

Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 149/No. 16/April 20, 1983

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

Southern grants leave until Moody retires

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Dale Moody will remain on the payroll but not in the classroom at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

Moody, the focal point of theological controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention for more than six months, was granted a one-year leave of absence by the Southern seminary board of trustees. The trustees also determined that Moody's current contract with the seminary will expire July 31, 1984. Moody will be paid full salary until that date but his teaching responsibilities at Southern will be completed this June at the end of the current academic year.

Several churches have cut off financial support from Southern seminary and the Arkansas Baptist Convention passed a resolution last fall asking for Moody to be terminated for his teaching on apostasy — a doctrine that a person can lose his "salvation" or "fall from grace."

Ironically, Moody said he had prepared a letter requesting retirement on July 31, 1983, "because I've gotten tired of the creedalism . . ."

Moody had publicly criticized Southern's Abstract of Principals, part of the seminary charter for 125 years and the

oldest statement of faith among Southern Baptists. A copy of the document is signed by every person who teaches at the seminary as a commitment to teach "in accordance with and not contrary to" its 20 doctrinal statements — one of which says that once a person is "saved" by the grace of Jesus Christ, his salvation is eternal.

Moody had requested the 1983-84 leave of absence early in 1982, before criticism of his views became an issue with the trustees. The trustees considered the matter in executive session. Reportedly, Roy Honeycutt, seminary president, was the only salaried Southern employee in the meeting.

Although he reached regular retirement at age 65 in 1980, Moody had been teaching under a series of short-term appointments since that time. He told Baptist Press he had been under the impression, "and nobody ever corrected me," that he was under a five-year contract that would expire when he was 70.

However, Southern spokesmen said the personnel policy limits to one year at a time the length of contract for a person over 65.

The board also heard a report from a

(Continued on page 2)

HMB names Campbell to staff post, appoints Watsons as missionaries

ATLANTA — Robert Campbell, former pastor of First Baptist Church in Rockwood, was named associate director of the specialized evangelism department of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board at the board's monthly meeting in March.

Charles and Peggy Watson of Hendersonville were among 72 persons appointed to mission service at the meeting.

Campbell, a native of Sharon, was pastor of First Baptist Church in Gleason from 1959 to 1964. He



Campbell

was also pastor of churches in Moulton, Ala., and Paducah, Ky. Campbell assumes his duties at the board after being director of evangelism for the Baptist General Association of New England since 1979.

He is a graduate of Bethel College in McKenzie and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Watson, a native of McMinnville, was appointed as a church planter apprentice in Detroit, Mich. Prior to appointment, he was minister of education at Bluegrass Baptist Church in Hendersonville.

He was secretary-treasurer for the Nashville Christian Education Association and served on the nominating committee of the Nashville Baptist Asso-

ciation. He was also on the Constitution and Bylaws Committee of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, was secretary-treasurer for the Tennessee Religious Education Association from 1981 to 1982, and served on the Sunday School council of the Nashville Baptist Association.

Mrs. Watson was a part-time teacher at Volunteer State Community College, Gallatin. She also had taught at Hawkins Junior High School in Hendersonville.

The Watsons are graduates of Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville. He also holds a degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.



GRAHAM RECEIVES AWARD — David George (left), pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville, and a member of the Christian Life Commission executive committee, and Foy Valentine (right), executive director of the agency, congratulate Billy Graham after he received the commission's Distinguished Service Award.

CLC presents ethics award to Evangelist Billy Graham

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has presented its Distinguished Service Award to Evangelist Billy Graham for his outstanding contributions in applied Christianity.

Foy Valentine, executive director of the commission, and the six members of the commission's executive committee presented the award to Graham just prior to the second service of the Central Florida Billy Graham Crusade at Orlando's Tangerine Bowl.

Valentine told Graham the moral concerns agency selected him to receive the award in recognition of his leadership in such Christian social ethics areas as race, peace, and public righteousness.

"We are presenting you with this plaque because you have been a faithful preacher of the whole gospel of God in Christ," Valentine told Graham. "You have emphasized in your preaching the divine imperative both to practice and to preach the whole gospel. You have been an authentic advocate of personal moral-

ity of the finest kind.

"For what you have done with your own children, in your own home, and in your preaching on family life, we honor you," Valentine said.

"You have been a prophetic spokesman for the Christian way in race relations," Valentine continued. "We remember from your earliest times your trumpet has never given an uncertain sound and your Christian witness has never faltered at the point of race. You have been a true prophet in the area of race," he stressed.

"In more recent years you have been a courageous crusader for peace with justice and the things which make for peace have been clearly positioned in your mind and heart."

Valentine also commended Graham for preaching and practicing a total evangelism which not only deals with the salvation of lost souls but also with the right attitudes and right activities in daily life.

In accepting the award, Graham told the members of the commission he was overwhelmed and humbled.

