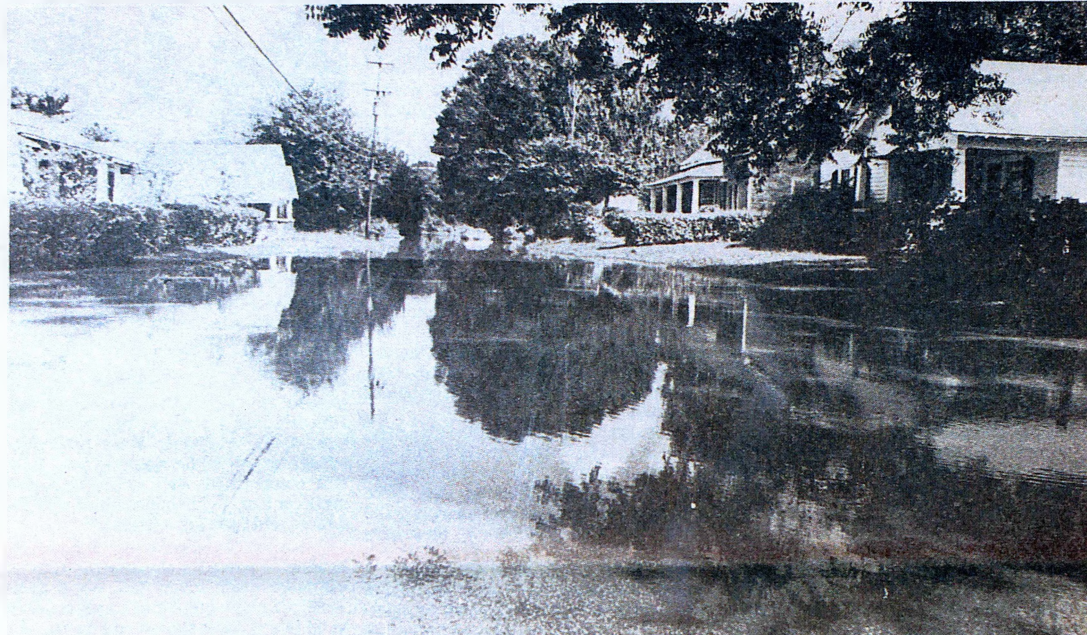
Also, Bob Armour, director of missions from the neighboring Beulah Baptist Association, joined the effort.

On Sept. 14-15, the team served about 800 meals to victims, not counting the doughnuts and coffee served mornings. Tennessee Red Cross teams set up headquarters in Trenton's black First Baptist Church, located a few blocks from the disaster van. The church was used as a shelter for the homeless. Red Cross referred people to the van for meals.

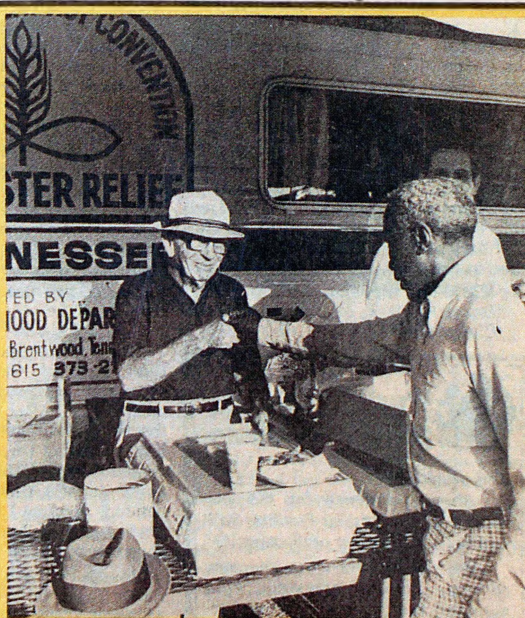
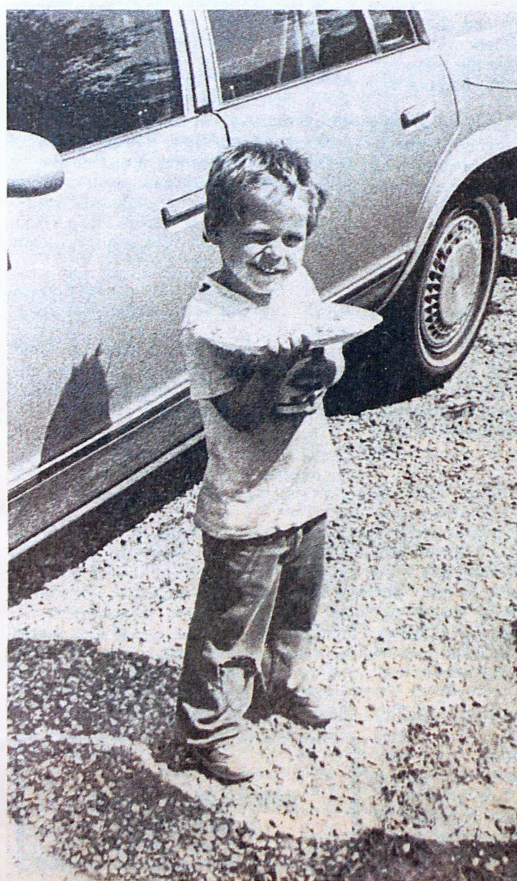
The Baptist disaster team discovered that many were either physically unable to get to the van or were fearful of leaving their property unguarded. The men began driving into several communities, delivering meals.

One woman said she had not had anything to eat for more than 24 hours and gratefully accepted the hot meal. A few declined the meals but gladly accepted the ice-filled cup of Kool-Aid.

King believes responding to people's physical need during such crisis times offers an opportunity for "servanthood evangelism."



CALM AFTER STORM — Clear skies and bright sunshine distort the true picture of destruction. Houses in the foreground of the tranquil scene above were submerged in six to eight feet of water just 24 hours earlier. Further down the street, the receding water still lingered in some of the homes. At left, a young victim smiles in gratitude for a hot meal.



WARM GREETINGS — Johnny Floyd, victim of Trenton's flood, discovers an old friend behind the serving table of the Tennessee Baptist disaster van. Walter Hunt, longtime county court judge, had counseled Floyd in earlier years when he and his children were in trouble.

Trenton mar

Johnny Floyd, a 68-year-old black man, woke up late in the night last week to the sound of heavy rain, loud claps of thunder, and a strange rumbling sound he could not identify.

As he listened carefully, he heard a heavy thud as something struck the front door of his small frame house located just a few blocks from the Trenton town square.

