

# Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 149/No. 1/January 5, 1983

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention



**MUSIC ENROLLMENT AWARD** — Tennessee Baptists received an award for an enrollment increase of 6,476 in the state music program, the greatest numerical increase among state Baptist conventions. Wesley Forbis (left), secretary of the Sunday School Board's church music department, congratulates Julian Suggs, church music director for Tennessee Baptists.

## Non-profit postal rates make 'normal' increase

WASHINGTON (BP) — Preferred-rate mailers such as Baptist state papers face only a one-step increase in postal rates following Congressional passage of a catchall funding measure to keep most government agencies running through fiscal 1983.

In contrast to the stop-gap funding bill Congress passed late in 1981 which more than doubled postage costs for state papers and a wide range of other non-profit mailers, the 1982 version calls for a normal annual increase in preferred rates to be maintained through Sept. 30, 1983.

Specifically, non-profit rates will be maintained at step 14 of a 16-year phasing process Congress began in 1970 to adjust these rates toward full attributable costs in annual increments. Due to a shortfall in the 1982 funding of the postal subsidy, the phasing was eliminated last January, causing rates to leap from step 10 to step 16. But last summer, Congress appropriated additional funds for the subsidy, bringing rates back to step 13.

Rates had been expected to go somewhat higher than step 14 in 1983 after both Senate and House appropriations committees recommended funding the postal subsidy at \$708-million — a figure which would have put non-profit rates between steps 14 and 15.

But in its version of the stop-gap funding measure, the Senate decided to keep the rates at step 14 and Senate-House conferees agreed to the Senate version. This puts cost estimates for the subsidy at \$789-million, well above the \$500-million recommended by the original administration budget which would have pushed rates beyond the step 16 levels.

Though the cost of moving to step 14 will vary among non-profit mailers, the increase will be in line with previous rate hikes under the phasing process.

The Postal Service will implement the new rates on Jan. 9. Congressional sources do not expect a regular 1983 appropriations bill for the Postal Service to be passed since the stop-gap measure provides funding through the end of the fiscal year.

Editor Al Shackelford of the Baptist and Reflector said that the increases will raise the cost of mailing the Tennessee Baptist state paper about six-tenths of one cent per copy or 30 cents per year. "As is our established procedure, these postal increases will be passed on to our subscribers with the February billing," he said.

Shackelford said that effective Feb. 1, the Baptist and Reflector church budget rate will be 9.6 cents per copy or \$4.90 per year; the club plan will be \$5.55 per year; and the individual rate will be \$5.85 per year.

### Coup aborted in Surinam

## Baptists meet despite curfew

PARAMARIBO, Surinam (BP) — Baptists and missionaries in Surinam are continuing normal church programs despite a 7 p.m. curfew resulting from an abortive coup attempt in December.

In at least one case, Baptists arrived at a missionary's home before the curfew for prayer services and then spent the night there.

A number of families from America and Holland have left the country. Economic uncertainties have developed, with a freeze on imports and strict control of money flowing out of the country, according to Leo Waldrop, Southern Baptist missionary press representative.

Plans for the coup, scheduled for Dec. 25, were discovered early in December and more than 20 leaders have been executed.

## Experts project future for Brotherhood panel

By Mike Davis

MEMPHIS (BP) — The coming of the "information age," a possible split of the Southern Baptist Convention, and further complexities in attracting volunteers were some of the predictions offered Dec. 13-16 to a select panel trying to project the direction of Brotherhood work to the year 2000.

IMPACT 2000, made up of state Brotherhood leaders and Brotherhood staff members, began a two-year study with a marathon input session in Memphis featuring authorities in culture, education, missions, religion, ethics, volunteerism, and religious and missions education.

Nolan Estes, director of graduate studies in education of the University of Texas, predicted microcomputers will be the most important trend facing America in the next 10 years. The coming of microcomputers — the information age — promises to change the entire social and economic fabric of our society, he contends.

Estes, a Baptist layman and former Royal Ambassador director, credited the Royal Ambassador program with giving him many of the values which he carried into manhood but suggested that work with boys must keep pace with the microcomputer explosion which is taking place in education and other areas of American life.

"You might even project making microcomputers available with your mis-

sions magazines," he suggested, adding that in Houston by 1985 students will do 50 percent of their homework with microcomputers.

Estes explained the Brotherhood Commission and other SBC agencies must be aware of the magnitude of the change which is being brought about by the transition from the print media to electronic media.

"Churches have to provide the leadership if we are going to control the new technology instead of being controlled by it," Estes told the panel, adding the Brotherhood Commission, especially in the Royal Ambassador program, could help youth clarify their values and help young people cope with change.

Foy Valentine, executive director of the SBC Christian Life Commission noted a moral breakdown in America. "Without recovery of spiritual ideals, moral values, honesty, integrity and character, the worth of persons," he told the panel, "our country will not have much of an agenda." Valentine suggested Brotherhood leaders consider the crisis in family life a priority in their deliberations.

Bill O'Brien, executive vice-president of the Foreign Mission Board, outlined some trends in missions with which the FMB will deal, including developing an urban strategy for world evangelization.

"World population patterns will move

(Continued on page 2)

## Tennessee Baptist CP gifts fall short of two-month goal

After two months of the current convention year, mission giving by Tennessee Baptists through the Cooperative Program is running about 3 percent below the convention-adopted goal, according to Tom J. Madden, TBC executive secretary-treasurer.

December's gifts of \$1,287,819.90 when added to the \$1,428,851.79 given in November mean that \$2,716,671.69 was received during the first two months of the convention budget year.

Messengers to the 1982 Tennessee Baptist Convention, meeting at Leawood Baptist Church in Memphis, adopted a \$16.8-million basic budget-goal for the November 1982-October 1983 convention year. An additional \$1.2-million Bold Mission challenge section was also approved for a total \$18-million goal.

The two-month mission giving goal would be \$2.8-million (two-twelfths of \$16.8-million). The \$2,716,671.69 received for the Cooperative Program in November and December is 2.98 percent below (\$83,328.31 below) the two-month goal.

However, Madden noted that the November-December Cooperative Program receipts were 12.46 percent higher than the \$2,415,782.10 given during November-December 1981.

The TBC executive secretary reported that last month's \$1,287,819.90 was 8 percent below the \$1.4-million monthly goal for the current convention year.

Madden also noted that last month's \$1,287,819.90 was 14.1 percent below the \$1,499,210.31 received for the Cooperative Program in December 1981 — which ranks as TBC's third highest month.

## SEBTS professors emphasize elements of growth in faith

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) — Action, knowledge, and reflection are the three basic elements of growth in faith, according to William P. Clemmons, G. Thomas Halbrooks, and Bruce P. Powers, professors at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

They chose the topic "Coming to and Growing in Faith: Historical Development" for their two-day joint presentation at Southeastern.

Initially the three professors surveyed the methods used in dealing with faith development since the beginnings of the Christian church. "The early church developed a complex of foundational experiences by which persons were brought to faith: worship, the catechumenate, and baptism," they said. "After bringing them to the faith relationship the early church launched them into the process of growth in faith emphasizing good works (Christian action) but also including knowledge and reflection."

The church of the Middle Ages, they continued, "developed a ladder of perfection in which the laity was limited primarily to one means of growth in faith — good works." But the reformers of the 16th and 17th centuries "dismantled the ladder of perfection and sought to restore a balance in the three means of growth: knowledge, action, and reflection."

Baptists in the 19th century "stressed the dramatic conversion and placed little emphasis on growth in faith." When Baptists later began to think about how Christians grow in faith, at first most "tended to answer in terms of physical and intellectual maturation."

Some others, though, said "growth in faith is purely spiritual" and began "to construct processes for Christian growth drawn from interpretations of the Bible centered primarily around the removal of sin and a movement toward holiness," the lecturers said.

Clemmons, Powers, and Halbrooks then looked at the problems of Southern Baptist religious educators today in "the process of enlisting and developing Christians."

"We are discovering our need to

describe precisely the model on which we will base our process of bringing persons to, and guiding their growth in, faith." They said, cautioning, "if one is invited to 'just believe' with no corresponding call to a lifelong journey of faith then our evangelism is suspect. Bonhoeffer (a noted theologian) called it 'cheap grace.'"

The professors feel religious education today is caught between two extremes — that which stresses psychology and human development totally and that which would say "Christian growth is strictly a spiritual concern."

The second emphasis has "created a second 'zap' process of Christian maturity beyond conversion called being 'Spirit-filled' and saying the capacity for giving a verbal witness to another person is the primary mark of Christian maturity."

The spiritual growth triangle of knowledge, reflection, and action, they pointed out, "is influenced by the uniqueness of the individual, the maturation life-cycle, our communities of faith, the places where we live, work, and play, the general world setting we find ourselves in historically and culturally and our openness in all these areas to the Holy."

"Christian growth may be stated as enabling persons to become whole in the best Biblical, theological sense of that word," they added. "This is a process begun in conversion where one experiences new life in Christ and is committed to a continual opening of one's life to God in many transformations."

The trio thinks the task of Southern Baptist religious educators is "to enable this process. We must face with diligence in the next decade the model on which we build our faith development process. It must take into account our particular Baptist understandings of faith and at the same time be placed squarely on solid footings in the sciences of human behavior."

"It must continue to emphasize conversion as a beginning but equally be serious about the commitment to a lifetime of deep inward, outward, and corporate changes as one is confronted daily with the gospel demands."



TENNESSEE REPRESENTATIVES — Glenn Yarbrough (left), director of Tennessee Baptist student work; Tom Madden (second from left), executive secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention; and Bill Henry (right), associate in the TBC student department, talk with Charles Johnson, secretary of National Student Ministries, during a recent meeting.

## House passes resolution on religious persecution

WASHINGTON (BP) — A "sense of Congress" resolution condemning "all forms of religious persecution and discrimination whenever and wherever they occur" has passed the U.S. House of Representatives.

The resolution is the result of nine hearings held by the House Subcommittee on Human Rights and International Organizations, according to Don L. Bonker, chairman of the subcommittee and sponsor of the measure.

"From all available evidence presented to the subcommittee there can be no doubt that the free exercise of religion is limited in most parts of the world," Bonker said.

Citing a list of international religious persecution and discrimination problems, Bonker said, "The sad truth is that few countries of the world enjoy the

religious freedom that is so treasured in the United States, a freedom that is rooted in the history and traditions of our country and sanctified by the Bill of Rights."

"One thing is certain," Bonker added, "religious persecution will never be checked unless someone takes the time to monitor and expose what is going on and governments are held accountable."

The resolution states that Congress condemns and opposes "religious persecution and discrimination wherever practiced, encouraged, or tolerated by national governments."

Though the Senate took no action on the resolution, a spokesman for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said consideration of a resolution addressing freedom of religious expression is expected early in the next Congress.

## Brotherhood panel . . .

(Continued from page 1)

from rural to urban in this decade and the most successful groups will be those who design and utilize urban strategy to meet the new urban masses," O'Brien said.

The most critical need Southern Baptists face in their foreign missions program during the 1980s, according to O'Brien, is in the developing of church and denominational leadership beginning at the grass roots level.

"The answer will begin by modeling the role of an enabler and an equiper and continuing systematic discipleship training," he explained.

Church historian Bill Leonard of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary told the group any consideration of the next 10 or 20 years should include the discussion of a possible split in the Southern Baptist Convention.

Leonard did not predict a split but noted if the convention stayed on its present course of controversy a split could be possible. "As ideologists on the right gain increasing control of the convention agencies and seek to impose varying degrees of theological uniformity, schism becomes increasingly inestimable," Leonard said.