"I believe the mission of the church to the world is found in two main areas," Graham said. "Those two things are proclamation of the Word and service to the world."

"This has become more clear to me as the years have gone by," Graham added. "As I have traveled around the world and talked to many people, I have come to understand the gospel more than in my early years. I now have a better understanding of what the total gospel means."

Graham told members of the commission that he is thankful for those voices which have been raised for peace at this

(Continued on page 2)

Lottie Moon hits \$50-million

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — Lottie Moon Christmas Offering receipts have passed the \$50-million mark but are expected to fall short of the \$58-million goal.

With \$50,567,643 given so far and only seven weeks to go before the May 31 closing of books on the 1982 offering, Carl Johnson, Foreign Mission Board treasurer, told the board at its April meeting the shortfall could be as much as \$3-million.

But he said an increase of eight to 10 percent over the 1981 offering would show that "Southern Baptists are still conscious of the world's spiritual needs" despite financial hardships imposed by high unemployment.

For the last few years, all of the offering goal has been budgeted in response to requests coming from the mission fields. If the offering does fall short this year, items will have to be sliced off the capital portion of the 1983 budget so field operating needs can still be met.

Marty evaluates Baptists, comments on controversy

FORT WORTH, Tex. (BP)— World Christianity is becoming increasingly "Baptistified" according to one of America's best-known modern church historians.

Martin Marty, professor of the history of modern Christianity at the University of Chicago, delivered two addresses at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, as part of the seminary's 75th anniversary observance.

He told an audience of Baylor University religion faculty and Southwestern seminary's theological faculty that the Baptist form of Christianity which emphasizes persuasion and decision is gain-

ing popularity over the "catholic" form of nurture, that "Christian children spring from the loins of Christian parents."

Marty, associate editor of *The Christian Century*, editor of the newsletter *Context*, and co-editor of *Church History*, proved his claims he is an "unabashed Baptist watcher" by addressing several topics which have embroiled Baptists in recent years.

From his perspective of involvement when the Missouri Synod Lutheran split, Marty was asked what advice he had for Southern Baptists who, some say, are threatened with a split over Biblical inerrancy.

"I don't have a lot of advice or cheer," Marty said. "I have observed when an accuser gets the privilege of forming the accusation, there's no way to respond to it without sounding at least half guilty."

He said he had never seen an argument over the authority of the Bible that was not an attempt to use it as a weapon against other members of the church.

On school prayer, Marty explained to have authority, one must be under authority. He said Baptist strength comes from leaning on God, which is why he was so bemused by the Southern Baptist Convention's passage last summer of a resolution affirming a Constitutional amendment supporting school prayer. "Southern Baptists' school prayer resolution leads us away from the power of God to the power of government to dictate the circumstances in which we work."

Asked to evaluate Southwestern on the occasion of its anniversary, he said Baptists and Southwestern should be happy for the way God is working and be wary lest they misinterpret how it is happening.

Baptist tradition is typed as the "church of the disinherited," he said. It is a creation of "people people" and "folk folk" who had the "unimpaired imagination" and "vehement force of need" to show where the power in society was missing the sources of need.

Real power comes through weakness, he said, because "God works on us when He sees our power gone. Even our strongest institutions are so frail."

"The power of being an outsider meant you had no resource to fall on except the divine resource," Marty said. Early Baptists did not have the burden of keeping the culture going.

Baptists no longer are outsiders in most of America's southland. They have become the religion of the culture in the areas of their strength. Marty said that does not mean Baptists or Southwestern should go back to being smaller, or retreating from their role of strength. But he urged the leadership to "keep the perception the simple people had in charting this place (Southwestern)."

Graham . . .

(Continued from page 1)
point in history.

"I hope we don't get off on the wrong track and I hope we stay on the right track," Graham stressed. "I hope that God will help lead the human race to accept this before it is too late."

"I am not a pacifist, as I said in Moscow, and I am not for unilateral disarmament, but I am for toning down the rhetoric and I am for doing away with all weapons of mass destruction," he said.

FMB names H. E. Spurgeon to vice-president position

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)— Harlan E. Spurgeon, president of Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Mo., will join the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board staff as vice-president for human resources.

The Foreign Mission Board elected Spurgeon April 13 during its meeting in Indianapolis, Ind. He succeeds Bill W. Marshall, who was elected executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention in December.



Spurgeon

The Missouri native and former missionary to Taiwan will oversee departments managing the enlistment, selection, and training of all new missionaries and volunteers, medical care for missionaries, missionary furlough study and world missions conferences.

contacts with students and retired or former missionaries, and relations with black Baptists and other ethnic Baptists.

Spurgeon, Southwest Baptist University president since 1979, worked as a missionary evangelist and pastor in Taiwan for 15 years until his resignation in 1972. His missionary colleagues elected him chairman of the Taiwan Baptist Mission three times.

Spurgeon was pastor of First Baptist Church, Bolivar, Mo., from 1972 to 1979. Before beginning work in Taiwan, he led other churches in Missouri, Kentucky, and Kansas.