Fearing someone was trying to break into his home, Floyd fumbled for his .38-caliber pistol and headed for the door.

As he pulled it open, water from the swollen Forked Deer River rushed into his living room and began to take possession.

A thief had come but Floyd and his pistol were powerless to stop the culprit.

"It almost scared me to death," Floyd admitted. Fearing for his life, he left everything he owned behind, waded out the door into the knee-deep water, and made his way toward the higher ground of the town square where someone let him wait out the rest of the night in the back seat of a parked car.

By morning, the water was about five feet deep in Floyd's humble home. Heartbroken and bewildered, the old

Trenton

Stories and photos by Charlie Warren

"This is opening doors for us," King said. "People are ready to listen if they think you care."

The unit always carries Bibles to give to people who need them, King explains. In Trenton, a 32-year-old man told King how the flood had ruined a Bible he had given his grandparents when he was 16 years old. He said they were upset over losing it.

King offered the young man a new Bible to give to his grandparents. The man quickly hurried off to deliver it.

King gave another Bible to J. H. Stewart, pastor of the black First Baptist Church. Stewart said one of his deacons had lost his Bible in the flood.

The volunteers took advantage of other opportunities for a spiritual witness — sharing Christ, offering prayer, or simply saying "God bless you." They also had opportunities to tell people who Southern Baptists are and what they believe.

King was impressed with local response and the concern local Baptists and other Christian groups showed for the victims. He said local area ministers from several denominations met to coordinate their efforts.

He said volunteers from churches were planning to visit each home that was flooded to record specific needs for food, clothing, and furniture. Church members then will try to locate items to meet these needs and deliver these to the homes.

Sparkman said the First United Methodist Church will serve as the food distribution center. First Baptist Church will be the clothing distribution center. First United Pentecostal Church will be the furniture center.

In addition, volunteer crews are organizing to strip and replace Sheet-rock and insulation in the flooded homes, according to Sparkman. He said he already has had calls offering help from Baptist churches all over west Tennessee. Last week Baptist churches in Paris collected and delivered a vanload of clothes.

"There has been a fantastic response," Sparkman said. "People have

really pulled together. I'm amazed how fast they have responded."

No Southern Baptist churches were in the flooded areas, but an independent Baptist church was affected. The church's pastor visited the van for a meal, and Sparkman is arranging to get him some hymnals to replace those that were destroyed.

Tennessee Baptist disaster response began to accelerate about five years ago. Baptists responded with financial aid and local assistance in 1978 when a major explosion occurred in Waverly.

Plans for the purchase of a disaster van were already being discussed by the state missions committee even before Archie King joined the state Baptist staff as Brotherhood director in 1977.

The van was purchased in 1978 out of overage from the Tennessee Baptist Cooperative Program. Ongoing funding for the unit has come from the Golden State Missions Offering. Several teams across Tennessee have been trained and are being prepared to respond quickly.

The van aided victims of a flood in LaVergne, a flood at the Concord Baptist Church south of Nashville, a hurricane in Mobile, Ala., a flood in Fort Wayne, Ind., a tornado in Marion, Ill., and the recent flood in Trenton.

King said Tennessee Baptists have helped with other disasters in various ways, but without using the van.

He said the van is primarily designed as a feeding unit, but teams are also trained for other specialties. He said chain saw crews are available to clear fallen trees and debris and crisis counselors are trained to help in areas where many deaths have occurred.

Due to the response during the Trenton flood, several people in that area have expressed interest in forming a disaster team.

Disasters are as unpredictable as they are impartial. Whenever they strike, wherever they strike, and whomever they strike, Tennessee Baptists stand ready to respond to any call for help if needed to offer a cup of cold water and a hot meal in Jesus' name.



DELIVERIES — Archie King (left in top photo), Tennessee Baptist Brotherhood director, and Bob Johnson, pastor of LaGuarda Baptist Church, Lebanon, deliver a hot meal to an elderly flood victim. Below, King delivers a Bible to a young man who wanted to give it to his grandparents. Theirs was destroyed in the flood.



Smells of nighttime intruder

A black man spent the day wandering around talking with others of the hundreds of Trenton residents who were forced from their homes by the rising water.

That evening, the water had receded enough for him to inspect the chaos the muddy floodwater had created in his home. The layer of mud covering everything prevented him from sleeping there, so he wandered to a parking lot about a block away where he found a team of Southern Baptists setting up the Tennessee Baptist disaster van. He talked briefly to a couple of the Baptists, then once again found someone who would let him bunk down on the back seat of their car.

The next morning he returned to the disaster van where the Baptists were giving away doughnuts and hot coffee.

Throughout the day, Floyd tried to sort through some of the waterlogged belongings in his house. Most of his food supplies were destroyed and there was no way to prepare the little that could be salvaged.

Grateful for anybody willing to offer help, he ambled back to the disaster van at noon to find a good well-balanced meal of chicken and dumplings, corn, fruit cocktail, and Kool-Aid on ice.

Returning for the evening meal, Floyd noticed a longtime acquaintance behind the table serving plates. Walter Hunt, a member of First Baptist Church, Trenton, had volunteered to help the disaster team.

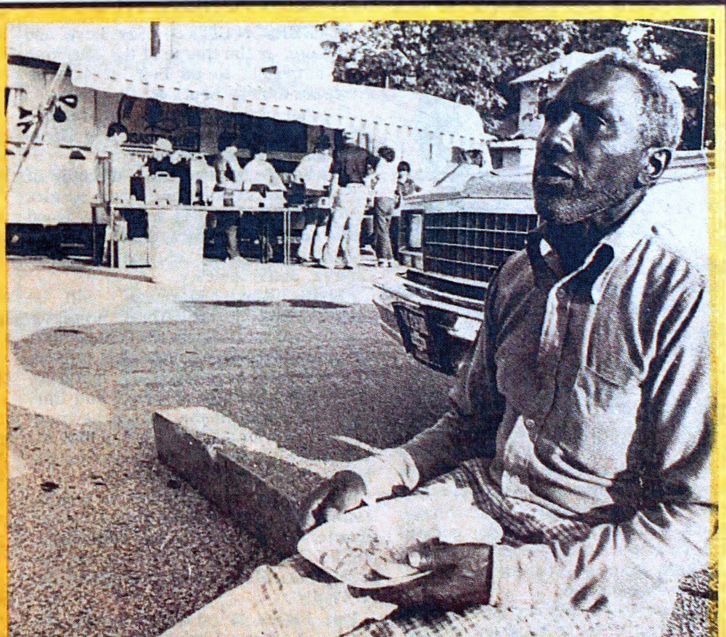
Hunt, Gibson County judge for many years, explained that Floyd and several of his 12 children had faced him many times through the years in his courtroom. Floyd himself had been sentenced by Hunt to spend some time in jail on occasion.