He listed three ways the convention could respond to the current controversy.

One would be a split.

Another could be for denominational leaders to try traditional methods of uniting the convention with "nebulous slogans and watchwords, refusing to confront the reality of a denominational identity and impending split."

A third response, Leonard offered, would be to seek a new denominationalism which allows for a classic unity in diversity which is characteristic of Southern Baptists. Leonard added the convention's local autonomy and concern for missions might be keys to avoiding a split.

Charles Petty, aide to the governor of North Carolina in the area of volunteerism, praised the Brotherhood Commission for the men and boys work it has provided. Petty, a Royal Ambassador volunteer in the First Baptist Church of Raleigh, thanked the commission for what it had contributed to the lives of men and boys but warned that the commission and other agencies who rely on volunteers must become more sophisticated in recruiting volunteers.

Given the competition from groups of all kinds for volunteers, Petty urged the panel to look for new and better ways of recruiting and recognizing volunteers for their work.

IMPACT 2000 will study Baptist Men and Royal Ambassador programs in light of the December input and in light of input from a session scheduled for April 1983 and will make recommendations for program modification to the Brotherhood Commission in 1985.

State Brotherhood leaders involved in the study include Lloyd Jackson, Virginia, co-chairman of IMPACT 2000; Bob Dixon, Texas; Kenny Rains, Tennessee; Ron Martin, Ohio; David Langford, North Carolina; Paul McCullough, Oklahoma; Gene Daily, Georgia; Cliff Saterwhite, South Carolina; and Cal Jones, Louisiana.

## Liz Lee, David Nelms join Sunday School department

Elizabeth (Liz) Rogers Lee of Nashville and David R. Nelms of St. Louis, Mo., joined the staff of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Sunday School department Jan. 1.

Mrs. Lee is serving as director of children's work and Nelms is director of preschool work.

Mrs. Lee has been serving as a part-time consultant in the children's division at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. She is a fourth grade Sunday School teacher at Creevewood Baptist Church, Nashville. In the past, she has taught kindergarten, first grade, and second grade in public schools in Louisiana. She also has served as a special Sunday School worker for the Tennessee Baptist Convention and for the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

A graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, she is currently working on a master's degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. She is married to Tom R. Lee, program promotion consultant at the Sunday School Board. They have three children.



Mrs. Lee

Nelms

Nelms comes to the TBC from a position as minister of childhood education at Third Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., where he has served for more than three years. While there, he began a weekday early education center and supervised the renovation and furnishing of a preschool wing in the church's educational building. He also was an approved Sunday School worker for the Missouri Baptist Convention.

A native of Alabama, Nelms is a graduate of the University of Alabama in Birmingham and Southern seminary. He is married to the former Jill Parker. They have two children.

# Mission advances said based on commitment

By Patti Stephenson

ATLANTA (BP) — Southern Baptists are "moving in the right direction" to meet Bold Mission Thrust goals, but the "fuel for the thrust is not money or organizations but the commitment of God's people to these goals He has given us," Gerald Palmer, Home Mission Board vice-president of missions, told the annual conference of state missions directors.

In his address, Palmer cited evidence that Baptists are committed to the SBC

aims of communicating the gospel to every person and boosting the number of Baptist churches to 50,000 by the year 2000.

The example of accelerated growth among language groups "is the response you can only work for and pray for then let it happen and try to catch up," Palmer said, adding "the response has outrun our resources but we cannot stop."

To further illustrate BMT results Palmer noted 27 new churches were

started in North Carolina last year, "more than in the past 20 years," and reported 400 new churches began in California during the past four years.

Palmer stressed that "for the first time the Home Mission Board has a national strategy for starting new work, not just in pioneer areas, but with new and old state conventions alike committed to the importance of new work." The resulting partnership between the HMB and state convention leaders is essential "for a task which is bigger than all of us," he said.

BMT goals, which are "woven into the very fabric of the Home Mission Board's objectives to evangelize, start new churches, and minister," transcend all programs and amount to a "modern restatement of the Great Commission," he declared.

James Nelson, retiring director of the associational missions division, stressed the importance of cooperation at the associational level.

"The timing for aggressive associationalism is right and fits the mood of the country in the desire for more participation, decentralization of their governing influences, and a personal touch," Nelson observed. The Home Mission Board now has "the biggest opportunity in its history to move aggressively into mission planning with the association," he declared. While "tensions exist denominationally, basically there is a desire for cooperation and that seems to be the prevailing mood as the denomina-

tion moves in Bold Mission Thrust."

Tommy Starkes, associate professor of Christian missions at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, addressed issues confronting home missions, including its own definition. "Missions is as much crying out against social injustice as it is witnessing to your neighbor," Starkes declared. "It is maintaining a balance between law and gospel, judgment and grace."

Starkes noted he supports for church growth but expressed concern over "the assumption that it is always God's will that a church should show numerical growth." He voiced fear that "measurable goals, such as Sunday School attendance, may take precedence over not-so-measurable goals, such as how much ministry a church performs."

Urging "you've got to choose between Amos and Armany," Starkes warned against churches "buying into the American corporate business model of success."

The New Orleans professor described the church as "never an end in itself but an instrument of the kingdom. Sometimes we think we have done it all when we grow a church when that is just the starting point for missions."

Starkes emphasized the interest of New Orleans seminary professors in missions and told directors of plans for NOBTS professors to assist in witnessing efforts in Pittsburgh, Pa., before the 1983 Southern Baptist Convention.

## Mission board launches expansion effort in India

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — After 20 years of concentrating work in one area of the country, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board is launching an effort to expand work to all of India.

The plan is to use Indian leadership to plant churches in areas where no other Baptist groups have work and to cooperate where possible with other Baptist organizations.

Indians' response to the gospel has been encouraging in recent years with Southern Baptist-related churches increasing from 13 in 1979 to 46 in 1982. India, the second most populous nation in the world, with 713-million people, "has far more people who need a gospel witness than any other country we're working with," said Bill Wakefield, Foreign Mission Board director for south and southeast Asia.

But because the Indian government does not issue resident visas to missionary evangelists, the board has concentrated on benevolent and educational ministries, most notably the Baptist Hospital in Bangalore.

Now priorities are shifting to help the national churches reach out more through Southern Baptist assistance in training and other support methods.

Under the new emphasis the Foreign Mission Board and Southern Baptist missionaries would train Indian Baptists in church planting methods; assist in training lay people to be church leaders so the Indian church planters would be free to

leave the fledgling churches and move to new areas, and be open to fraternal relationships with other Baptist groups through coordinating training and providing support such as literature.

In some cases the Foreign Mission Board will take over work currently being done by independent Baptist organizations based in the United States. One such group is Universal Concern Foundation of Yazoo City, Miss., organized in the mid-1970s with Owen Cooper as president.

This foundation has sent groups of interested pastors and lay people to India for short-term evangelistic efforts and supported Indian Baptist evangelists through an Indian-based subsidiary, Universal Concern India. The intention was to create self-supporting Baptist churches in areas where there was no Baptist witness, Cooper said. Though the group now has 10 to 15 preaching points the work has not become self-supporting.

"When we started this we hoped the Foreign Mission Board would take it over some day," said Cooper, a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and retired president of Mississippi Chemical Corp. "I'm delighted that the board is taking this step."

Working with the Foreign Mission Board, the foundation has agreed to phase out its programs in India over the next five years beginning in the summer of 1983 with work in Bombay.

The Foreign Mission Board also plans to expand relief and community development work in India.

## Citizenship specialist urges support for prison reforms

NASHVILLE (BP) — A Christian citizenship specialist is calling on Southern Baptists to support criminal justice legislation two U.S. senators plan to introduce during the next session of Congress.

Larry Braidfoot, general counsel and director of research for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, has written Senators Sam Nunn and William Armstrong in support of their efforts.

"The Sentencing Improvement Act which you have indicated you will introduce is a major step in the direction of correcting the many flaws of our system

of criminal justice," he told the senators. "I applaud your courage and your statesmanship in perceiving the seriousness of this threat and the importance of dealing with this grave issue."

Braidfoot said the Christian Life Commission is calling on Southern Baptists to support the Sentencing Improvement Act because it is designed to improve federal criminal sentencing by imprisoning dangerous and violent offenders and diverting nonviolent offenders to restitution or community service programs.

The Commission joins former White House counsel Chuck Colson and Sen. Mark Hatfield who have both voiced strong support for such reform.

"Incarceration is appropriate punishment for violent, habitual, or professional offenders," Braidfoot told the senators, "but other forms of punishment are more appropriate for non-violent offenders." Braidfoot stated that automatically imprisoning nonviolent offenders is of little benefit to the victim, society, or the rehabilitation of the criminal.

"Victims of crime receive no restitution for their sufferings but rather pay taxes for the upkeep of those who have done them wrong," he said. "Nonviolent offenders are incarcerated with murderers and rapists and leave prison in much worse shape than when they entered."

Braidfoot pointed out America imprisons more individuals than any other nation except the Soviet Union and South Africa, resulting in dangerously overcrowded conditions.

The Sentencing Improvement Act would call for restitution and community service programs based on the victim's loss, the relative seriousness of the offense, and the offender's criminal history, employment obligations, and ability to pay.

## Hopkins warns SBC schools to 'remember constituency'

ATLANTA (BP) — Southern Baptist colleges and schools that best know and respond to their constituency have been and will continue to be prosperous, a Southern Baptist college president told educators.

Mark L. Hopkins, president of Anderson College in Anderson, S.C., addressed some 100 college presidents and deans at the midyear meeting of the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools in Atlanta.

"Colleges have to be careful not to become convinced they are in the liberal arts business or in the teaching of foreign language business ... when, in fact, we are in the business of responding to the needs of our constituency through education," Hopkins said.

Hopkins said declining enrollments are often dealt with by putting greater investment into the admissions or development offices when the problem could

be the programs and courses are no longer responsive to the constituency.

"We have a tendency because of the age and stability of faculty to continue teaching subjects year after year because they have been taught successfully before without taking a look on a regular basis to see whether or not the course or program is necessary."

Southern Baptist college presidents and administrators must resolve to do a better job of planning than ever before, Hopkins continued.

"We should not just sit down with our own staffs and decide on next year's goals and objectives, but we should send representatives to talk with our primary constituency (Southern Baptist churches) and ask them what their needs are," he said.

Hopkins emphasized Southern Baptist "churches and church families are the lifeblood" of Southern Baptist educational institutions.



MISSION ACTION — Becky Duckett, a 1980 Carson-Newman graduate who has served as a missionary journeyman in Korea for the past two years, demonstrates a Korean dance during Carson-Newman's recent missions emphasis week.

## EDITORIAL

# Tennessee Baptists' meaningful 1982 events

What kind of year was 1982 for Tennessee Baptists?

To determine what were some of the meaningful happenings for the year which just closed, we reviewed the 51 issues of the *Baptist and Reflector* — and their approximately 1.5-million words — and gleaned a few of these highlights we reported to our readers.