He is a graduate of Southwest Baptist University; William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

Spurgeon expects to begin work in mid-June at the Foreign Mission Board's offices in Richmond, Va.

Moody . . .

(Continued from page 1)

committee on academic policies on its review of the way former president Duke K. McCall and Honeycutt had handled questions about faculty commitment to the *Abstract of Principals*. Specifically, the committee said the two administrators had "fulfilled their responsibilities required under the charter and bylaws" with reference to the Moody controversy.

In a related action, the trustees adopted an official statement on "Freedom and Responsibility in a Denominational Seminary." The document reaffirms the contractual nature of the abstract which was termed a doctrinal consensus, officially approved, within which academic freedom for every professor is guaranteed. It said the abstract seeks to guarantee "the continuation of historic Baptist emphases on the primacy of Scripture and liberty of conscience, while maintaining theological continuity with the cardinal principles which Baptists hold in common."

Moody, 68, holds earned doctorates from Southern and from Oxford University in England. He has been a visiting scholar at the Institute for Advanced Theological Studies in Jerusalem, and studied under noted theologians Paul Tillich, Karl Barth, and Emil Brunner.

After the trustee action, Moody insisted his position is consistent both with Baptist history and the Bible. "I believe the Scriptures are inspired and authoritative in every matter . . . and when things contradict the Scriptures I reject them — I don't care how hoary they are with antiquity."

He said the *Abstract of Principles* contradicts the Baptist Faith and Message (adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1963) at three points.

But, "the abstract doesn't have a statement on Biblical inerrancy and the Baptist Faith and Message does — and I accept the Baptist Faith and Message totally," he said. "I will walk to Nashville to debate the historical, bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ and the reality of a second coming (by Jesus)."

Noting, "my people have been Baptist of some kind or another for 14 generations," Moody said he would remain a Southern Baptist because, "I'm not about to leave the people who nurtured me in the faith."

He said any literal application of the abstract would cause everyone at Southern to have to resign because the abstract says the Lord's Supper should be observed using wine and because it says "we are to have no worldly amusement" on Sunday which would exclude watching football games on Sunday afternoon.

HMB Service Corporation okays first 'Broadway Plan' bonds

ATLANTA (BP)— Directors of the HMB Service Corporation approved issuance of bonds worth \$910,000 to four Southern Baptist churches during their April session in conjunction with the Home Mission Board executive committee meeting.

The bonds are the first to be issued under the new "Broadway Plan" church bond program administered by the HMB's subsidiary corporation, which serves as broker-dealer for the bonds.

Robert Kilgore, director of the HMB church loans division and president of the HMB Service Corp., called the action "a historic step in Southern Baptist life." Kilgore noted the HMB's ability to make bonds available "will benefit not only our churches in pioneer areas, but churches throughout the Southern Baptist Convention."

The four churches approved for bond issues are Fairfax Circle Baptist Church, Fairfax, Va.; Calvary Baptist Church, La Porte, Ind.; Poydras Baptist Church, St. Bernard, La.; and Beacon Baptist Church, Hudson, Fla.

Kilgore said before approval is granted, the HMB Service Corp. studies requests for bonds from churches to determine if bonds issued would be sound. The corporation follows a guideline that not more than 35 percent of a church's income be pledged to debts, he said.

The HMB subsidiary consults with individual churches to determine at what interest rate and terms the bonds will be offered. The HMB Service Corp. may opt to buy portions of bond issues for resale, Kilgore said, although it has no obligation to buy back bonds. Once sold, "that will be a matter between the bond holder and the church," he explained. The church, rather than the corporation, must guarantee the bond payment, he added. Citizens and Southern (C&S) National Bank of Atlanta acts as trustee/paying agent for the Broadway Plan.

The program's early reception by the public has been positive, Kilgore reported. "We already have a file full of names" of persons interested in investing in church bonds, he said.

HMB approves new personnel

ATLANTA (BP)— Five percent of the \$25-million goal for the 1983 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions, \$1,276,000, had been received by mid-April, according to Home Mission Board President William G. Tanner.

Tanner, speaking to the executive committee of the agency's board of directors, noted receipts are running three percent ahead of the same period last year.

The executive committee also received news of the resignations of two HMB staff members. Ramon Martinez, director of ethnic resource correlation, will serve as ethnic education coordinator for the Florida Baptist Convention after 17 years with the HMB. Jack Ellenburg, associate director in missionary personnel, resigned to become pastor of Riverland Hills Baptist Church in Columbia, S.C.