Yet Floyd spoke of Hunt like he was an old-time friend. "He helped us lots of times," Floyd confided. "He took time to talk to us and tried to help us straighten things out."

And now, years later, the retired judge was once again offering help, dipping hot food for his friend in need. Hunt said he did not really understand why Floyd thought so much of him, except that "I was always fair."

"When people are so good to you, it makes you want to cry," Floyd said, tears welling up in his weary eyes.

Turning to Archie King, Tennessee Baptist Brotherhood director and coordinator of the disaster unit, Floyd said, "I sure do appreciate what you folks are doing for us."



GRATEFUL FOR A HOT MEAL — Johnny Floyd, a 68-year-old Trenton man, expressed gratitude for a hot meal provided by Tennessee Baptists. Most of his food supply had been destroyed in the flood and there was no way to prepare the little food he had left.

Draper rejects effort to reduce presidential appointment power

(Continued from page 1)

The state leaders — executive secretary, convention president, and chairman of the Executive Board — would "nominate four names for each state's two positions on the Committee on Committees — two lay persons and two ordained persons — from which list the president ... in consultation with the first and second vice-presidents of the SBC, would choose one layman and one ordained person to be appointed to the two positions."

The proposal also would require the president to seek and accept "one name ... from each state for a list of nominees to the Committee on Resolutions, from which list the president ... would choose the required number of names for the Resolutions Committee."

Draper was asked to "voluntarily" follow the procedure in his appointments, and to support changes in the SBC Constitution and bylaws.

Bill Sherman told Baptist Press the plan would "serve as a healing agent to depoliticize the climate of our convention. Under the present scheme, the presidential position can be used as a power-broker position."

In declining to support the plan, Draper said, "I think the group shares with me a common goal: to bring back unity to the convention. But I do not support it (the plan) at this time. I do not see that changing the bylaws is the best way to do it (bring unity)."

He added he does not believe Southern Baptists would accept such a change, and said he had contacted a "variety of leaders" in the denomination, "none of whom could support this."

"The biggest reason," he added "is that I feel voluntary cooperation is the genius of Southern Baptists, a hallmark of Southern Baptists. It is good for the church, the association, the state convention, the SBC, and the presidency."

Draper noted he has said he plans to consult with state convention leadership, his vice-presidents, and others, and added, "The only difference is I am choosing to do it rather than being required to do so by the bylaws."

Cecil Sherman said he is "hopeful" Draper will "reopen" consideration of the issue, and that he will "give himself to a plan similar to this."

Perry commented the "moderates" will "still hope and pray that an accommodation can be found whereby our beloved denomination can be saved ... that will depend on policies rather than the ... powers of one person."

Sherman said he "is not sure what course we will take" after Draper's rejection of the plan, indicating he will take about six weeks to consider the possibilities.

With his rejection of the plan, Draper faces the possibility he will be challenged if he seeks a second term as president at the 1983 annual meeting in Pittsburgh. Until recent years, an incumbent seeking a second term generally was unchallenged.

A group of 35 "concerned Baptist pastors" from 12 states met in Knoxville in early September to review the New Orleans convention and to discuss possibilities for the future. Informed sources say a challenge to Draper was among the agenda items, but any decision concerning the possibility was postponed until after the Sept. 16 meeting.

C-N hosts emphasis on Christian life

JEFFERSON CITY — "Sex, Love, and Marriage" is the theme of the Christian Life emphasis to be held at Carson-Newman College Sept. 28.

The one-day conference will feature presentations by three leaders in Christian family life education.

Charles Petty, executive director of the Governor's Office for Citizens Affairs in North Carolina, will speak on "Good News about Sex" during the chapel hour in the auditorium of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City.

"Myths About Marriage" will be presented by Herbert Miles, professor emeritus of sociology at the college, during an afternoon session. This will be followed by a reaction panel featuring Mrs. Janice Addington-Strong and Barbara McDougal of the Carson-Newman faculty, as well as Jerry Self, public affairs and Christian life consultant for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

An evening convocation in Gentry Auditorium will feature David Edens, director of the family and community studies department at Stephens College in Missouri. His topic is "Are You Fit to be Tied?"

This series is co-sponsored by the public affairs and Christian life committee of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and the program of campus ministries at Carson-Newman. All sessions are open to the public.



ANNIVERSARY AWARDS — At last week's Executive Board meeting, these employees were recognized on their service anniversaries: (from left) Dan Haskins, 10 years; Gladys Spencer, 15 years; Frances McGlocklin, 20 years; Grace Darden, 10 years; Jimmy Joseph, 10 years; and Jim McDonald, 10 years.



FIVE YEARS — Recognized by the Executive Board for five years of service were (front row, from left) Ernest Pippin, Janet Harbin, Nancy Gregory, Doris Clark, Carol Helton, (back row) Ruben Canas, Barbara Turner, Ann White, and Archie King.

16 employee anniversaries noted by Executive Board

Sixteen Tennessee Baptist employees were honored on their service anniversaries during the Sept. 17 meeting of the Executive Board. Employees receive service pins from the Executive Board for each five years of service.

Recognized for 20 years of service was Frances McGlocklin, secretary in the student department. During the first part of her service, she worked in the stewardship department.

Receiving a 15-year service pin was Gladys Spencer, mail supervisor in the program services department.

Ten-year recognition was given to: Grace Darden administrative secretary in the business office;

Dan Haskins, BSU director at Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, and earlier at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville;

Jimmy Joseph, BSU director at Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, and earlier at Cleveland State Community College, Cleveland;

Jim McDonald, director of the business office.

Receiving five-year pins were:

Ruben Canas, program associate, missions department;

Doris Clark, secretary, program services department;

Nancy Gregory, layout artist, program services department;

Bob Hall, BSU director, University of Tennessee, Knoxville;

Janet Harbin, secretary, missions department;

Carol Helton, BSU director, Chattanooga State Technical Community College;

Archie King, director, Brotherhood department;

Ernest Pippin, associate executive

secretary and trust officer, Tennessee Baptist Foundation;

Barbara Turner, assistant layout artist, program services department;

Ann White, secretary, church training department.