- Union University sells its former campus in downtown Jackson to Madison County.
- Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, leads the state again in baptisms with 701 reported.
- In spite of icy roads, more than 2,000 attend the Tennessee State Evangelism Conference.
- H. Franklin Paschall is named general chairman of the 1983-85 statewide \$15-million endowment campaign for Tennessee Baptist colleges.
- Baptist Hospital, Nashville, breaks ground for a \$46-million construction project.
- Tennessee Baptist Foundation's total of accounts handled reaches a record \$9,845,331.81.
- Carson-Newman College receives its first \$1-million gift.
- Union University trustees vote to build more student housing.
- Over 34,000 attend the State Youth Evangelism Conference at Vanderbilt's Memorial Gymnasium.
- James A. Lester, former editor of the *Baptist and Reflector*, dies of a heart attack in Atlanta at 53.
- Mrs. Ellen Douglas Ginn, Tennessee WMU worker for 36 years, dies in Nashville at 103.
- Memphis Baptists participate in distribution of copies of the Gospel of John into 273,000 Shelby County homes.
- TBC disaster van and teams go to Fort Wayne, Ind., to feed flood relief workers.
- William E. Troutt is named third president of Belmont College.
- The dam in Upper Volta is completed by Tennessee volunteers before the rainy season begins; 65-acre lake fills.
- Tennessee Senate kills pari-mutuel gambling bill on last day of General Assembly.
- *State Baptist Student Union Convention* is held in Murfreesboro: 53 summer missionaries commissioned.
- The 20th Tennessee Church Media Library Convention is held in Chattanooga; votes to change to regional format.
- Baptist Pavilion opens at 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville.
- Executive Board invites Foreign Mission Board to hold its April 1985 commissioning service in Nashville.
- Michigan churches report 500 baptisms resulting from revivals led by Tennessee teams.
- East Tennessee Baptist Hospital opens gerontology center.
- Tennessee disaster van and teams respond to needs caused by a Marion, Ill., tornado.
- Belmont College trustees vote to add banquet room to Gabhart Student Center.
- Carson-Newman College's Vision '80 Campaign tops \$4-million goal.
- Tape-recorded *Baptist and Reflector* offered to sight impaired each week.
- Executive Board declines offer to repurchase Belmont Plaza, senior adult housing facility in Nashville.

- Skipper Carlton of Cookeville and Twinkle Helton of Morristown are judged winners in the Tennessee Youth Speakers' Tournament and the Youth Bible Drill.
- Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes opens a satellite home in Johnson City.
- Baptist Memorial Hospital breaks ground for a new hospital in Lauderdale County.
- Forrest (Woody) Watkins is named TBC director of evangelism.
- The property of Bethel Baptist Church, Estill Springs, reverts to the Executive Board in court decision; board later votes to transfer title to newly-organized Paynes Baptist Church.
- Over 1,000 attend the Tennessee WMU House Party at Belmont College.
- The 26th annual Pastors' Retreat at Camp Carson draws more than 250 ministers.
- Relief for flood victims in Trenton is provided by TBC disaster van.
- Churches observe annual Week of Prayer for State Missions with \$550,000 Golden State Missions Offering goal.
- Tennessee's "minute of silence" in public schools is ruled unconstitutional by U.S. District Court.
- Tennessee Baptists pass the \$15.6-million Cooperative Program mission giving goal by \$1,106.30 on last day.
- Upper Volta mission activities are unhampered by military coup.
- Executive Board votes to purchase Baptist Pavilion at World's Fair to be moved and renovated for an activities building at Camp Linden.
- Messengers to state convention in Memphis approve an \$18-million Cooperative Program budget-goal; oppose government-sponsored prayers in public schools; establish a Minister's Emergency Fund; authorize a committee to study trustee relationships; and extend Upper Volta involvement from three to five years.
- TBC disaster van and teams provide food for flood victims in Sainte Genevieve, Mo.
- Jonas Stewart, executive secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation for 14 years, announces plans to retire.

So, you can see that 1982 was a busy year for Tennessee Baptists. We renew our pledge to continue to report what God is doing in and through Tennessee Baptists — and we urge you to continue your desire to share the *Baptist and Reflector* with all the families of your church.

## Postage/subscription costs

The United States Postal Service announced last week that effective Jan. 9 charges for mailing non-profit publications will be increased — raising the rates now charged for church mailouts and the *Baptist and Reflector*.

In 1970 Congress established a phasing subsidy which would gradually move non-profit publications toward paying full costs for their postage. This phasing had reached step 10 in July 1981.

One year ago, Congress found it necessary to dissolve this phasing procedure, and on Jan. 10, 1982, we were immediately moved to step 16 — a whopping 126 percent increase!

However, in July Congress did appropriate some funds, and second class non-profit publications were moved back to step 13.

As a result of the stop-gap funding bill passed by Congress last month, this subsidy was reduced, and beginning next week, such publications will move to step 14.

In August 1978 our Board of Directors voted to establish a subscription cost plan which would realistically provide for postal increases. A specific amount was set to go toward production and printing and the actual postal charge (then 2 cents per copy) was added.

As the Postal Service has increased its charges since that time, these have been passed on to our subscribers. Last January that charge went from 3.1 cents per copy to 6.8 cents per copy.

In July when Congress voted to fund part of the subsidy, our cost was dropped to 5 cents per copy — and this reduction was likewise passed on to our subscribers.

Now we will move to step 14, which means that our postal cost will go to 5.6 cents per copy.

What this means to you as a subscriber is that effective Feb. 1, our rates will reflect this 14 percent postage increase.

The church budget plan will go from 9.0 cents per copy to 9.6 cents per copy (from \$4.59 per year to \$4.90 per year). The club plan will be increased from \$5.25 to \$5.55 per year, and the individual rate will be increased from \$5.55 to \$5.85 per year.

There is one "good news" factor of this increase. We are told that these rates will hold at least until the end of the current federal budget year (Sept. 30, 1983).

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and continuing support.

### CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 79,365

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Post Office Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027  
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*Baptist and Reflector* (USPS 041-780) is published weekly except New Year's week by the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention at Brentwood, Tennessee 37027. Subscription prices: \$5.55 individual; clubs of ten or more, \$5.25; church budget, 9.0¢ per family per week when sent to 50 percent or more of church homes. Second class postage paid at Brentwood, Tennessee, and at additional mailing office.

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

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

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Baptist and Reflector*, P. O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027.

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

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## 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.

### Disturbing leadership

Dear editor:

For some years I have been disturbed with the leadership of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs concerning the stand on religion in the public schools.

Although I would agree with the committee and even at this point with the Supreme Court in their opposition to mandated prayers as was once required by the State of New York, at the same time, however, I favor the right of school boards to provide opportunity for periods of voluntary prayer and Bible reading without comment.

But in its zeal to protect the principle of separation of church and state, the leadership of the Baptist Joint Committee is supporting a platform which in effect separates the state from religion, fails to do justice to the clause in the First Amendment of the Federal Constitution which forbids Congress from "prohibiting the free exercise" of religion, and which gives aid, even if unintentional, to the forces of secular humanism which would relegate religion and moral values in the schools only to historical or sociological review.

It is unfortunate the leadership of the Baptist Joint Committee cannot find inspiration in the views of Isaac Backus, a great Baptist fighter for religious liberty and separation of church and state during the period of the Revolutionary War and thereafter, who at no time opposed religious instruction in the schools of his time (see William G. Loughlin, *New England Dissent, 1630-1833, I, 606*).

I hope the Baptist Joint Committee

### England accepts call to Grandview church

Grandview Baptist Church, Maryville, called Charles H. England as pastor, a ministry he began Dec. 5.

England came to the church from the pastorate of Good Hope Baptist Church, Campbellsville, Ky. He was previously pastor of Memorial Baptist Church, Brownsburg, Ind.; Hosman Baptist Church, Tinsley, Ky.; and Dunlap Baptist Mission, Middlesboro, Ky.

England has held positions in several associations, including moderator, vice-moderator, and committee member and chairman.

A native of Middlesboro, Ky., England is a graduate of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, Ky.; Campbellsville College, Campbellsville, Ky.; and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

### Bush receives honor for 'liberty' essay

Danny Bush of Oak Ridge has been awarded an "honorable mention" award in an essay contest sponsored by Americans United for Separation of Church and State. Bush is associate minister at Oak Ridge's First Baptist Church.

The title of Bush's essay was "Religious Liberty and Separation of Church and State."

Americans United, located in Silver Spring, Md., reports that more than 150 essays were entered in the contest.

An accomplished writer, Bush was writer of Sunday School lessons in the Baptist and Reflector during the 1981 winter quarter.

will change its policies. Unfortunately it is now an organization which is helping to cause even further division in the denomination.

Albert W. Wardin  
208 Old Williamsburg Ct.  
Nashville, TN 37215

### God's wonderful works

Dear editor:

I just wanted to tell you how wonderfully the Lord Jesus works.

When we began to think and plan for our Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, we wanted to set a goal which would be worthy of the Saviour who gave His all for us. Our pastor, Larry Bullard, came up with two goals: a Glory Goal of \$3,500.00 and a Hallelujah Goal of \$5,000.00. We made this Hallelujah Goal a part of prayers.

Many of our people are out of work but we had faith.

Sunday morning at the worship hour the church as a whole filed down the aisles in dedication to Him who gave His life for us. We placed our offerings in the baskets which had been prepared to receive the offering. At the end of the service our pastor announced that we had indeed gone over our Hallelujah Goal. God had heard and we praised His name.

One final note, our offering for the budget exceeded what we needed for that day.

I do believe in our work in its entirety. I remember when we did not have our wonderful Cooperative Program.

Jamie Hankins  
Box 59  
Etowah, TN 37331

### Conviction, not popularity

Dear editor:

As I write this letter, I am disturbed about our denomination. It seems we have fallen into a political trap: Who can swing the most votes to get "their man" elected.

I am a Southern Baptist by choice. I was not raised in this denomination. I read and believed what the Southern Baptists were doing and became a part of it.

When someone from "outside" comes to our church, disagrees with our policy and doctrine, we politely tell them not to try and change our church, but seek a church that holds to their belief and join it.

It has been in the past that we (Southern Baptists) were proud of the fact that we stood up to the world on the inerrant truth of the Bible. Is it not so now? Have we changed our sense of values?

As I look at the power struggle, and that is what it is, I wonder if the grass roots churches of the SBC should not pull out and stand for our foundation, and let those who have power and want more, have it.

I used to go to the SBC and come away feeling I had been in a great revival. I must say, the spirit of revival has gone from our convention meetings.

I do care who is the SBC president. I do not have the answers, but I say, let's pray and vote from conviction and not from popularity. Let's preach the Bible, all of it, from the conviction of the Holy Spirit and revival will return to our convention.

Gene Bohner  
1000 Duncan Street  
Newport, TN 37821

# Kendall, Metcalf selected to write lesson comments

Two new writers have been selected to write Sunday School lesson commentaries for the Baptist and Reflector during the next quarter.

W. Fred Kendall II, pastor of First Baptist Church, Union City, will write the Bible Book Series commentary and Calvin S. Metcalf, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Fountain City, Knoxville, will write the Life and Work Series commentary. Commentaries by both writers begin in this issue of the Baptist and Reflector.

Kendall has been pastor of the Union City church since 1965. Before that he was pastor of First Baptist Church, Bolivar, for seven years.

Active in Baptist life, Kendall currently is chairman of the board of directors for Baptist Memorial Health Care Systems Inc. He has served as chairman of the trustees of Union University, as a member of the Tennessee Baptist Executive Board, as a board member of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, as a trustee of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, and as a member of the Committee on Boards for the Southern Baptist Convention.

Born in Kentucky, Kendall is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and



Kendall

Metcalf

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Metcalf has served as pastor of the Knoxville church since 1975. Before that he was pastor of Eau Claire Baptist Church, Columbia, S.C., for five years. Earlier, he was pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Elizabethton, for six years. A native of North Carolina, Metcalf is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

In Baptist life, Metcalf has served as chairman of the board of trustees at Carson-Newman, as president of the national alumni association for Southeastern seminary, and as president of the General Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

## Oscar Davis dies

Oscar F. Davis, longtime Tennessee Baptist pastor and director of missions, died Dec. 22 at his home in Cookeville. He was 82.