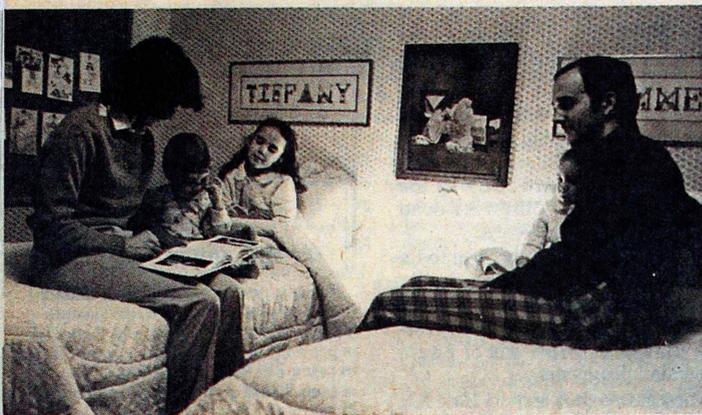
Two new staff members were elected as associate directors in the missionary personnel department. William C. Graham will assist in recruiting and screening missionary candidates in the eastern

United States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands and W. Ronald Holloway will fill the same role for the central U.S.

Graham, pastor of Middletown Baptist Church, Middletown, R.I., since 1974, has been pastor of churches in Wisconsin, Texas, and Kentucky. He is a graduate of Carthage College, Kenosha, Wis., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex. He holds the rank of captain as a chaplain with the Rhode Island Army National Guard.

Holloway earned degrees from Florida State University in Tallahassee and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. He has been minister of education for First Baptist Church, Avondale Estates, Ga., since 1979 and has held minister of education posts in Florida, Oklahoma, Texas, and Alabama during the past 26 years.

Also, 32 persons were approved for assignments in 14 states, including two missionaries, four missionary associates, and 26 who will receive pastoral aid.



CHRISTIAN HOME WEEK — Carla and Bill McDaniel of Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood, take time for nightly devotions with children, Jered, Tiffany, and Summer. During this year's Christian Home Week, May 1-8, Baptist families are being challenged to establish a discipline of worship and Bible study in the home.

RTVC names Billy Barber development vice-president

FORT WORTH, Tex.(BP)— Billy T. Barber, former pastor of First Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla., will become vice-president of development services at the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission June 1.

The appointment was announced to RTVC trustees during their April 11-12 meeting. In other action, the board elected new officers, approved a plan for developing and distributing spot announcements on radio and television, and heard a report from RTVC President Jimmy R. Allen on implementation of the launch strategy for the American Christian Television System (ACTS).

In his position with the RTVC, Barber will direct the agency's fund-raising efforts through major gifts and direct mail and supervise the promotion and audience response department.

He succeeds John Scales, who became director of development at Baylor University in 1981.

A native Texan, Barber is a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

The trustees voted to budget about \$180,000 per year, beginning in 1984-85.

for more television and radio spot announcements to run on public service (donated) air time. The spots would deal with ethical and moral concerns and would be sent to all cable stations at a rate of eight per year. Under the plan, the project could begin in the 1983-84 budget year if additional funding can be found.

In his president's report, Allen said the RTVC had begun implementing a task force strategy authorized by the trustees in January for launch of ACTS in 1984. He reported major renovations on studio and editing facilities are nearing completion.

Allen said receptivity is growing in cable television and advertising industry for the ACTS plan of programming and program sponsorship.

He also noted recent cancellation of some cultural exchange tours between the United States and China would not affect the trip planned for the RTVC Centurymen later this year since the invitation came from Shanghai Television and not the Chinese government.

New officers elected are: Stewart R. McChesney Jr., Arvada, Colo., chairman; John E. Roberts, Greenville, S.C., first vice-chairman; T. W. Terral, Baton Rouge, La., second vice-chairman; and Laverne Butler, Louisville, Ky., recording secretary.

The board authorized the formation of a non-profit corporation, ACTS Satellite Network, Inc., which will distribute ACTS programming to cable television systems. The RTVC trustees will constitute the board of trustees of the new corporation. The action was taken in part to clarify the nature of ACTS for cable system operators.

In its January meeting, the board committed itself to raise \$130,000 for the RTVC. As a first step, members themselves pledged \$33,300 during the April session. They plan to contact other prospective donors, including the former trustees.

Belmont College Aid to remember gardens

"Belmont Gardens 1858-1983" will be the theme for the April 28 meeting of Belmont College Aid. The meeting will be at 11:00 a.m. in the dining room of Founder's Hall.

Reservations can be made through Elizabeth Wall, 292-2039. Parking and shuttle service are available at Belmont Heights Baptist Church.

House budget projects stable non-profit rates

WASHINGTON (BP)— The U.S. House of Representatives gave non-profit mailers a potential boost when it approved its first fiscal 1984 budget resolution calling for enough postal subsidy to keep non-profit rates at their current level.

The action signaled that Congress is highly unlikely to approve President Ronald Reagan's budget request to sharply reduce the preferred-rate postal subsidy and thereby trigger another round of large rate hikes for non-profit mailers.