Tennesseans named US-2 missionaries

ATLANTA — Mark Bryant of Athens, Theda Ross of Buena Vista, and Nora Parker, a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, were among the 41 young adults recently commissioned for two years of mission service as US-2 missionaries of the Home Mission Board.

Bryant, also a graduate of Carson-Newman, serves in church extension work in Spearfish, S.D.

Miss Rose is serving in Christian social ministries in Fayetteville, N.C. She is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Miss Parker, a native of Florida, is working in resort missions in Corpus Christi, Tex. Earlier, she served as a Home Mission Board Innovator in Gatlinburg.

US-2 missionaries are college graduates who serve two years in mission capacities in the United States.

The 41 young men and women will do such work as resort missions, starting new churches, evangelistic outreach, work with the deaf, work with Baptist centers, inner-city missions, music ministries, and youth work. One couple was assigned to help prepare Baptist ministries at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles.

Personal perspective

By TOM MADDEN
TBC executive secretary

"Make me thereof a little cake first" (1 Kings 17:13). You immediately recognize these words as a request from the prophet Elijah to the widow of Zarephath.

There had been a drought in the land for more than three years. The widow was out looking for dried twigs so she could cook a cake for herself and her son with the remaining meal and oil she had.

But Elijah asks that she give him the first cake. As far as she knew, it would be the only cake and then she and her son would face starvation. However, God multiplied the meal and oil to provide for them indefinitely.

God used the widow to take care of his prophet! The thought that keeps probing my mind is this: What if the widow had refused? Who would have been the greater loser? I am sure one reason these questions come to me is that I am increasingly aware of the plight of many of God's retired preachers. The average amount of money received by our retirees from our Annuity Board is \$135.00 per month. Many of them are experiencing great deprivation.

It appears to me that our Lord may be saying afresh to us to consider His servants, especially those who have labored so long and so effectively for so little, and "make them a cake first." I believe all of us will be blessed if we will.



Madden

Tennessee Scene

LEADERSHIP...

Macks Grove Baptist Church, Dresden, called Randy Baldwin of Jackson as minister of music. James O. Green is the pastor of the church.

Stan Smith resigned as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Henderson, to begin seminary work in Houston, Tex.

First Baptist Church, Kenton, recently called Bob Layman as its minister of youth. The pastor of the church is Frank Kemper.

Billy Coleman resigned as pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, Beech Bluff, to accept a call to the pastorate of Providence Baptist Church, Franklin, Ky.

Eastwood Baptist Church, Ooltewah, accepted the resignation of its pastor, F. Ray Walker, which will be effective Oct. 17.

Martha Kirkland resigned as co-minister of music at Belmont Heights Baptist Church, Nashville, to accept a position in the church music department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. Her husband, Terry, formerly co-minister of music with her, will now be responsible for the entire music program of the church. P. A. Michel is the pastor at Belmont Heights.

Cloverport Baptist Church, Toone, accepted the recent resignation of Pastor Albert Daniel.

C. S. Knapp resigned the pastorate of Morris Hill Baptist Church, Chattanooga.

Al Huffman resigned as minister of music at Alpha Baptist Church, Morristown, to accept a call from Northside Baptist Church, Miami, Fla.

Members of Bethel Baptist Church, Humboldt, accepted the resignation of Pastor Nathan Bishop, which will be effective Sept. 26.

Belmont enrollment climbs 7 percent

NASHVILLE - In spite of economic predictions that colleges would face declining enrollments this year, the number of students enrolled at Belmont College is up 7 percent over last year.

A record of 1,927 students from 39 states and 33 countries registered for classes this fall. Of these, 63 percent are Baptists, with 172 students preparing for church-related vocations, including ministry, religious education, church music, and missions.

"It is clear that the demand for value-centered education has never been higher, in spite of the perilous times for higher education," commented William E. Troutt, Belmont College president. "We are committed to maintaining a spiritual plus at Belmont that will continue to make our college attractive to our Baptist people."

Catering to the needs of working students, the college is offering 88 early-morning, night, and Saturday courses this fall, which was one factor involved in the enrollment increase. Since 70 percent of Belmont's students are commuters, dormitory expenses were not a cost factor for most students, which also affected the enrollment gain.

Trinity Baptist Church, Memphis, called Bryan Read as minister of youth and recreation, a position he began Sept. 8. Read is a graduate of Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan. T. H. Harding is the pastor of the church.

Billy Dean recently submitted his resignation as pastor of Maranatha Baptist Church, Chattanooga.

CHURCHES...

Harsh Chapel Baptist Church, Nashville, held an "open house" Sept. 12 to celebrate the completion of the renovation of its building. The renovation was made necessary because of fire damage to the building earlier this year. Robert LeMay is the pastor of the church.

The members of Mack's Grove Baptist Church, Dresden, recently voted to build a new fellowship hall and remodel its current fellowship hall for classroom space. James O. Green is the pastor of the church.

REVIVALS...

Pleasant View Baptist Church, Dukedom, was led in recent revival services by Dwayne Ervin, pastor of Bible Union Baptist Church in Martin. Johnny Clark, pastor of Pleasant View, reported five professions of faith and two new members by letter.

An Aug. 15-22 revival at Temple Baptist Church, Paris, was led by Earl Taylor as the evangelist. Pastor Herbert McFadden reported eight professions of faith, three new members by letter, and over 50 rededications.

A recent revival at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Bradford, resulted in five people coming for baptism and one new member to the church by letter. W. B. Oakley was the evangelist, and Ray Peery of Sharon was the music director for the services. The pastor of the church is Jerry Summers.

The team of Henry Linginfelter, evangelist, and Dick Barrett, music director, led North Etowah Baptist Church, Etowah, in revival August 29 through Sept. 5. Donald C. Pharris reported 22 professions of faith, 41 rededications, and two new members by letter.

Chattanooga sets C-N campaign goal

CHATTANOOGA - The Chattanooga area phase of Vision '80, Carson-Newman College's Campaign for Greatness, was approved during a luncheon here Sept. 14.

The campaign victory goal is \$5-million which will be used to meet various expenses at the Baptist college in Jefferson City. About 60 business, civic, and religious leaders unanimously approved a campaign to raise \$200,000 in the Chattanooga area.

Clifton Ward, president of Uniform Services Inc., will serve as chairman of the Chattanooga area campaign. Robert Hames, president of Robert J. Hames Co., will serve as honorary chairman, and Amon Swanger, retired Lowe's Hardware executive, will chair the initial division.