A native of Whitley, Ky., Davis was a graduate of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, Ky.

He served as director of missions for Stone Association of Baptists from Jan. 15, 1959, until his retirement on Dec. 31, 1966. Previously, he was pastor of Big Emory Baptist Church, Harriman; Mt. Harmony Baptist Church, Athens; and several churches in Kentucky. He was a member of Washington Avenue Baptist Church, Cookeville, at the time of his death.

Funeral services were held Dec. 24 at Hooper and Huddles Funeral Home in Cookeville led by two Cookeville pastors, Sam Brooks of Washington Avenue Baptist Church and Gerald Stow of First Baptist Church. Burial was in Crest Lawn Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, the former Mary Addie Powell; two sons, J. R. Davis, Enid, Okla., and Walter Davis, Silvis, Ill.; five daughters, Mrs. Marie Davids, Cayce, S.C.; Mrs. Henry J. Meier, Webster Grove, Mo.; Mrs. Kenneth Faddis, Evansville, Ind.; Mrs. William Wayland, Alexandria, Va.; Mrs. Lois McKinney, Saudi Arabia; 16 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

## HCBA offers classes for area ministers

SEYMOUR — The opening date for Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy's Winter Session of Bible Education will be Jan. 15. Classes in doctrinal studies, English grammar, and history highlight a curriculum of study offered to area ministers.

The three classes are led each Saturday morning by a longtime local resident and retired pastor, Raymond Smith.

The three subject areas are covered on an eight-week teaching schedule with properly certified ministerial students admitted to the program through funds provided by a benefactor.

## Personal perspective

By TOM MADDEN  
TBC executive secretary

For several days now I have been thinking about an experience I had as a college student. It was my privilege to be pastor of a "half-time church" at Rhea, Okla.

The churches in that area with "part-time preaching" had a custom of holding "fifth-Sunday meetings."

I recall so vividly the time the fifth-Sunday meeting was held in our church. I was picked up at Clinton, Okla., by a group of older preachers and rode with them to the church, a distance of about 40 miles. As we traveled, these experienced preachers began to share among themselves. I remember so distinctly one of them talking about having his name written in the Lamb's book of life (Revelation 21:27).

They then began to tell each other what they would like to have written by their names.

One of them said, "I would like to have it written that I was saved at an early age and served God the rest of my life."

Another said, "I would like to have it written that I was faithful."

One said, "I would like to have it written down that I was a good man."

I do not remember many of the sermons that were preached the Saturday and Sunday of that "fifth-Sunday meeting." However, I do remember the sermon that I heard from the veterans of the cross as we made our way to the church.

Across the years, from time to time, the question, "What would you like to have written by your name in the Lamb's book of life?" has impressed me. It might be well for all of us to ponder that question.



Madden

## Billy Graham notes urgency, urges redoubling of efforts

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)— Evangelist Billy Graham spoke frankly about the brevity of life and urged fellow Southern Baptists to redouble efforts to "redeem the time" during the first Congress on Evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

In two keynote addresses, Graham repeatedly noted the "urgency of the hour" and called for a recommitment to the gospel in an age marked by the threat of nuclear holocaust.

Graham addressed 200 Southern Baptist vocational evangelists, who were joined by hundreds of seminary students, faculty, and staff members.

In his second address, Graham spoke of "total revolution, worldwide." He said the revolution's many facets — technological, political, social, and religious — affect the lives of people everywhere.

Graham described the "man of God" who is needed to minister in such a world. Such a person "will have an experience with God in Christ," he claimed. He cited examples of religious leaders who were uncertain of their salvation un-

til they had vivid experiences. Afterwards, their ministries multiplied.

"Make sure you know Christ as Saviour," he warned.

Graham added the "man of God" will be one who has "heeded a call of God to ministry." Such a person, he said, will lead a "holy, disciplined life," avoiding potential pitfalls such as pride, money, and immorality.

He said this person also will be characterized by a "compassionate and sensitive social conscience." In his earlier sermon, Graham lamented the worldwide buildup of nuclear armaments. "Is World War III in the making?" he asked. "I have to say yes, unless we pray and do something about it."

Graham visited the Louisville seminary as the Lizette Kimbrough McCall lecturer, named for the mother of chancellor Duke K. McCall.

Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt announced the congress, sponsored by the McCall Foundation for World Evangelism, will be an annual event at the seminary.

## Cothen urges renewed emphasis on democracy, soul competency

NASHVILLE (BP)— A failure to understand and teach the Southern Baptist ideals of individual soul competency, a free church in a free state, and democracy at every level of the denomination is a major source of current problems "plaguing the Baptist Zion," Grady Cothen said.

Cothen, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, spoke to state convention executive directors and program leaders attending December planning and promotion meetings.

"I'm suggesting the Baptist ideals that have allowed us to be independent and taught us to be interdependent, that have led us to this good hour, are precious beyond our ability to imagine and ought to be protected and nurtured and discussed and promulgated and taught and saturated in every church in the Southern Baptist Convention," said Cothen.

Cothen said recent moves toward having delegates instead of messengers at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention show that "democracy in

the denomination" is in danger in our time.

"We have moved to the time where there appear to be groups that seem to be instructed: when this happens they become delegates," he said.

"I do not take exception to a group deciding what it believes about a specific issue. But when it attempts to force anyone to believe what it decides, it ceases to be baptistic," he noted.

"I was concerned there was evidence of political structures of America at the Southern Baptist Convention pushing various political agendas," Cothen added. "When the White House discusses ways to persuade the SBC to do its business as it relates to resolutions, something is amiss."

Democracy for Southern Baptists means freedom, not toleration, said Cothen. "We believe in soul competency not only for me but for you and anybody else. The only coercion which should be among us is that of the Holy Spirit," he emphasized.

"It is my hope and prayer that we will continue down the middle of the road — reaching people, developing believers, strengthening families, and helping the churches. I pray we'll give ourselves unstintingly to an unbelieving world and to a confused Baptist world."

On another matter, Cothen, who has announced his retirement for medical reasons, said, "I expect to exercise the responsibilities of the office of president until the 31st day of January 1984." When he announced his retirement Cothen had said it would be effective no later than March 1, 1984.

## Bernard ordained, called to Salem

Jim Bernard assumed his first pastorate in response to a call from Salem Baptist Church, Dayton.

Bernard, who began the position Oct. 20, was ordained by the church Dec. 4. Pat Ellis, pastor of Dayton's First Baptist Church, participated in the ordination process.

Bernard is a former member of the Dayton First church.



**NEW ANNEX** — Missionary Judson Blair talks with Aldo Broda, general director of the Baptist Spanish Publishing House, in front of the publishing house's new \$1-million office annex which was dedicated in December. The two-story building will house 75 offices, three conference rooms, and a library.

## CLC seminar to consider 'discipleship and ethics'

NASHVILLE — A Christian Life Commission national seminar designed to help Southern Baptists deal with the ethical dimensions of Christian discipleship has been set for March 21-23 in Louisville, Ky.

The seminar on "Discipleship and Ethics" supports a three-year conventionwide Bold Mission Thrust program emphasis on developing believers.

William Hendricks, professor of theology and philosophy of religion at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, will deliver the keynote address at the annual seminar. Robert H. Schuller, founder and senior minister of the Crystal Cathedral of Garden Grove, Calif., will deliver two addresses on personhood in the Bible as this concept relates to discipleship.

Others speakers include Gordon Kingsley, president of William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo., who will relate the social imperatives of the gospel to Christian discipleship, and Richard Foster, popular author and assistant professor of theology at Friends University in Wichita, Kans., who will discuss Biblical criteria for Christian lifestyles and values.

Arthur Simon, founder and executive

director of Bread for the World, a world hunger education and advocacy organization, will make specific proposals for Christians to use in dealing with the problem of world hunger.

Jim Wallis, editor of *Sojourners*, a magazine of Christian opinion, will speak on peace with justice.

Charles R. Swindoll, senior pastor of the First Evangelical Free Church in Fullerton, Calif., will speak on Christian servanthood. Swindoll's books, *Improving Your Serve* and *Strengthening Your Grip*, are currently number one and two on the Christian bestsellers list.

Additional speakers on the ethical dimensions of discipleship are Eleanor Nutt, speaker, writer, and active member of the Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky.; Don Shriver, a Presbyterian minister from North Carolina now serving as president of Union Theological Seminary; and Gladys Lewis who has served as a Southern Baptist missionary to Paraguay and who is now an involved Southern Baptist lay person living in Oklahoma.

The 1983 seminar will be held at the Galt House in Louisville.

## Carson-Newman College to host statewide keyboard workshop

A Keyboard Church Music Workshop will be held Jan. 11 at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, according to Julian Suggs, Tennessee Baptist Convention church music department director.

The Tuesday workshop, sponsored by the TBC and Carson-Newman music de-

partments, will be lead by Michael Hawn and Betty Jean Chatham.

Hawn, professor of music at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., will conduct a session on teaching and leading junior high choral students, and offer a recital at the school the evening before the workshop.

Hawn was previously adjunct professor of music at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and has served as minister of music at Crescent Hill Baptist Church of Louisville, Ky., and First Baptist Church of Decatur, Ga. He is a graduate of Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., and



Mrs. Chatham

Southern seminary.

A concert pianist and recording artist, Mrs. Chatham will conduct a workshop for church pianists and will be featured at the school's morning chapel service.

Mrs. Chatham has presented concerts at numerous conventions, crusades, churches, and colleges. She received her training from Georgetown (Ky.) College, and the University of Louisville, also in Kentucky.

For further information contact the TBC church music department, P. O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027.

## BMH-East, Memphis opens SIDS center

MEMPHIS — A center for evaluating and monitoring infants at risk of having Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is open for physician referral at Baptist Memorial Hospital-East, Maurice Elliott, senior vice-president, announced.

SIDS — the sudden, unexpected, unexplained death of a previously healthy infant — occurs especially during winter months when an infant is asleep at night.

The center wants to extend its services to physicians for certain premature babies, for those siblings of SIDS victims, and for babies who have near misses, Elliott said.

Most babies to be evaluated will spend from one to three days in the hospital. Parents whose babies will be monitored at home will receive training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and general care before the infants are discharged from the hospital as a part of the program, according to Elliott.

# Hamilton County's 'one-of-a-kind' retires

By Steve Higdon

For 25 years, Vaughtie B. Rowland has been the only one of her kind — not only in title and job description, but in dedication and determination as well.

For 25 years, Miss Rowland served the Hamilton County Baptist Association as Woman's Missionary Union and church media library consultant. It was the only known position of its type in the Southern Baptist Convention, and the only one funded by an association. It is also a position from which she retired Jan. 1.

"The Lord called me into associational work," Miss Rowland asserted, confident that her years with the Chattanooga-area association was part of God's will for her life. "It hasn't been easy, though. There have been heartaches as well as joy."

In her position, Miss Rowland was responsible for working with the library and WMU organizations of the Hamilton County churches, providing training, information, and expertise. She was instrumental in the organizations' growth to 51 media library centers and 53 WMUs in the 101 member churches of the association.

An approved media library worker for the Baptist Sunday School Board, Miss Rowland has led 82 different courses for library workers since beginning in 1957. Over 350 people have had perfect attendance in the courses she has offered, ranging from the cataloging and classification of materials to media equipment processing and maintenance.

Miss Rowland is acknowledged as a leader in the formation of the Tennessee Church Media Library Organization, which she has served as a member of its executive committee for 18 years of its 20-year existence.

Despite her success as a library worker, she admits that when she first began, she "knew very little about the subject."