The House-passed resolution projecting a total 1984 budget of \$936-billion only sets broad, non-binding spending ceilings. It assumes \$879-million for the non-profit postal subsidy, compared to the Reagan administration request of \$400-million. But both houses of Congress would have to pass appropriations bills containing the full \$879-million to preserve current rates.

Since 1981, when the Reagan administration proposed sweeping cuts in domestic spending, non-profit rates have seesawed dramatically.

Before then, non-profit rates had been rising gradually on a 16-year phasing schedule Congress established in 1970 to move preferred-rate mailers in annual steps toward paying full costs directly attributable to handling their mail.

An appropriations shortfall for the postal subsidy in late 1981 sent non-profit rates soaring in early 1982, jumping from step 10 of the phasing plan to step 16. This hike more than doubled the rates for many non-profit mailers. Later in 1982, Congress added enough funding to the subsidy in a supplemental appropriations measure to bring the rates back to step 13. Last January, non-profit rates went up a normal one-step increase to step 14.

Non-profit rates are available to a wide range of organizations, including religious, educational, scientific, philanthropic, agricultural, labor, veterans, and fraternal groups.

A number of these groups charged at a recent House Post Office and Civil Service subcommittee hearing that the unstable rates had hampered their ability to raise funds and thus pick up the slack caused by federal cutbacks in spending for social services.

Leland Hacker, president of the Baptist Children's Home, San Antonio, Tex., said his agency is one of those President Reagan said in 1981 he was counting on to keep the social safety net from unraveling.

"Unless Congress stabilizes non-profit mail rates and stabilizes them soon," Hacker told the Subcommittee on Postal Operations and Services, "Anglo and Hispanic children alike will fall through the safety net."

Hacker's agency receives about half its annual budget from the Baptist General Convention of Texas but depends on private donations for the remainder. Though the home is currently operating at full capacity caring for 104 children, Hacker warned the facility may be forced to cut back because of a lack of funds.

"Because of the steep increase in non-profit rates over the past 18 months, we had to reduce newsletter appeals for support," he said. "We can't reach the people who support us without stable non-profit mail rates."

Meanwhile, the Senate Budget Committee is expected to complete work on its first budget resolution by mid-April. House and Senate appropriations committees are expected to vote on actual funding for the subsidy in late spring or early summer.

Louisiana flood waters hit seven SBC church buildings

DENHAM SPRINGS, La.(BP)— As flood waters spread disaster, destruction, and distress on Baptists as part of the general population in south and southeast Louisiana, their church buildings were generally spared.

Reports from directors of missions indicate that all Baptist churches in the area held regular services on Sunday, April 17, even though there was still a lot of flooding.

Members of these churches spent time over the weekend cleaning up the facilities so that Sunday services could be held.

The Louisiana Baptist Convention disaster van was dispatched early April 8 to Walker, La., and continued its service there for three days.

John Winters, Baptist Men's director of the LBC, said, "People are providing for their own needs and the van was not needed after April 11."

Directors of missions in the areas of the state most affected by the floods reported seven church buildings had been damaged by flood waters. The hardest hit areas were Denham Springs and Slidell.

According to Director of Missions Lawrence Clegg, First Baptist Church of Denham Springs was the only one that

was forced to hold its April 10 Sunday morning activities away from its church building. Water rose to a depth of six feet in the building at one time.

Clegg said Don Avenue Baptist Church in Denham Springs had water in its building, and the church's parsonage also had about one foot of water in it.

French Corner Baptist Church in Ponchatoula and Cal Baptist Church, north of Walker, had water damage, according to Clegg.

Nolan Johnson, director of missions in New Orleans, said Avondale Baptist Church intended to have services Sunday even though pews and carpet had to be removed.

Clegg said Baptists in the area were showing a spirit of cooperation and compassion. "One afternoon about 50 people were at the Don Avenue Baptist Church working to clean up. They were from area Baptist churches. A similar thing was happening at First Baptist there."

"In addition, our people are involved in the rescue, cleanup, and helping get people out of flooded homes," Clegg said.

Reports from the area on Monday of this week said that there continues to be some flooding in the Slidell area and that there was rain in the area.



SENIOR ADULT DAY — Henry Burkitt takes notes during a Bible study at Judson Baptist Church, Nashville. "Continuing to Learn" is the theme for Senior Adult Day, May 1, sponsored by the Sunday School Board's family ministry department.

EDITORIAL

Inaccurate petition

An inaccurate emotion-laden petition — based upon falsehoods — has resurfaced again in Tennessee. Even the part of the petition that is based on truth is nearly eight years out of date!

The petition falsely states that the Federal Communications Commission is to vote on a resolution (RM2493) from Madalyn Murray O'Hair to ban religious programs from radio and television.