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Greenfield, had revival services Aug. 15-20. David Fambrough was the evangelist for the revival; Dennis Beal is the church's pastor. Pleasant Grove recorded two professions of faith during the week.

PEOPLE...

Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. Spore were honored on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary during a Sept. 11 reception at Speedway Terrace Baptist Church, Memphis. The Spores are members of the church, where Ray Gilder is the pastor.

Brook Hollow Baptist Church, Nashville, ordained its minister of education, Woody Parker, to the ministry Sept. 12. Chester Parker, father of the candidate and pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Granite City, Ill., delivered the ordination sermon. John B. Daley is the pastor of the church.

Greg Hall was ordained into the deacon ministry of North Athens Baptist Church, Aug. 29. Participating in the ordination service were Pastor Charles E. Gibbs Jr. and the deacons of the church, including Willard Hall, father of the candidate.

Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Madisonville, licensed Doug Alexander, Harold Grudger III, Bob Hatley, John Hitson, Bill Roberts, and Micky Trentham to the ministry during a Sept. 5 service. The pastor of the church is Normal M. Watson.

Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Thompson celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary recently. The Thompsons are members of Union Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis, where David Drumel is the pastor.

New Hope Baptist Church, Dyer, ordained Bill Locher and Bill Minton as deacons Sept. 19. The pastor of the church is Odell Bell.

Clovie E. Brewer was recently ordained as a deacon of First Baptist Church, Waynesboro. Norman O. Baker is the pastor of the church.

A dinner was given at South Whitwell Baptist Church, Whitwell, in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Jones. Mrs. Jones is a member at South Whitwell.

REVIVAL PRAYER REQUEST...

Valley Grove Baptist Church, Knoxville, will be in revival Sept. 26 through Oct. 1. The 7 p.m. services will be led by Evangelist Bill Hartley of Birmingham, Ala., and Darrel Hodge, minister of music at Calvary Baptist Church in Knoxville. The pastor of the church is Harry C. Mynatt.

Gardner accepts pulpit of New Bethel church

Kenneth Gardner accepted a call from New Bethel Baptist Church, Etowah, to come as its pastor.

Gardner, who began the position in August, was previously pastor of Center Point Baptist Church, Charleston.

Gardner is a native of North Carolina.

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BIBLE BOOK SERIES

Lesson for Sept. 26

Response to God

By Marshall C. Gup-ton Jr., pastor
First Baptist Church, Camden

Basic Passages: Psalms 81; 82; 95
Focal Passages: Psalms 81:10-16; 95:1-11

God desires to save people! It is man's responsibility to respond to God. Almost any portion of the Bible you read will point to the fact that it is God's desire to save people. The psalms are full of God's redemptive urge towards man. Psalm 81 is a festival psalm and the center of that festival is salvation.

There are several psalms that relate to the Feast of Tabernacles. This feast celebrated the command to Israel to live in booths during the wilderness journey. It was to remind them of the fatherly care and protection of God. Some relate Psalm 81 to this. Others relate it to the festival of a new year. This was the great autumn festival to celebrate the ingathering of the harvest and fruits. The two were united as a reminder of God's loving care and to keep Israel from pride and self-conceit.

God calls upon His people to celebrate their salvation

In vv. 1-5 we find a hymn in which the people of God are summoned to sing loudly, to make joyful noise, and play many instruments to let God know they are grateful for their salvation. Verse 3 calls for a blow upon the ram's horn which according to Leviticus 23:24 served as the solemn announcement of the new year. There is a special need for the people to respond, as they obviously suffer from the pressure which the threat of enemies has brought upon them (v. 14). Modern Christians need to hear God's call to celebrate their salvation. When church attendance is a mere habit or some kind of guilt response, they miss the joy. Obviously, in our day we feel pressures and threats to our moral, spiritual, and mental survival. We need the healing of worship.

God Himself will deliver His people

In vv. 6-7 God gives His testimony of faithfulness. While the people of Israel are worried about their deliverance, God rings out a word of assurance. It is no

mere assurance of what He has done in bygone days. Rather it is one of a father who is willing and able to relieve the burdens of life. The deliverance from their slavery in Egypt is a reminder that God is pledging Himself to answer their present prayers. In modern life we tend to point to God's great acts in history without being able to say He has done something for me in this year or this week. Our God is the God of today as well as yesterday. He delights in offering us deliverance.

God manifests His will to His people

In vv. 8-10 God recommitments Himself to the covenant. Verse 8 tends to suggest that the whole Ten Commandments will be quoted. But the allusion here is to renewing the covenant which God first made with Moses and His people. There is a striking call to the people to open their mouths wide, in order to be filled. The writer is alluding to young birds who were fed by their parents. The people did not need any other gods. Many false gods vied for their allegiance. But only God could give real nourishment. Only God could make and keep a living covenant. Today we need to realize that every day we must make a decision between the gods of this world and the call of the Living God upon our lives. If we turn to Him, He will spiritually nourish us. He will meet all the daily needs of our lives.

Pity the man who refuses God for His help

Verses 11-12 tell the story of people who become rooted in disobedience. Often men's history ends with disaster in spite of all God has done to save. It is brought on by our thoughtlessness and disobedience. This can only bring God's judgments. God leaves men to their own devices when they refuse His help.

God prefers for people to enjoy His favor

In the concluding verses we feel the heart of God reaching out to His people. If they will only give up their stubbornness, then God will bring about deliverance. "Subdue their enemies" is a realistic warning that Israel always stood in jeopardy of becoming servile to the nations surrounding her. However God will keep the enemies not only in check but bowed down.

Today we can find God's favor and blessing if we will have yielded hearts. We constantly stand in jeopardy to the temptations and vices around us. They could easily become lords over us. But God promises us protection as well as victory if we will give our lives to Him.

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UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

Lesson for Sept. 26

God preserves His people

By Don H. Olive, associate professor of psychology
Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City

Basic Passages: Genesis 37:42-45; 50
Focal Passage: Genesis 50:15-26

The story of Joseph is the longest and most detailed in the book of Genesis. There are many interesting features of Joseph's career, but space does not permit discussion of all of these. It is enough to note that throughout Joseph's life God continually preserved him, over and over turning misfortune to the good.

The remarkable feature of such a series of events is what kind of person Joseph became in his pilgrimage. God's preserving made Joseph into an exceptional person.

Joseph's life was marked by crisis after crisis, each of which was overcome as God acted in Joseph's behalf. Time after time God preserved Joseph's life and fortunes. As a man whose life was unmarked by evil, Joseph's pilgrimage was not necessarily from evil to good. Rather, Joseph seems to have been a man whose response to God's continuing care was in the direction of becoming a most uncommon man — a man who was more than would ordinarily be expected.