"I was willing to work to learn

## Mary Hardin-Baylor offers free tuition

BELTON, Tex. (BP) — The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor has extended a helping hand to Bell County students whose parents are unemployed by offering free tuition for the 1983 spring semester.

President Bobby E. Parker decided to make the offer "because every time I turned around people were looking to a bleak Thanksgiving and Christmas because their parents were out of work. I just couldn't envision a student who was otherwise making progress having to pack up and leave a Christian institution in time of need," he said. "This is part of our ministry — if we didn't do something we just wouldn't be living up to our responsibility."

The gesture could cost the university up to \$1,125 per student for those taking a full 15-hour load at \$75 an hour. "The program will not be subsidized by any special funding," Parker explained. "We feel the current economy is no reason for a student to forego a college education which will help him or her to better meet the demands of a progressively tougher job market."

Each case will be considered on a semester basis, he said. The aid will be available to students for an undetermined length of time and will be discontinued when the parents become employed. UMHB, located in Belton, Tex., is affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas.



**ONE OF MANY HONORS** — Vaughtie Rowland and Hamilton County Baptist Association Interim Director of Missions Ralph Norton looks over a plaque given to Miss Rowland, one of many honors she received upon her retirement.

everything I could," she said, adding that much of her library education came from state and conventionwide workers and from conferences at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

"I have also learned a lot from librarians in the association," she stated. "For example, Red Bank (Baptist Church) has an excellent library, and I've probably learned more from its librarian, Mrs. Jack Yates, than I've taught her."

In all of her education, the most important thing Miss Rowland said she learned for librarians was that they "should not do something because someone says to, but to find out why it is that something should be done."

"That keeps you from having to go back and do it all over again," she explained. "And in library work, it can help avoid costly mistakes."

A part of Miss Rowland's work in the association involved her as a resource person to churches wanting to begin a media library center.

"The first thing I always did," she recalled, "was to talk with the pastor to see if the church meant business. If he said they did, I would outline a 'good,' a 'better,' and a 'best' program of organization to suit their needs."

"Then I would ask the pastor to find the strongest person in the church without another job, and to ask that person to be the librarian," she explained. "That person should know all of the programs of the church so that she or he can effectively choose the materials for the library."

"The knowledge I have learned in library work has also helped me in WMU work," Miss Rowland declared. "Much of what I did with WMU is of a secretarial nature, and that is where my research and classification training has helped."

For example, Miss Rowland maintained a complete section of WMU materials, which were used in leader training and organization growth. She kept

statistical and historical files on the missionary organizations, so that anyone needing the information can have it at their fingertips.

Her other duties as a 25-year WMU consultant included leading Girls in Action camps, for which she set up a media center that included materials for organizational advancement and artifacts from countries studied in missions stories; and the starting of new WMU groups, a duty which now belongs to area teams of WMU lay leaders.

With her help, the Hamilton County WMU has earned the highest recognition from the national WMU — the distinguished award — every year except two since 1965. In those two years the association obtained the next highest award.

In her tenure with the association Miss Rowland completed five histories for the association: A History of the Hamilton County Baptist Association, 1859-1979; Polishers of Diamonds, the 75-year history of Hamilton County WMU; and the 10-, 20-, and 30-year histories of the Hamilton County Media Library Department.

In compiling the history of the association, she learned that the work of a historian is much like that of a detective. The minutes of two meetings of the association, from when it was known as the Ocoee Baptist Association, were not available to her and presumed lost. Upon finding an old envelope addressed to the American Baptist Historical Society in New York state, Miss Rowland wrote to the society and discovered they had copies of minutes from the meetings.

"I don't like to leave a leaf unturned," she said.

Miss Rowland's own history exemplifies the same determination and dedication she gave to her position in Chattanooga. She made her profession of faith at the age of 10 in a Methodist church, a church she and her family attended every other Sunday when ser-

vices were not held at First Baptist Church of Alexandria. She joined the Baptist church a week later.

In 1937, Miss Rowland recalled, she was sitting on her front porch reading the Baptist and Reflector when an article on Vacation Bible School workers caught her attention. "I had not realized you could work in a Christian vocation and be anything but a preacher," she said. "It was at this time I felt God calling me into associational work."

"I had never heard of scholarships, so I began saving to enter school," she explained. In 1944 she enrolled at the Tennessee College for Women (now Middle Tennessee State University) in Murfreesboro, then transferred to Cumberland University in Lebanon, from which she graduated.

"My first associational position was as a general missionary for the Tennessee Baptist Convention," Miss Rowland said. "Women were not allowed to be directors of missions, so they let me be a general missionary, which did the work of a director of missions in associations that did not have them."

"I worked in 52 of the then 64 associations," she stated. "People came to me wanting to know how to do all kinds of things, including deacon and preacher ordinations. I did everything I could — or at least tried — except preach."

When Miss Rowland was called to the Hamilton County position, she entered the Carver School of Missions (now part of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary) in Louisville, Ky., for a semester to prepare herself for the role.

"The Lord worked everything out for me to come to Chattanooga," she remembered. "Even to the point of helping find a house near a church so my mother could walk to services."

Miss Rowland also remembers how different the association was when she came than it is now: "There is not a single pastor in the association at the same church they were in when I came," she said.

In addition, she has worked for the association longer than anyone it has employed, worked for three directors of missions, and has been the only one to work for the association until retirement.

Now that she has retired, Miss Rowland still plans to remain active. She has relocated in Cookeville, where she will be one of eight regional representatives for the Tennessee Church Media Library Organization. Working out of her home where she will have an "example" library, she will aid church librarians in the Central, Cumberland Plateau, New Salem, Riverside, Salem, and Stone associations.

"The Lord has done great things in my life," she proclaims. "I am going to do what He wants me to do, and I have always wanted to be available to do what He has no one else to do."

"To God be the glory for all of the work He has allowed me to be a part of," she concluded.

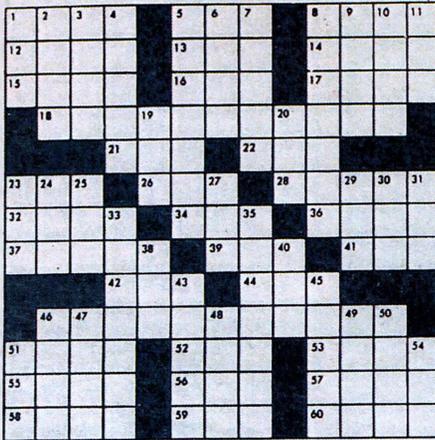
## Tennessean graduates from Golden Gate

MILL VALLEY, Calif. — Cynthia Stringer Morris of Memphis was among the 63 students receiving degrees from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary here during December commencement.

Mrs. Morris received the master of religious education degree. She is a graduate of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

# Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 10



- ACROSS**
- 1 Joseph's son (Num. 13:7)
  - 5 Exclamation: dog's
  - 8 Mountain (Josh. 8:30)
  - 12 Germanic letter
  - 13 Chinese weight
  - 14 King of Sodom (Gen. 14:2)
  - 15 Eighth note
  - 16 Babylonian god
  - 17 Bevel out
  - 18 Christian confession (Phil. 2:11)
  - 21 Explosive
  - 22 Cosmic cycle
  - 23 'as for —' (Ezek. 30:18)
  - 26 'full of days' (Job 42:17)
  - 28 Bird (Prov. 23:5)
  - 32 Spelt
  - 34 "I will make — fishers" (Matt. 4:19)
  - 36 "— frost" (Ex. 16:14)
  - 37 "bonds and —" (Jer. 27)
  - 39 Last queen of Spain
  - 41 Canine
  - 42 Promise to pay: abbr.
  - 44 Secondary
  - 46 "judge —" (Deut. 1:16)
  - 51 Jewish title of honor
  - 52 Baking pit
  - 53 "they shall —" (Isa. 5:30)
  - 55 Bird of prey
  - 56 Yutang
  - 57 Norway, capital
  - 58 Meadow
  - 59 Ancient times
  - 60 Recompense

**DOWN**

- 1 Caleb's son (1 Ch. 4:15)
- 2 Granary, India
- 3 Suffix: action
- 4 "he that is —" (Matt. 11:11)
- 5 Lurid
- 6 Atomic physicist
- 7 Waken
- 8 "encampment at —" (Num. 33:34)
- 9 Root —
- 10 Canaanite king (Num. 21)
- 11 Escape
- 19 Spanish: one
- 20 Scottish: love
- 23 Bale of — (Prov. 27:25)
- 24 Nigerian tribe
- 25 Korean soldier
- 27 Female deer
- 29 "Son of —" (Matt. 4:3)
- 30 Thailand native
- 31 Unit of energy
- 33 "— in Mount Hermon" (Josh. 12:5)
- 35 Loose
- 38 Gutta mixture
- 40 Sweetfish
- 43 Useful
- 45 Son of Phares (Matt. 1)
- 46 Not done
- 47 Island off Scotland
- 48 Man's name
- 49 "a time to —" (Eccl. 3:6)
- 50 American university
- 51 Precious stone
- 54 "a — out of" (Isa. 11)

**CRYPTOVERSE**

TC JXFM QYTXDJ BAYT DJX  
FYAO

Today's Cryptoverse clue: F equals L

## Interpretation

# The Sabbath question

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"And on the same day was the Sabbath" (John 5:9b).

Four things were basic in Judaism:

## Belmont announces extension courses

Belmont College of Nashville will offer Seminary Extension courses for college credit in four middle Tennessee Baptist associations this spring in an effort to continue the program which was begun last fall to help laymen and students learn additional skills in communicating the gospel and in Christian service.

In cooperation with Nashville Baptist Association, Belmont College will be offering a diploma in pastoral ministries, educational ministries, and Biblical studies upon completion of 16 courses. Certificates are awarded to students completing 10 hours in the basic curriculum series.

The other participating middle Tennessee Baptist associations will offer the diploma in Biblical ministries for 16 courses.

Beginning Jan. 11, courses will be offered on the Belmont campus on Tuesday and Thursday nights on these subjects: "Public Worship," "Christian Ethics," "Revelation," and "Old Testament Survey, Part I."

Two courses, "How to Understand the Bible" and "Exodus" will be taught on Thursday nights in three locations: Duck River Baptist Association office, Tullahoma; New Duck River Baptist Association office, Shelbyville; and William Carey Baptist Association at West End Baptist Church, Fayetteville.

Information concerning these courses is available from the associational offices or Belmont College.

the Law (Scriptures), the Temple, the traditions, and the Sabbath. Other religions had the first three, but only Judaism had the Sabbath. So the Jewish leaders were especially sensitive about this day.

The scribes (experts in the Law) devised hundreds of rules as to what one might or might not do on the Sabbath. Among these was forbidding to heal on that day unless it was a matter of life and death. Burden bearing was also forbidden on the Sabbath. A "burden" was anything that weighed as much as two dried figs. These were man's laws, not God's Law.

John notes that the healing event and the man bearing his pallet took place on the Sabbath. He did this with design. Reports about Jesus' prior healings on the Sabbath in Galilee easily could be denied. But here He had done so in Jerusalem and near the Temple, the center of power for the Jewish leaders. The man was bearing a burden, probably in the Temple area itself (v.14). They could neither deny nor explain away these two facts.

From the beginning, the Jewish leaders had opposed Jesus as a matter of principle. But now they had a definite issue. To them a good man would not ignore their Sabbath rules. And they played this issue to the hilt (see Matthew 12:1-8; Mark 2:23-28; Luke 6:1-5).

The Sabbath controversy was on, and it would rage more and more. It solidified the Jewish leaders' opposition to Jesus, opposition which ultimately brought Him to the cross (John 5:16).