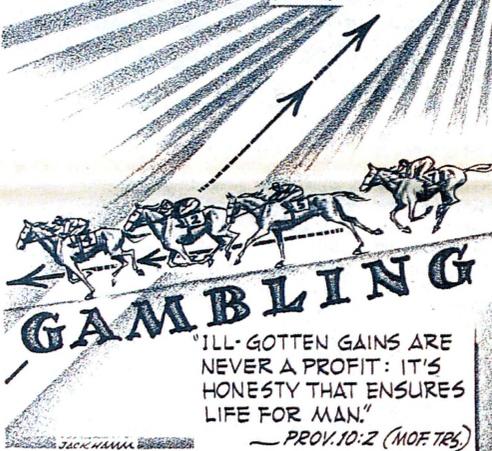
We are glad that our church members want to keep the gospel on these media. However, there is no threat whatsoever to prohibiting such programs before the FCC at this time.

Here are the facts about RM2493.

In December 1974 two California men, Jeremy D. Lansman and Lorenzo W. Milam, filed petition RM2493 with the Federal Communications Commission. The petition would NOT have prohibited religious programs, but rather asked the FCC to freeze the issuing of licenses for additional educational television and FM radio stations to individuals or groups planning to air only religious or quasi-religious programs.

At Cross-purposes With God

"SINCE YOU HAVE BEEN
RAISED WITH CHRIST,
AIM AT WHAT IS ABOVE."
— COL. 3:1



CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 76,850

Alvin C. Shackelford, Editor

Charlie Warren
Associate Editor

Steve Higdon
Assistant Editor

Eura Lannom
Advertising, Subscriptions

Betty Walker
Production Assistant

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

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: \$5.85 individual; clubs of ten or more, \$5.55; church budget, 9.6¢ 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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Raymond Boston, chairman; John Laida, vice chairman; Ansell Baker, Stanley Brumfield, E. E. Carrier, William Coles Jr., Jerry Foust, W. Fred Kendall II, Jack May, Earl McCosh, Rudy Newby, Jerry Oakley, Thomas Pope, James Parch, James Sorrell, Fred Steelman, Clarence Stewart, and Earl Wilson.

Mrs. O'Hair had nothing at all to do with the petition RM2493 — although she doubtless would have agreed with its request.

The petition was DENIED UNANIMOUSLY by the FCC commissioners on Aug. 1, 1975. RM2493 is a dead issue — and has been for nearly eight years!

Mrs. O'Hair had not request nor was she granted a hearing before the FCC concerning RM2493.

Even if RM2493 had been approved — which it was not — it would have had no effect whatsoever on present radio or television stations or on present or future religious radio or television programs.

The inaccurate petition states that Mrs. O'Hair has 27,000 signatures in support of RM2493. This is untrue. The famed atheist in 1969 did present a petition with 27,000 signatures to the National Aeronautical and Space Administration in an attempt to stop our astronauts from reading the Bible on broadcasts from space, as they did while orbiting the moon at Christmas 1968.

Incidentally, NASA denied that petition, and this was upheld by federal courts. The United States Supreme Court TWICE in 1971 refused to hear her appeals, thereby affirming the NASA denial of Mrs. O'Hair's attempt.

The inaccurate petition about RM2493 further states that one-million signatures are needed in opposition to the alleged prohibition of religious programs. It should be noted that the FCC received more than five-million letters of protest against RM2493 — the vast majority of these coming AFTER they had denied the petition in August 1975.

So, PLEASE disregard the long-dead issue. To write the FCC about RM2493 now is to reveal our ignorance of the facts — and to minimize our stands on other important, current issues.

Instead, why not write your state legislators and express your opposition to the current drive to legalize pari-mutuel gambling in Tennessee?

GUEST EDITORIAL

Catherine Marshall

By John E. Roberts, editor
"Baptist Courier," Greenville, S.C.

Catherine Marshall was my friend. I shall miss the famous author who died this month. So will millions of others.

No, she did not know me. We met only twice; once to shake hands and another time when I sat in the audience as she spoke.

But I have read her books. Anyone who has learned to feel that the television newscaster, or a favorite actor, or a regular newspaper columnist, or an author is a friend understands how I feel.

I like her writing style. I have feasted on the sermons of her Scottish preacher husband, Peter Marshall. Her biography of him, *A Man Called Peter*, was on the best seller list.

It was her book, *Christy*, that I most enjoyed. Set in an isolated cove of the east Tennessee mountains early in this century, it is a bittersweet story of love and hate, of integrity, pride, and honesty in a place of isolation, enslaving tradition, and hardship.

Catherine's mother went to Cutter Gap as a school teacher in 1912. Had she known the full extent of the isolation and poverty, she would not have gone. But once there she felt compelled to stay and meet the learning needs of the solemn, stoic, self-reliant children. She remained with them through a mindless feud and a typhoid epidemic, eventually marrying a stern, mysterious young physician.

Catherine MacNeill Marshall returned with her mother to visit Cutter Gap in 1960. Time had brought passable roads and improved education. The people had assimilated outsiders and been assimilated in turn. The story of Cutter Gap is the story of America. It merely took a little longer there for the move across two centuries because the area was cut off from the outside.