The constancy and steadfastness of God's care is broader than one individual, but is sensitive and caring for even that one. This must have been Joseph's understanding as he neared the end of a fascinating life. Such sensitive caring changed Joseph, and this is evident in the events of the last chapter of Genesis.

Forgiveness

Upon the occasion of Joseph's father's death, his brothers feared Joseph's wrath for the mistreatment he had received at their hands as a young man. He had been sold into slavery and reported dead to Jacob. From a lesser man the brothers could well have expected some retaliation once the father was dead. But Joseph was not a lesser man. He knew God had preserved him and had used the brothers' worst to the benefit of all the people.

So Joseph in verse 20 came very close to the New Testament understanding found in Romans 8:28. All things work for the good for God's people. Joseph's encounters with God, the repeated forgiveness experienced in his own life, and the realization that man's worst is God's opportunity, all combined to reshape Joseph. He was able to say to his brothers, "Fear not." Forgiveness

needed not be asked for. Joseph was an uncommon man.

Men like Joseph are needed today, men who can experience God in their daily lives in such a way as to make a difference in how they live and relate to others. Needed are men who are changed into uncommon men, men touched by Christ to do the nonnatural thing, men who forgive. Christ repeatedly reminded His disciples that forgiveness is basic to Christianity. By teaching, and by example Christ taught forgiveness. He did not claim it is easy. It was not for Joseph. Jesus did suggest it was necessary. It is sad that an Old Testament man knew this better than we.

Gentleness

Genesis 50:23 provides a brief glimpse of Joseph as a gentle and tender grandfather. Even as a great ruler who was undoubtedly busy, Joseph had time to take his grandchildren and great-grandchildren upon his knee. Apparently, Joseph was a gentle man with whom even children were comfortable. Gentleness may not be the highest quality of spirit, but it certainly is a desirable one.

Perhaps Joseph learned gentleness by the touch of God upon his life. He had known violence at his brothers' hands and in the prisons of Egypt. The natural response is violence for violence. But Joseph was different. God's care had preserved him and his people. God's grace made him different and anticipated Jesus' own teachings about nonviolence, about a basic gentleness because of God's touch.

Hope

Upon his deathbed Joseph spoke of God's faithfulness to the promises made to his fathers (v. 24). The promises of old were realities for Joseph. His last words were of the great covenant promise: "God will bring you out of this land unto the land which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." Joseph's own funeral arrangements were subject to this same reality. Joseph had hope in God and demanded his own bones be carried up out of Egypt when the time came.

Again Joseph is seen as a man marked by encounter with God. Lesser more common men would have made Egypt home. Centuries-old promises would be by his death dusty and dim, but not for Joseph. If he did not see the fulfillment of age-old promises, it did not diminish his hope in God.

In all the noted characteristics of Joseph it is significant that Joseph was not and did not act as one would expect a man to act. The contacts with God's preserving activity made Joseph different. He became a nonnatural man, a man who acted and was beyond expectations. He evidently knew what we too must know. One who has experienced God's presence has a new nature, a nature often as surprising to the individual as to those about him, but still a new nature.

Long before mention of "new birth" Joseph manifested it. He was part of this reality we have learned to call the new creation. He was a man among men but different at precisely those points where mankind desperately needs healing — forgiveness, gentleness, and hope. A few today have become uncommon men by God's touch. How sad that it is only a few.

New Mountain View calls Floyd Slover

New Mountain View Baptist Church, Oliver Springs, called Floyd Slover as its pastor, a ministry he began Aug. 15.

Slover, a native of Lake City, came to the church from the pastorate of Island Home Baptist Church, Norris.

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LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Lesson for Sept. 26

Ethical living

By Jerry A. Songer, pastor
Central Baptist Church, Chattanooga

Basic Passages: Hebrews 12:12-17; 13:1-7, 9, 17, 22-25

Focal Passages: Hebrews 12:14-17; 13:1-7, 17

"Don't leave the onion off the hamburger, Jane," I told my wife during our Labor Day picnic.

Plain hamburgers are tasteless. They need some dressing up to enhance the flavor. Religion is like that. Too often we are just plain vanilla.

This lesson, the last on Hebrews, deals with ethical living. Our relationship to God is important, but our relationship with others is also important.

It is possible for us to be so heavenly minded we are of no earthly value.

Jesus said for us to love the Lord with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. Also we are to love our neighbors as ourselves. There is a dual dimension in Christianity — upward and outward.

Today we have too many who only want inspiration without implementation. We all need a journey inward and a journey outward. Plain hamburgers are tasteless. A religion that is only heavenward is tedious.

At the end of Hebrews 12 the writer urges us to please God (12:28, Phillips). There are four areas of ethical living in which we need to please Him.

We must care for our brothers

Hebrews 13:1 says "Let brotherly love continue." The word "brotherly" literally means two who came from the same womb.

The model relationship for us is Jonathan and David. Too many follow the example of Jacob and Esau.

We Christians are to practice brotherly love according to the instructions of Simon Peter (1 Peter 1:22), John (1 John 4:7), and Paul (1 Corinthians 13).

Jesus said for us to be like sheep. Too many Christians act like sharks. They devour.

The emblem of the Holy Spirit is a dove. Too many Christians act like the emblem is a duck — all mouth.

Our nation's emblem is an eagle. Too many make it a turkey, or worse still a buzzard.

I well remember when I used to take out my hostility on my brother, Joe. I threw rocks at him. Once I tried to knock a sack off his head. Only I hit too low and nearly knocked his block off!

But now I have grown out of that. I love



Songer

him too much to hurt him. Many Christians today need to grow up. Hospitality not hostility is the word for us.

We must also care for others

It is not enough for us to care for our own brother. We must love more than those who are our own. We must love the stranger, the prisoner, and the sufferer (Hebrews 13:2-3). Perhaps here is our greatest test.

It is relatively easy to love those who are like us. But we must do more than that. We must be more than a mutual admiration society.

When Abraham Lincoln was president, he was asked to pardon many people. Always there would be letters of endorsement from prominent people. When one man had no such impressive credentials, Lincoln asked, "Where are his friends?" "He has none," was the reply. "Then I will be his friend." Lincoln helped him get a pardon.

We must remember the meaning of marriage

Hebrews 13:4 says, "Marriage is honorable." We must uphold the importance of marriage. In our world today, marriage bonds are being strained to the breaking point. No one is immune.