## Tennessee church wins Eagle Award

RIDGECREST, N.C. — First Baptist Church, Lexington, was named an Eagle Award winner among churches participating in the "Sunday School Super Spiral" program to increase enrollment.

The Sunday School growth plan was created primarily by Andy Anderson, growth specialist at the Baptist Sunday School Board. Participating churches are required to set a net enrollment increase goal of more than 150 the first year. About 300 churches are currently participating in Super Spiral.

In one year, Sunday School enrollment in the Tennessee church increased from 769 to 935, for a net gain of 166. At the same time, average attendance grew from 422 to 486 and worship attendance from 400 to 470.

The number of teaching units increased from 44 to 47, workers from 92 to 124, weekly offerings from \$4,010 to \$4,460 and baptisms from 32 to 36.

"To earn an Eagle Award, a church must increase in qualitative areas such as Sunday School units, workers, and participation in visitation and weekly workers meetings, along with enrollment gains," said Anderson.

Roy Miller, Sunday School director at the Lexington church, said, "Use of the open enrollment concept and lowering the ratio of workers to members have been the major factors in growth. Having the adequate number of trained workers is the key to involving more people in Sunday School."

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## Blevins to keynote singles conference

William L. Blevins, coordinator of the religion department at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, will be the keynote speaker and Bible study leader for the 1983 Single Adult Spring Conference, March 11-13 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, N.C.

Interest conferences, Bible studies, creative worship, music, and fellowship will be highlighted during the weekend event, sponsored by the single adult section of the Baptist Sunday School Board's family ministry department.

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# Youth world conference set for July 1984 in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (BP) — Youth from around the world will gather in Buenos Aires in a show of global and spiritual unity July 11-15, 1984, for the Tenth Baptist Youth World Conference. An estimated 6,000 Baptist youth from 60 countries are expected for the conference, sponsored by the Baptist World Alliance, in the new Obras Sanitarias Stadium.

The conference, originally planned for 1983, was delayed because of the Falklands-Malvinas conflict involving Great Britain and Argentina.

Local arrangements chairman Raul Scialabba expressed hope that holding the meeting in Argentina would be perceived as a spirit of fraternity and Christian love in spite of political, racial, social, and economic differences around the world.

Paul Montacute, national youth officer for the Baptist Union of Great Britain,

expects several British youth to attend.

Argentine Baptists are very enthusiastic about the opportunities of hosting a worldwide Baptist conference in their country which is 98 percent Catholic. It will give Baptists there tremendous visibility and a positive witness to people with whom they otherwise would have no contact.

This will be the first time for the conference to be in a country where English is not understood by a majority of the residents. Consequently, the program will be bilingual with English-Spanish translations on the platform for all speakers. Translations in French, Japanese, German, and Chinese will be provided via headsets.

## Union to provide five Bible classes

JACKSON — Registration for Union University's Extension Center Bible Classes for Memphis will get underway in mid-January as the Jackson college sponsors five credit classes for residents of Shelby County.

Studies from both the Old and New Testaments will be offered through an arrangement with the Shelby County Baptist Association, according to Director of Missions Gordon Crocker. The classes will meet one night per week in area churches and will be taught by Memphis Baptist pastors.

Lay people in church leadership roles will receive in-depth instruction while college students desiring elective hours in Bible study can transfer their credits to Memphis State University. All courses are approved by the American Council on Education, with MSU accepting up to 12 hours as humanities electives.

Instructional materials recommended by the Southern Baptist Seminary Extension Department will serve as curriculum for the classes.

Beginning with a 7 p.m. registration on Jan. 18, "New Testament, Part III" will be taught at National Avenue Baptist Church from 7-9 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Ardmore Baptist Church will follow with registration at 7 p.m. on Jan. 20 for "Old Testament, Part III" to be taught from 7-9 p.m. on Thursdays.

The struggles of Job will be explored at Cherry Road Baptist Church, beginning with a 7 p.m. registration on Jan. 20 and meeting from 7-9 p.m. on Thursdays.

Germantown Baptist Church will be the setting for a study of the Gospel of John following a 7 p.m. registration on Jan. 27. The class will meet from 7-9 p.m. on Thursdays.

"Old Testament, Part II" will be offered from 3:30-5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays at Southern Baptist Education Center following a 3:30 p.m. registration on Jan. 20.

Bob Taylor, chairman of the youth committee of the Baptist World Alliance, said youth attending the conference will receive a new world consciousness that is essential today.

"Missions is just a word to many youth who only read about needs in other countries," commented Taylor, who also coordinates youth ministry in the church administration department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. "There is nothing like travel into another culture to get a world vision and sense of mission to see how the gospel applies to every culture."

Taylor, underscoring the importance of such a conference to the host country, said there are only 36,000 Baptists in all of Argentina. "This is a way for us to present a world witness to the Spanish people of Latin America."

The program will reflect the international flavor of a world meeting with program representatives from five continents.

"The goal of the program is to demonstrate unity through diversity," according to Beverly Sutton, program

chairperson and field services department director at the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham. "We hope the program will show the message of peace is not just the absence of war between nations but an energizing personal peace available through Christ."

Each day of the five-day program will focus on one area of the theme — "Jesus Christ — The Trust: Our Faith, Our Commitment, and Our Peace." Prayer and dialogue will center on specific needs of a nation each day.

Because of varying economic situations around the world, registration fees vary. Registration will be \$60 per person for the U.S.A., Canada, Europe, Japan, New Zealand, and Australia. It will be \$20 per person for Latin America, South America, Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, Asia, and the Middle East. On Oct. 1, 1983, registration fees will increase to \$70 and \$25 respectively.

Registration forms and informational brochures are available by writing to the Tenth Baptist Youth World Conference, 1628 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

## C-N names Hawkins to chair campaign

JEFFERSON CITY — Franklin Hawkins, pastor of First Baptist Church, Kingsport, has been named East Tennessee chairman of the college's endowment campaign to be conducted among Baptist churches.

The C-N campaign, which begins next October, has a goal of \$5-million.

A native of Rock Hill, S.C., Hawkins is a graduate of Furman University, Greenville, S.C., Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Hawkins came to First Baptist Church in Kingsport in October of 1980. He is currently on the board of trustees at Carson-Newman and the board of directors at Holston Valley Hospital and Medical Center in Kingsport.

## Associate director named for Baptist men's work

MEMPHIS (BP) — Bill Bangham, associate editor of World Mission Journal, became associate director of the Brotherhood Commission's Baptist Men's department Jan. 1, 1983.

He will concentrate on missions curriculum for Baptist Men and will assist in national, regional, state, and associational Baptist Men training efforts.

Bangham, a native of Maryland, is author of *Journey into Small Groups* and is a former director of Biological Laboratories at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He has authored a college textbook on biology and has worked in several printing and environmental businesses.

Bangham is a graduate of Parsons College, Fairfield, Iowa, and did additional study at George Washington University and the University of Maryland.

## Tennesseans receive seminary scholarships

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Two Tennessee students are among the first 12 prospective pastors selected to receive Presidential Preaching Scholarships from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Theology students Rex Keener of Leoma and Leo Percer of Millington received the scholarships this fall from Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt.

The scholarship program was initiated by Honeycutt and approved by seminary trustees last February.

Scholarships are for \$1,000 each and are given to entering students who exhibit exceptional potential in preaching and congregational leadership.

## Conference on church pensions ponders insurance, retirement

DALLAS (BP) — Rising health-care costs and current trends in retirement planning were the central topics of discussion at the 68th annual church pensions conference Dec. 2-3.

Pension board executives from 45 different religious affiliations were told Americans must change their lifestyles and reduce medical insurance abuse if they want to see their insurance premiums decreased.

Jerry Brockett, an actuary for the Wyatt Company, said Americans overeat, overdrink, do not get enough exercise, and "consume too many noxious agents such as cigarettes, liquor, and caffeine."

He noted health-care costs have increased an average of 14 percent per year in the last decade. "I believe we could decrease that by at least 2.8 percent if we will improve our lifestyles," he said.

Concerning abuse, Brockett noted that both the doctor and the person insured are responsible. "Sixty percent of the cost difference between the average annual inflation rate (8.5 percent) and the average health-care costs (14 percent) is due to abuse," Brockett said. Some physicians perform unnecessary surgery so patients should get a second opinion before having a major operation, he continued.

As for the abuse by the patient, "those insured tend to think their financial resources are unlimited when it comes to medical care." Brockett urged conferees to encourage their constituents to reduce unnecessary medical visits and drugs.

C. Allen Stiteler, vice-president of Hay-Huggins, an actuarial consulting firm, said current trends and retirement planning have been greatly influenced by the economy and reactions to government regulations. He said in the last several years inflation has become a major factor in calculating benefits needed for retirement.

He noted that a person who had been retired five years and had experienced a 10 percent inflation rate in those years could expect the real value of his retirement income to decrease to 62 percent of its original value. He predicted the inflation rate would hover around 10 percent for the next five years.

As for government regulations, Stiteler said companies have improved employee pension plans and have attempted to coordinate these pensions with Social Security. In 1974 (before the passage of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act) 40 percent of the companies surveyed required employees to work 15 years before they could have complete ownership of their pension plan but, "In 1982 none of these companies required this provision," he pointed out. Also, these companies no longer require mandatory retirement at age 65, whereas in 1974, 91 percent of those employers surveyed did.

A cost of living raise in post retirement benefits has also become a trend. "Our survey showed 60 percent of the employers are giving cost of living raises to retired employees," Stiteler said.

Stiteler said a person would need about 61 percent of his current income to maintain his pre-retirement standards of living and "social security will not meet this estimate." He said individuals need to look to pension plans and personal savings in addition to social security for an adequate retirement income.

The meeting marked the first time the conference has met in Dallas. The Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention hosted several of the meetings.

## Groups microfilm mission files

NASHVILLE (BP) — The Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention in conjunction with the Baptist Missionary Society of England has made Baptist missionary journals, correspondence, minutes, and records dating back to 1792 available for study.

The two cooperating organizations have microphotographed documents covering more than a hundred years (1792-1914) of mission movement.

The modern mission movement, which set the stage for Southern Baptists Bold Mission Thrust, began with the Baptist Missionary Society in 1792.

Southern Baptist seminaries in Louisville, Ky.; Fort Worth, Tex.; New Orleans; Mill Valley, Calif.; and Wake Forest, N.C., have purchased microfilm prints of the Baptist Missionary Society archives.

According to Historical Commission Executive Director Lynn E. May Jr., the 90 reels of microfilm comprise one of the most substantial Baptist manuscript collections in the world.

"The historical documents are now more accessible to lay persons and professionals for study, research, and better understanding of missions heritage," May said.

BIBLE BOOK SERIES  
Lesson for Jan. 9

# Jewish guilt for sin

By W. Fred Kendall II, pastor  
First Baptist Church, Union City

Basic Passage: Romans 2:1 to 3:20

Focal Passages: Romans 2:11-13, 28-29; 3:1-6, 9-11

Practice not possession (2:11-13)  
Would a football coach want a person on his team who had memorized the rules of the game and was the son of a famous player, but who refused to play on the field? Would Beethoven, if he were alive today, be pleased to know his music was memorized by musicians but never played? Obviously not.



Kendall

In this lesson, Paul brought God's condemnation against the Jews for possessing and intellectually knowing God's revealed Law, but not reproducing it in their lives; for claiming to be justified before God by being in the family of Abraham, but not living up to God's law.

Therefore, Paul stated in this Biblical passage that obedience to God's revelation of Himself and His truth is His key requirement for humanity — both Jew and Gentile. Merely having the Law (or His Word) would not justify anyone before God.