Catherine Marshall wrote to inspire as well as inform. Among authors this is a mark of greatness. I shall miss her writing.

Cicero's
comment

By the editor

"Cicero, we have come as a delegation to protest the biased, one-sided, bigoted slant the Baptist and Reflector is printing concerning the current drive to bring pari-mutuel betting to Tennessee," said Betty Bundle, executive director of FOG (Fantasies of Gambling).

I had to confess that perhaps my statements on legalized gambling had been less than objective.

"Right," said Rip Hoff. "We just want the people to have the right to decide about this and any issue."

This statement was endorsed by Referee N. Dumm, noted basketball official. "The people should have a referendum about any governmental issue — such as pari-mutuel gambling. I am so strong on the referendum technique, that I feel the people should vote in a referendum on whether or not they want to pay sales tax, income tax, and property tax."

Ref continued, "Young people could have a referendum on whether or not they want to abolish schools or even burn down the school buildings."

Rip Hoff agreed that any governmental issue should be decided by a referendum — except whether or not to abolish the General Assembly.

Next, Os Tridge took his head out of the sand long enough to say that "pari-mutuel gambling will be a great boost to the economy."

He gave examples of the increased flow of money from government to contractors for political "kick-backs"; banks and loan sharks will flourish by making loans to individuals to pay gambling debts; the real estate business will grow as the number of mortgage foreclosures increases. "The cash flow in Tennessee could possibly increase as Mafia money comes in to bribe city and county officials to influence being chosen to run the gambling operation," he added.

"The current unemployment problem will be helped," Os noted, "since employers will have to hire more workers to fill in when regular employees call in 'sick' so they can go to the track. Also employment will drastically increase in law enforcement as more policemen will be needed to deal with increased prostitution, shoplifting, and evicting people who use the rent money at the betting windows."

The final speaker was Sen. A. Bound and his wife, Grace Moore Bound, who said that religion ought to support gambling. "I have always heard that it is easier to lead a desperate, destitute person to Christ, rather than a contented, satisfied person. Well, gambling will help make more people desperate and destitute, so you Christians can witness to them!"

Grace agreed, noting that Jesus Christ came to save sinners. "Legalized gambling will provide more sinners to be saved."

As they were leaving, the FOG officials asked the Baptist and Reflector to help "fog up" the negative aspects of gambling.

Cicero said the editorial stands might be reconsidered, "but don't bet on it!"

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.

Prayer for pastors

Dear editor:

The article by Linda Lawson in the March 30 issue of Baptist and Reflector concerning the agony pastors experience because of forced terminations helped me to decide something that has been on my mind since last fall. At that time my pastor, Eugene Cotey, told our church of his work on a TBC committee to address the financial problem that pastors face

Personal Perspective

By Tom Madden
TBC Executive
Secretary-Treasurer



The fifth verse of the 23rd Psalm reads, "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies."

I understand it better if I picture this verse in the context of a shepherd and his flock in the high mountain country where he has herded them for the summer.

Some of the plateaus that we call mesas are referred to as tablelands in the Biblical country. It just could be that what David was referring to as a table was actually the higher summer ranges.

If he did this, there were three distinct areas of danger. One was the plants that were poisonous to the sheep. The lambs would not know they were poisonous. To just nibble some of them would bring immediate paralysis and death. The shepherd would go ahead of the flock and pull up every poisonous plant.

Another danger was polluted water. The shepherd always made sure there was an ample supply of clean water. Sometimes this meant cleaning out a pool or damming up the small mountain streams. He would also put out salt and minerals where the sheep could find them readily accessible.

A third area of danger was wild animals. The shepherd kept a watchful eye out for those that would harm his sheep. It was not unusual for these wild animals to take up a position on a rim-rock watching every movement the sheep made, hoping for a chance to make a swift, sneaky attack that would stampede the sheep.

With this picture in mind, I can understand better the spiritual application of the statement, "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies."

We do have enemies. Satan sows his tares; he is anxious for any one of us to stray, making us an easier prey for him to pounce upon.

I believe our Good Shepherd is immensely pleased when He sees us flourish on the tablelands of a noble, lofty life that He has made possible for us.

I am convinced our Lord does go ahead of us to prepare a table for us in the presence of our enemies.

when terminated. He also emphasized the terrible spiritual and emotional problems such pastors face.

At that time the Lord began to give me a burden for these pastors. I have been a member of two churches when some in the church tried to terminate the pastor's service. In one of these I was chairman of the deacons and suffered through that time with the pastor. From that experience I began to have a greater appreciation for the pressures that we force on our pastors.

I know this is a complex problem, but I believe we have a Baptist heresy that says, "Problems in the church? Fire the preacher."

Considering the many reports of pastors being forced to resign, I say to my fellow church members, "What is happening to us? Repeat."