God said in the Old Testament, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." We have interpreted this to mean, "Thou shalt not commit adultery ordinarily."

Jesus said in the New Testament, if you look at a woman to lust after her you have committed adultery in your heart.

The standards have been set. We must not lower them.

We must remember the meaning of money

Hebrews 13:5 says, "Keep your life free from the love of money" (RSV).

The last admonition is before us. Materially and morally we need help. There is nothing wrong with money, but the love of money is wrong. How we spend our money tells what kind of people we are. This is the bedrock test of character.

Biographer Philip Guedella was struggling to discover the "real" personality of the Duke of Wellington. "What," Guedella asked himself, "would be trustworthy evidence of the kind of man Wellington actually was?"

He found the unimpeachable evidence he sought when he chanced upon the stubs of Wellington's old checkbook. Suddenly the Duke's personality came alive and the biographer had an inside track to understanding him.

Our checkbook checks up on us.

How well do you stand up on these issues? These four matters on morals are of major importance to the Master. It is the last word for us from the writer of Hebrews, but it is not the least word for us.

Ricky Morgan ordained, takes Knoxville church

Ricky Morgan was called as pastor of Faith and Hope Baptist Church, Knoxville, a ministry he began in July.

At the request of the Faith and Hope church, Trinity Baptist Church of Maryville recently ordained Morgan. Participants in the ordination sermon included Frank Easter, pastor of Laurel Bank Baptist Church, Friendsville, who presented the charge.

Morgan is a native of Maryville.

ACTS files 20 more applications for low power television stations

FORT WORTH, Tex. (BP) — The American Christian Television System, the proposed Southern Baptist TV network, has applied for 20 additional low power television stations, bringing the total applications for the network to 125.

Early last year ACTS filed with the Federal Communications Commission for 105 of the newly-authorized stations to serve as the base of its proposed network of family and Christian programming. But then the FCC stopped accepting applications April 9 of last year to provide the agency time to process the 6,000 filings that had accumulated.

The FCC accepted the 20 new ACTS applications because they were for rural areas which, until June 17 of this year, were exempt from the freeze on applications.

Eleven of the new applications are in Texas. They are: Big Spring, Brownwood, Bryan, Del Rio, Eagle Pass, Huntsville, Lufkin, Palestine, Paris, Sherman, and Victoria.

Others are in Flagstaff, Ariz.; Jonesboro, Ark.; Ocala and Vero Beach, Fla.; Waycross, Ga.; Biloxi, Natchez, and

Laurel, Miss.; and Sedalia, Mo.

The FCC defines rural areas as those outside the 55-mile radius of the center of the 212 established TV markets, a definition which includes many medium-size cities. Rural filings account for about 15 percent of the 6,000-plus low power TV applications.

The advantage of the rural status is those applications will be processed by the FCC ahead of all others. Additionally all 20 new ACTS filings, as yet, have no other applicants competing for the same channel. These uncontested applications also will take priority in FCC processing. Four of the initial 105 stations proposed by ACTS also qualified for "uncontested rule" status and should receive FCC attention soon.

Thomas Owen called to Rutledge church

Thomas Owen was called by Head of Richland Baptist Church, Rutledge, as its pastor, a ministry he began Sept. 5.

Owen, a native of Morristown, came to the church from the pastorate of Valley View Baptist Church, Mooresburg.

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Interim accepts pulpit of Pine Haven church

Charles Lankford accepted the pastorate of Pine Haven Baptist Church, Jamestown, in response to a call from the congregation.

Lankford, interim pastor of Pine Haven since April, assumed duties as pastor of the church in July. He was previously a pastor of Neeley's Bend Baptist Church and Madison Heights Baptist Church, both of Madison; Caney Fork Baptist Church, Cookeville; Oak Hill Baptist Church, Crossville; North Ridge Baptist Church, Dayton, Ohio; and Milan Baptist Church, Milan, Ohio. He is a former moderator of Ohio's Lakeland Baptist Association.

A native of Dickson, Lankford has attended seminary extension courses.

Americans discover hunger for gospel in Tanzania

By Evelyn Knapp

TANZANIA (BP) — The guest American preacher stared with amazement as the young man crawled hurriedly down the path on his hands and feet. There was an earnestness and urgency about his movements.

Noticing he wore a broken pair of shoes on his hands and that his knees were hardened and wrinkled as though they were the soles of his feet, the American came nearer and asked through an interpreter, "Where are you going?"

"We're having a revival meeting at our church today and I don't want to be

late!" the young man replied.

Bill Robinson, First Baptist Church, Daytona Beach, Fla., found it hard not to contrast the eagerness of the cripple who had to travel on his hands and feet to the nonchalance of churchgoers in other parts of the world.

But others were eager too.

Robinson and nine other laymen and pastors who went down back roads and trails of the Kyela district of Tanzania saw 7,505 first-time decisions to become Christians during an intense two-week evangelistic effort. They visited 84 churches and 34 schools throughout the district, and the original goal of 2,000

decisions for Christ was toppled after the fourth day.

Not only was one of the pastors invited to speak at the only high school in the district, his interpreter was invited back for weekly Bible classes with all 565 students.

As Bill Billingsley, pastor of Sheridan Hills Baptist Church, Hollywood, Fla., greeted one young man who came forward, the congregation laughed out loud — the man was the town drunk. Asked why he came forward he replied, "My life needs to be changed."

The pastor told him he needed to quit drinking beer. "I've already quit," he answered.

"You need to come to church," the pastor pointed out.

"When they ring the bell, I'll come running," the man answered before accepting Christ as his Lord and Saviour.

On another occasion a young man had an epileptic seizure and interrupted the invitation. Gary Folds, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Macon, Ga., stopped the service and prayed for the youth. Immediately, the man stopped his screams and regained control of his body. The man, his parents and several brothers and sisters all accepted Christ.

As the team traveled across the district, they heard reports that the revival was continuing in the churches.

Interpretation

The arousing of interest

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water" (John 4:10).

Ignoring the woman's prejudice, Jesus sought to arouse her interest. He led her to consider something in which she was interested. Her purpose in being at the well was to procure water. The fact that he caught her attention and respect is

seen in her use of "Sir" (v. 11), not "Jew."

"Living water" was that which came from an underground spring or flowing fountain (Psalm 36:9). The water in Jacob's well was dead water, seepage from the surface. Jesus said that whoever drank it became thirsty again (v. 13). How well she knew that! But the living water He offered would quench thirst permanently (v. 14). It would be a flowing fountain within her "springing up into everlasting life." Of course, Jesus spoke of spiritual water.