Jesus taught and the Bible records His teachings in order that they could be reproduced in human life. The question is still relevant: "Why call Me Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say?" (Luke 6:46).

In the Lord's prayer (Matthew 6:10), Jesus prayed: "Thy kingdom come." How? "Thy will be done." Obedience to God opens the doors to the kingdom. How do we know we are saved? By being obedient to God's revealed plan of salvation — not by merely saying "Lord, Lord" (Matthew 7:22). Obedience to God's will is the essential requirement of God for all persons.

The rich young ruler said he followed the rules of the Law (Matthew 19:16-22). But was he justified before God? No! Jesus told this young man to sell his possessions, give his money to the poor, and then follow Him. The young man refused to obey. Therefore, he walked away and the doors of the kingdom were closed to him. He was lost through the tragedy of disobedience. This is the sin of every person separated from God.

The place that counts with God (2:28, 29)  
In this passage, Paul says the true Jew — one of God's chosen people — is a person who has experienced a change of heart through a personal encounter with God. A true Jew is not one who is merely externally circumcised or a blood descendant of Abraham, as the Jews believed. Race and ritual will not change the human heart.

Just as circumcision (an outward sign that a Jew was one of God's chosen people) would not cause a person to be acceptable to God, neither will baptism and church membership today, unless a per-

son has experienced salvation through Jesus Christ. Thus salvation, if genuine, will result in a changed life. The will of God is that salvation will produce a Christlike life in every Christian.

What is Christianity doing to your character, to your moral life, to your disposition? False religion, and especially a false Christianity, has produced some of the meanest and most immoral characters in history. True Christianity has produced great characters. Therefore, a key question is: what is our Christianity doing inside us — where it really counts? In fact, this passage stated that this is the only place that counts with God. Men may praise our external religious acts but God looks on the inside.

God's judgment formula:  
advantage equals responsibility (3:1-6)

Paul stated that the Jews had the advantage over the Gentiles of having a special revelation of God — the Law. Therefore, they had a greater responsibility for obeying God and a greater guilt for disobedience because the Jews had failed to meet the Law's requirements.

Paul dealt with one of humanity's manifestations of a sinful nature: using the intellect to attempt to excuse himself from guilt for his sins. Paul used an imaginary conversation with a person who represented a typical Jew to make this point in this Scripture passage.

Time has not changed human nature. People are still attempting to use these same intellectual arguments to escape guilt. Such false reasoning, no matter how sophisticated, did not work in Paul's day and it will not work now. Any person who is disobedient to God's revealed will is guilty of sin and is under God's condemnation.

Everyone needs a Saviour (3:9-11; 19-20)

Paul concludes this lesson with proof that both Jew and Gentile, (therefore every person on earth), is under the domain of sin.

In the last lesson (Romans 1) Paul delivered God's condemnation against the Gentiles for not living up to the natural law. In this lesson, Paul brought God's condemnation against the Jews for not living up to the standards of God's revealed Law. Therefore, the ground around God's throne of judgment, as well as the cross, is level.

The purpose of God's Law in the Old Testament was to create in man a need to turn to God for salvation. A person must realize he is lost before he will seek to be saved.

No person can save himself or meet God's requirements by his own power, yet many people are still trying to save themselves by various means. Some even set up their own religious rules.

A person might say: "I believe God only requires that I live by the Golden Rule." But this is not God's revealed will. It does not make any difference what man thinks — it is what God requires that counts. No person, no matter how cultured or moral, is exempt from God's requirement: "You must be born again" (John 3:3).

God is not merely condemning the Jews and Gentiles in this Biblical passage. He is pointing out to them the necessity of every person being saved by Jesus Christ. Paul's message is positive — that Jesus Christ and He alone creates the way a person can become acceptable before God.

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES  
Lesson for Jan. 9

# Teaching about compassion

By Clyde Cutrer, professor of religion  
Belmont College, Nashville

Basic Passages: Luke 7:11-23; 10:25-37

Focal Passage: Luke 10:25-37

Luke 7 presents an example of the compassion of Jesus. Jesus is touched by the plight of a widow in the city of Nain. He responds to her need with the words "Do not weep," and proceeds to address the reason for her crying by raising her son from the dead.

Interestingly enough, this story is followed in chapter 9 with an account of Samaritans in a certain village refusing to receive Jesus into their village. Instead of rebuking the Samaritans, Jesus rebuked His disciples who would have wished for fire to come down from heaven to consume the village.



Cutrer

Both stories furnish basic elements (compassion/Samaritan) of the story of the good Samaritan which follows in chapter 10.

The question (10:25-28)

The background of the question asked of Jesus, "Teacher what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" includes praise being exchanged between Jesus and the scribe in Mark. It is as though the scribe were asking a common question of a rabbi would have recognized and would expect to be asked, namely, "How do you summarize the Law?" (However, Jesus is not asked to do it while standing on one foot to emphasize brevity, as is recorded in the request of another ancient rabbinic questioner.)

The answer is applauded as being right. Matthew includes the interest the Sadducees and Pharisees have in entrapping Jesus. And Luke also suggests controversy in the statement, "... a lawyer stood up to put Him to the test ..." The Law was the lawyer's area of expertise. On this familiar turf he was hoping to embarrass Jesus with his question.

Instead Jesus turns the matter back to him with a question of His own, "What is written in the Law? How do you read?" The reply, which includes the need to love God and to love one's neighbor, is

commended by Jesus. To conclude the matter Jesus adds, "You have answered right, do this and you will live."

The story (10:29-37)

The lawyer, however, is not willing to drop the issue, perhaps feeling a need to justify himself for raising a question to which he already had the answer. The phrase, "desiring to justify himself," on the other hand, may have had reference to the command to love his neighbor as himself.

At any rate he raises a counter question of his own. "And who is my neighbor?" he asks. In reply Jesus tells the beautiful and helpful story of the Good Samaritan who came to the assistance of a needy victim of highway robbery.

Picking up the elements of the accounts in chapters 7 and 9, the hero of the story is a Samaritan, of all people. Samaritans and Jews had exchanged mutual prejudices and hatred for years. Moreover, it is the Samaritan who shows compassion to the victim and not either of the Jews who have the opportunity to go to the aid of the victim. (One might have expected assistance from the Jewish priest and Levite in view of their calling. Neither provided it, however.)

The question itself implies a prior judgment by the lawyer with reference to the meaning of "neighbor." Neighbors are not made up of the populace at large. Neighbors are not corporate mankind. Obviously he assumes that there are some distinguishing marks which identify a neighbor and set him apart from the masses.

One of Luke's purposes appears again. Jesus is interested in all men. All men can follow Him, learn of Him, and evidence His love and compassion. There are no "outsiders" in terms of God's love. At the same time there are to be no "outsiders" in terms of man's compassion upon men — upon any men. They are all to be worthy recipients of the help of men in times of distress. Thus, there are no limits upon a man's obligation to love, for every man is a candidate of concern.

Jesus concludes the story with the admonition to "go and do likewise." He is to identify with the Samaritan.

However, it has been suggested that the answer to the original question, "who is my neighbor?" is found first as one identifies with the victim. It is as one feels the hurt of his wounds and the hopelessness of his situation and receives the compassionate care of an "outsider" that he can identify with one who freely responds to the needs of another without concern for past histories or present exclusions.

## Midwestern adds Butler to faculty

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)— A.L. "Pete" Butler has been named head of the church music program at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, effective Feb. 1, 1983.

Butler, elected as associate professor of church music education, comes to the seminary from First Baptist Church of Ada, Okla., where he has served as minister of music for 23 years.

He will spend the spring and summer of 1983 projecting the seminary's music program for the following academic year. He will conduct workshops in the churches and be active in visiting on college campuses among other responsibilities.

A native of Noble, Okla., Butler is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

He has been president and vice-president of the Baptist Musicians of Oklahoma, second vice-president of the Southern Baptist Music Conference, and was on the board of directors of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

### BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

G	A	L	G	R	R	E	B	A		
R	U	N	E	H	A	O	B	E	R	A
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"My help cometh from the Lord" (Psa. 121:2).

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**LIFE AND WORK SERIES**  
Lesson for Jan. 9

# Righteous One's ministry

By Calvin S. Metcalf, pastor  
Central Baptist Church, Fountain City, Knoxville

Basic Passage: Matthew 9  
Focal Passages: Matthew 9:2-7, 10-13, 36-38

The meaning of ministry begins with an understanding of God and what He is doing in His world.

Christian ministry centers in the redemptive plan of God especially as it is demonstrated in Jesus Christ. Paul expressed the goal of our Lord's ministry when he wrote, "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself." Jesus saw the task of reconciliation as closely related to the healing of the sick, comforting the helpless, loving the sinner, and teaching the learner.



Metcalf

**Forgiveness for sinners (9:2-7)**

This episode of Jesus' ministry focused upon a helplessly paralyzed man. He was dependent upon the resources and energy of others. In faith his friends brought him to Jesus. In response to their efforts Jesus declared the man to be forgiven of his sins.

This caused alarm among the enemies of Jesus. They thought he was blaspheming by pretending to do something only God could do. Jesus reacted to their criticism with a question: Is it easier to forgive or to heal? Both are difficult from the human perspective. Both forgiveness and healing are dependent on divine activity. In essence Jesus was proving His Messiahship by involving Himself in the miracle of forgiveness as well as the miracle of healing.

Another thought to explore in this passage is the relationship between sin and disease. It is possible that the sins of the sick man's past had left him paralyzed spiritually and physically. If so, the initial words of Jesus addressed the deeper problem. The psychosomatic implications of any disease make prayer and forgiveness appropriate.

**Mercy for outcasts (9:10-13)**

Sharing a meal with someone has always implied a degree of acceptance. The Pharisees, therefore, were shocked that Jesus would eat with tax collectors and sinners.

Tax collectors were politically despised because of their involvement with Rome. They were ritually unclean because of the suspicious nature of their work.

Sinners were all those folk who did not meticulously observe the moral and ceremonial laws. Pharisees would not eat with such socially unacceptable folk. Jesus did not share their prejudice and made Himself available to all who sought His friendship.

Because Pharisees were nervous and insecure about their own righteousness, they needed narrow boundaries for their behavior and critical categories for people unlike themselves.

On the other hand, Jesus knew who He was and offered nothing but mercy and love for the outcast. He was not threatened by their poor social standing. In fact He found His greatest ministry among people listed as outcasts. Their

own goodness did not hinder them from recognizing the righteousness of Jesus. Furthermore Jesus did not wait until someone got good enough for His ministry. Sick people need medical attention while they are sick. He insisted. In that spirit Jesus accented the mercy of God rather than a religious score card.

**Compassion for the helpless (9:36)**

In verse 35 Matthew summarized the travels of Jesus and the ministry He performed. Jesus had an occasion to see people in their private and public circumstances and had compassion for them.

The word "compassion" indicates that He had a deep inner hurt for people. He empathized with them in their spiritual struggles. They were distressed and bewildered by a religion that had become a load instead of a lift. Although there were thousands of religious leaders, Pharisees and priests, Jesus saw the people as shepherdless. There was too much emphasis on the mechanics of religion rather than a ministry to soul-hungry people.

**A call to discipleship (9:37-38)**

Jesus saw the spiritual condition of His people as an opportunity for harvest. The picture was that of grain about to be lost because there were not enough workers to gather it in.

The urgency of the situation was such that Jesus insisted on a prayer appeal being made to the Lord of harvest. The need was for God-called shepherds who would demonstrate the righteousness of Jesus. Notice that Jesus made this request to His disciples. Only those who are committed to the harvest can earnestly pray for workers.

**A personal application**

God has put us in a hurting world to heal. There is no way we can escape our moral obligation to bind the wounds of our brother. It is part of the healing process. In fact, it is part of our own cure.

The disease of mankind is a shared one. Whatever commitment we make to its cure contributes to our own peace and happiness. We are in the pain of life together and we either contribute to one another's health or we all go on hurting. It is important to our own health that we learn the meaning of forgiveness, mercy, and grace.

Our real battle is not with each other but with sin. God is teaching us to bind one another's wounds and so fulfill the law of Christ. Therefore, in Christ we are committed to a health in which we can all participate.

## FMB medical team, funds go to Yemen

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Just one week after an earthquake in Yemen took at least 1,500 lives and left many others injured and homeless, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board dispatched a five-person disaster response team — including one Tennessean — to Jibla, Yemen, Dec. 20.

The board also released \$50,000 in hunger relief and \$20,000 in general relief funds for Yemen, the latter to be used at Baptist Hospital in Jibla, where the team will work for as long as a month.

The response team included Beverly-ann Milam, a registered nurse from Jackson. She is a former journeyman to Yemen.

Others were two orthopedic specialists, another registered nurse, and an aide.

Three members, Weems R. McArthur, Panama City, Fla.; Sue Ann Holland, Gulfport, Miss.; and Miss Milam spent the holidays separated from their families — but the other physician, Donald E. Pearson of Orlando, Fla., was with his son. Pearson and his 16-year-old son, Jeffrey, kept a commitment they made before the earthquake to spend some time with each other during the holidays.

When the appeal came for a team to go

to Yemen the Pearson family, which also includes Jeffrey's mother and three sisters, agreed Pearson should participate but he should also keep his commitment to Jeffrey. The solution: Jeffrey would accompany the team as an aide, traveling at the family's expense.

The earthquake, the worst in Yemen in 16 centuries, hit a mountainous region about 60 miles north of Jibla on Dec. 13 leveling several villages of sun-baked brick dwellings and heavily damaging many more.

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# Accounts from China report church growth

HONG KONG (BP) — Recent eyewitness reports filtering out of China portray rural Chinese "house" churches growing at a phenomenal rate but beset by increasing conflict with government and public church authorities.

The unconfirmed accounts, reported by the Hong Kong-based Chinese Church Research Center, estimate 15 counties in Henan province with an average of 100,000 Christians worshipping in house fellowships. House churches are reported in nearly all of China's 22 provinces, five autonomous regions, and three metropolitan districts.

Estimates of the number of Christians in China vary widely. The Three Self Patriotic Movement, the government-recognized Chinese Protestant organization, estimates three- to five-million Protestants and Catholics nationwide. Several Christian "China Watch" agencies in Hong Kong and the United States count as many as 50-million believers, almost five percent of the population.

Independent verification of any estimate is impossible, but numerous accounts report rapidly multiplying house churches in the southern coastal provinces of Zhejiang, Fujian, and Guangdong as well as interior Sichuan and

Henan, where a religious revival has reportedly been in full force for several years. Extensive church growth also is reported in inner Mongolia.

Increases in the size and strength of the informal house fellowships, however, are causing their members to run afoul of some local authorities and public church officials, according to accounts.

Reports claim house church leaders and itinerant preachers have been harassed, arrested, and sometimes beaten by local police and Three Self functionaries in several provinces. House churches in Shanghai, Shandong, and parts of central China have been ordered closed or forcibly disbanded.

A few believers in Henan have reportedly threatened or engaged in violent reprisals against those who attempted to limit religious activities.

Some house church leaders — most of whom are untrained laymen — have accused Three Self leaders of cooperating with the government in limiting or suppressing unauthorized worship. Three Self Chief Ding Guangxun, also president of the Chinese Christian Council, denies the charges.

Ding has repeatedly rejected allegations the Three Self Patriotic Movement is controlled by the government, or that it opposes house churches. He has attacked the Chinese Church Research Center by name, calling its findings "fabrication" intended to drive a wedge between "open" churches and house fellowships and deceive Christians outside China.

Formed in 1951 with government consent, the Three Self movement (named for its ideals of self-support, self-government, and self-propagation) has sponsored the reopening of more than 250 Protestant churches in China since 1979. Public church activity virtually ceased during the 1966-76 cultural revolution, when radical students and Red Guards violently suppressed religion. Similar public organizations oversee Catholic, Buddhist, Islamic, and Daoist (Taoist) activity.

Three Self supervised the reopening of a Protestant seminary in Nanjing in 1981, and another seminary reportedly began classes for 50 students in Shenyang in November. The organization also distributes Bibles to churches and plans to publish a new Chinese hymnal in 1983. Some 270,000 Chinese Bibles were reported printed in 1981 and the official new China news agency reported in September that one-million Bibles were to have been printed by the end of 1982.

Three Self leader Ding also served on the committee that recently revised China's national Constitution. Joined by Buddhist and Islamic representatives, he successfully lobbied for deletion of a

## New Baptist churches organize in Honduras

TRUJILLO, Honduras — Two new churches have been organized in the lower Aguan Valley in Honduras, bringing the total to 38 churches in the Honduras Baptist Convention.

The two new churches were missions of First Baptist Church, Trujillo. Baptismal services preceded organizational services at both Lerida and El Coco.

A wedding ceremony highlighted the El Coco service where two newly baptized members reaffirmed vows they had said in a civil ceremony. They were married in order to be baptized and become members of the church. They had lived together in a common law arrangement and had several children before becoming Christians.

phrase giving citizens the right to propagate atheism. No similar right is explicitly granted to religious believers to propagate their faith.

Three Self and the Chinese Christian Council are forming provincial and local organizations to meet the needs of local churches, officials say. But critics allege the organizations are seeking to "manage" and contain the growth of Protestant faith for the government.

Names of public church members and candidates for baptism are said to be reported to their place of employment or the government's religious affairs bureau, an action many Christians fear. Unconfirmed reports charge that Three Self or government officials also have distributed the following list of "ten don'ts" for believers in central China:

- Don't organize a church without government approval.
- Except for government-approved clergy, nobody should baptize.
- Don't have contacts with foreign religious bodies or buy books from abroad.
- Don't print or reproduce Bibles or other religious books without approval.
- Don't travel from commune to commune to spread religion.
- Keep religion to yourself.
- Don't pray everyday, but only on Sundays.
- Don't convey religious thought to persons under 18 years of age.
- Don't sing religious songs to persons under 18 years of age.
- Don't solicit contributions for the promotion of religion.

Verifying the origin of such a list is difficult, as is verifying the accuracy of Three Self pronouncements or reports from house church leaders monitored in Hong Kong, which often contradict each other.

Informed observers see a situation

## Foundation

### Make Your Will Month

By Jonas L. Stewart

The calendar for the Tennessee Baptist and Southern Baptist conventions designates January as "Make Your Will Month."

The idea is that each of us should be reminded to put God's will into our will. It is difficult to realize that most of our Baptist people have completely ignored the Lord in providing for the disposition of their estate at their death.

Your Tennessee Baptist Foundation office personnel have an assigned responsibility to encourage and assist churches and individuals in these matters by invitation. Many people are requesting information from us. Many are also going to their attorney or other advisors without seeking assistance from our office. Whatever way it is done, the Lord should have priority in estate planning as in all other areas of Christian experience.

Our office can provide bulletin inserts, movie films in color, and brochures for churches. We furnish these upon request and without cost.

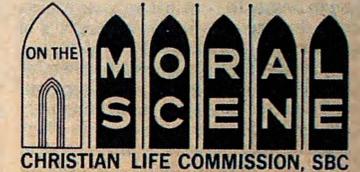
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more complex than "Three Self versus the house churches." The Three Self Patriotic Movement, like all public organizations in China, must pursue its goals while promoting support for government policies and the Communist party. The organization's leaders, and their supporters outside China, insist Three Self is doing its best to open churches, train pastors, and distribute Bibles within the strict limitations placed on its existence.

Members of the house church movement generally resist public association with Three Self or its open churches, some observers say, because of the religious repression of the cultural revolution era, when Christians of all stripes were persecuted. Many suspect Three Self motives, but others simply fear being identified by the government.

While it is growing rapidly, the house church movement also is reportedly plagued by an extreme shortage of Bibles and trained leaders. This deficiency leaves members open to heresies and mixtures of Christianity and Buddhism, Daoism, and Chinese folk religions.



ABUSE OF LEGAL DRUGS — "Abuse of prescription drugs causes far more deaths than use of illegal drugs, and state and Federal agencies must work harder to control legal drugs, according to a report by the General Accounting Office. . . . The office said that reports by the Drug Abuse Warning Network showed that prescription drugs 'dominate the statistics' on drug-related deaths and emergencies. In 1980, prescription drugs were identified in 3,535, or 74 percent, of 4,747 deaths attributed to drugs by medical examiners, the agency said. In the same year, it said, hospital emergency room reports showed that 71,431, or 75 percent, of 95,502 drug emergencies were due to the misuse of prescription drugs. 'Prescription drug use is more than a law enforcement problem,' the researchers wrote. 'The numerous ways, both legally and illegally, by which abused prescription drugs are obtained make the control of this drug problem difficult and unquie.'" (NEW YORK TIMES, 11/15/82)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION — "A majority of Americans, including business executives, believe that environmental protection should not be weakened for the sake of economic growth. . . . The new survey was sponsored by the Continental Group . . . and was done by Research and Forecast Inc., a New York concern. . . . About half of all those surveyed, 49 percent, said they believed the nation must accept a slower growth rate to protect the environment, while only 24 percent believed that environmental standards should be lowered to achieve economic growth. Twenty-four percent believed that both growth and environmental protection could be achieved without any sacrifices, and 3 percent had no opinion. . . . Meanwhile, 59 percent of the executives in small companies and 51 percent in large companies said there should be emphasis on cleaning up the environment, even if that required them to raise their prices for goods and services." (NEW YORK TIMES, 11/14/82)

## Missionary finds responsive field

HONG KONG — Responding to his own concern for Vietnamese refugees isolated in "closed" camps, Southern Baptist Missionary Bob Bradley has started a ministry that produces 25 decisions for Christ each week.

The Hong Kong government houses some 28,000 Indochinese refugees in camps pending relocation in host countries. After violent confrontations earlier this year between North and South Vietnamese refugees, the government set up several restricted camps. Residents cannot leave the camp sites or seek outside employment; few outsiders can get in.

About one third of the total refugee population now live in restricted camps, which have been closed to outside ministry. But Bradley, an Alabamian who teaches at the Aberdeen Baptist School in Hong Kong, gained permission to enter the Chi Ma Wan Island Camp, home for about 5,000 refugees.

Once inside, Bradley discovered a small group of Vietnamese Christians, including an English-speaking physician. The missionary began a weekly worship service in September, with the physician translating. Eighty to 100 Vietnamese have attended each service and an average of 25 per week have made professions of faith.

Christians in the camp meet every night for Bible study and the nurturing of new converts, and Bradley is seeking clearance to arrange baptisms. Using Southern Baptist hunger relief funds, he also distributes fresh fruit and a high-nutrition milk supplement, welcome additions to often inadequate camp diets.

Bradley is now working to gain entrance to another "closed" camp which houses single Vietnamese men.

## Baptists in India to expand hospital

BANGALORE, India — Projected expansion at the Baptist Hospital in Bangalore, India, would increase the present 80-bed capacity by 12 to 16 beds.

An increased patient load prompted the decision to renovate unused space for patient use. The dental department also will expand from one to three chairs.