But the woman was so wedded to crass materialism that she missed the point. Thinking of material water, she asked for it, so that she would not need to make her daily trip to Jacob's well. Note that again she called Him "Sir."

She was thirstier than she knew. Every person has a thirst for God (Psalm 42:1-2). But he seeks relief in the wrong way. Standing in the presence of Living Water (John 7:37), she prattled about her little jar of seepage. But she is no worse than those today who fret and toil for food and drink which perish with the using. And all the while they ignore Him who is food and drink indeed!

Though we are "earthen vessels" (2 Corinthians 4:7), so brittle and frail, our Lord has entrusted us with the gospel of living water. The world may not understand what it offers. But we are to be faithful in bearing it. For there is no other water for the soul.

Kirkwood church calls Wayne Boyd as pastor

Kirkwood Baptist Church, Clarksville, called Wayne Boyd as pastor, a ministry he began Aug. 29.

A native of Clarksville, Boyd is a former minister of youth at First Baptist Church, San Rafael, Calif. He is a graduate of Austin Peay University, Clarksville, and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.; and has attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Lewis assumes duties in Bethel pastorate

Jimmy Lewis assumed duties in July as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Calhoun, in response to a call from the congregation.

Lewis, a native of Cleveland, was previously pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, Decatur, and Clear Springs Baptist Church, Athens.

Brazilian home missionary dies; always thanked God for leprosy

MARITUBA, Brazil — Carmen Guarita da Silva always told people, "I thank the Lord for giving me leprosy, because otherwise I never would have known Jesus Christ."

The 64-year-old Brazilian Baptist home missionary died July 10, closing out a 37-year ministry to lepers in Marituba.

She contracted the disease as a young music student and entered the Colonia de Marituba, a leper community in the northern Brazilian town, in 1945. There she met Jose Julio da Silva, a fellow leper and a dedicated Baptist. He had organized a Baptist congregation in the community the year before, and he led Carmen to faith in Christ. They married in 1947.

He became pastor of the leper congregation, and the two were named missionaries by the Brazilian National Mission Board. Both were later declared

Foundation

They didn't like it

By Jonas L. Stewart

When the parents died, the brothers of the father and the sister of the mother thought that at least one of them should become guardian of the two lovely children.

The parents were dedicated Christians. They wanted their children to be reared in a Christian home.

One brother was a drunkard. The other was a self-proclaimed atheist, though rather wealthy. Neither had children of their own. The sister had been divorced twice and her morals were questionable. It was difficult to determine if they were concerned about this orphaned niece and nephew or the money they would control as their guardian.

The parents had prepared for the protection of their children because of the forever present possibility of such a tragedy as the one that took their lives. They had made Christian wills, naming wonderful Christian friends as guardians of the children and trustees of the children's inheritance. The boy is in college preparing for the ministry. The daughter in high school was recently named the "most likely to succeed" in her senior class.

The estate was modest but their will directed that 10 percent be placed with their Baptist Foundation with income to be paid to the children until they are no longer in school. At that time the income will forever go to world missions through the Cooperative Program.

For information on preparing a Christian will, write the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, P. O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027.

cured of the disease, but they remained at the Colonia de Marituba, beginning a school and clinic and strengthening the church.

Mrs. da Silva stayed on after her husband died in 1972. She lost a leg and several fingers to leprosy, and was virtually blind during her last years, but she never stopped encouraging the ministry of the leper church.

Theology school opens in Manila

MANILA, Philippines — With 21 students enrolled, the Southern Baptist School of Theology in Manila, Philippines, began its first classes recently at the International Baptist Church.

The new school was begun at the initiation and planning of Filipino Southern Baptists in cooperation with other theological schools conducted by the Philippine Baptist Mission. The school is the fifth theological institution in operation by Baptists in the Philippines.

Feliciano P. Montenegro, who served previously as director of the Luzon Baptist Bible School, is director of the new school. Most of the students, Montenegro said, are pastors and lay leaders from churches in the Manila area. He explained that many of these students depend upon secular work for their livelihood.

Four Southern Baptist missionaries, two Filipino pastors, and one Filipino church music director compose the faculty. A board of directors, representing three associations of Baptist churches in the Manila area, is in charge of the school.

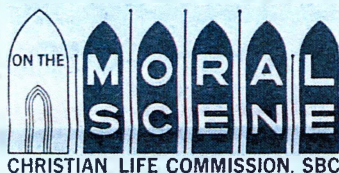
Greenfield Baptists call Farmer to pulpit

Members of First Baptist Church, Greenfield, voted to call Dan Farmer as pastor, a position he began Aug. 1.

Farmer came to the church from the pastorate of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Greenbrier. He was previously pastor of Valley View Baptist Church, Nashville; Rosedale Baptist Church, Nashville; Cross Bridges Baptist Church, Columbia; and Midland Baptist Church, Murfreesboro.

Farmer is a former chairman of the missions committee and member of the finance committee for the Robertson County Baptist Association, and a former chairman of the finance and recreation committees of the Nashville Baptist Association.

A native of Columbia, Farmer is a graduate of Belmont College, Nashville.



MOTHERS WORKING OUTSIDE HOME — "The U.S. Census Bureau reported ... that in 1980 45 percent of mothers with preschool children were working at jobs away from home, up fourfold from three decades before. That affects about 7.5-million infants and toddlers. As of 1977, 61 percent of such children were shipped off to day-care centers (especially common among higher-income groups) or outside babysitters. Fathers took care of another 10 percent, and 8 percent accompanied their mothers to the job. The remaining handful were looked after by grandparents and other relatives, or by friends or babysitters who tended the kids at home. The findings ... represent a dramatic break from the recent past. In 1958, the Census Bureau reported, 57 percent of working mothers' preschool children were cared for in the home — and there were considerably fewer mothers with full-time jobs." (NEWSWEEK, 8/9/82)

FACTORS IN DELINQUENCY — "Teenagers who drive or hold jobs run increased risks of having scrapes with police. Those were among the conclusions in a six-year study supported and released by the Justice Department. ... 'It was not an early driver's license "per se" that resulted in police contacts, but simply having access to the automobile, just as early employment may have exposed some juveniles to greater risk and also given them funds to be spent in a trouble-producing way during the years of socialization," the report noted. ... The study also concluded that the juvenile justice system often fails to reform young offenders, and those who go through the system often react by committing more crimes." (THE TENNESSEAN, 8/30/82)