Our deacons use a card in our family ministry that says, "May I Help? I can pray. I can listen. I can serve." To any pastor who asks, I promise to pray for him. I don't need to know why, the Lord knows that. Just that prayer is needed.

Tom Brown
407 East Main
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

Honoring Dowell

Dear editor:

Your fitting tribute to F. M. Dowell was appreciated by church members across the state. Dowell's impact upon our churches and his zeal for winning the lost to Christ will be a lasting influence upon us all. Surely, he received God's "well done" and received his rewards.

It was our privilege to have Dowell as evangelist in our church last November. Our people learned quickly to love him and Mrs. Dowell. His preaching inspired us to be better Christians, and even today we are being blessed by having had the Dowells with us.

It would be fitting that a scholarship be established at Belmont College in memory of F. M. Dowell. This could be accomplished through contributions from our churches. I know many churches have been blessed by the evangelistic leadership, if not by the personal touch of this great man. He was certainly "God's man," and his labor and memory is deserving of this honor.

D. O. Creasman
Rt. 1
Riceville, TN 37370

Support of Hinson

Dear editor:

I would like to respond to a letter in the April 6 issue denouncing one of our seminaries and one of its professors, Glenn Hinson.

While Hinson would not consider me a close friend, I did have an opportunity to study under him at Southern seminary. I found him to be very informed on the subject he taught and also found him to be a very loving, compassionate person.

He is a man who takes quite literally (as we all should) Matthew 25:34-46. Hinson is a follower of true religion, because he is a believer and follower of Jesus Christ. He clearly uses the Bible as his guide, and he certainly loves his country!

While I personally do not favor either the World or National Council of Churches, we must keep in mind that the most religious people in Jesus' day did not agree with or accept everything He did. He was even accused of being in league with the devil (Matthew 12:22-28).

I am a product of our seminaries and a graduate of one of our Baptist colleges. I have spent time on the mission field, and now I am pastoring in Nashville. I have a burden for the lost and for ministering to those in need. My theology and my methodology were shaped by men like Glenn Hinson, Walter Shurden, Dale Moody, Wayne Ward, J. J. Owens, Clyde Francisco, and others. Our seminaries are training thousands of men and women who then go into all the world to tell the "good news" and to minister in His name.

Maybe if those who are quick to condemn would use that energy by telling others about Jesus Christ, we could get on with our Bold Mission Thrust and reach the world for Christ.

Randy Bradley
2049 Lebanon Rd.
Nashville, TN 37210

Hinson's influence

Dear editor:

In reference to the "letter to the editor" in the April 6 issue concerning the nature of Glenn Hinson, I wish to give the following witness.

Hinson was one of my first teachers in Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1959 and one of my last teachers in 1979. During these 20 years, countless contacts with him have been made.

I know of no person who has a deeper commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ and understands the Bible any better. He knows and lives the Bible in spirit as well as letter. A deep spiritual, sacrificing, loving, realistic, and caring Christian are words not too strong to describe this man. I know of no better saint of God in our convention today.

It saddens me to tears when I read such letters that are based on sure misinformation.

Gary Anderson
P. O. Box 126
Dunlap, TN 37327

Compton accepts FMB media post

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)— Alan W. Compton, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board media consultant for Latin America, has been named senior consultant for media development in the board's office of overseas operations, effective June 1.

In the newly-created position, he will assist regional media consultants with the design and production of broadcast and audio-visual products. He also will be the liaison on media between missionaries on the field and the board's office of communications and other convention agencies.

Compton will be available to assist the board's office of human resources in recruiting and training media missionaries and in orienting missionaries in the use of media.

Compton and his wife, the former Jane Luther, are both natives of Raleigh, N.C. They were appointed as missionaries in 1960. He directed the radio and television ministry of Chilean Baptists and was a pastor in Santiago, Chile, until he was named mass media representative for Latin America and stationed in Mexico City in 1965.



ANNUAL MEETING — Earl Mills (left), chairman of the Carson-Newman College advisory board, discusses the agenda for the annual meeting with President Cordell Maddox.

C-N board hears plans, reports

JEFFERSON CITY — The need for increased endowment, plans for a new baseball field and activities building, and reports on B.S. degree programs in nursing and business highlighted the annual meeting of the Carson-Newman College advisory board.

Calling increased endowment "our biggest need," Cordell Maddox, Carson-Newman's president, told the group. "We must expand our fund-raising efforts and secure additional financial aid for students."

Last year, Carson-Newman awarded over \$3-million in financial aid to students, Maddox reported.

He also noted that gifts and pledges to Carson-Newman's Vision '80 Campaign now total \$5,145,294.

Trustees heard a report that the B.S. nursing degree program which began this fall enrolled 69 beginning students and 30 registered nurses. Also, the addition of the B.S. degree in business data processing resulted in a 138 percent enrollment increase in that area of study.

The college will begin construction this month on a new baseball field, which will be located behind Burke-Tarr Football Stadium. The current baseball field and adjoining space will be converted into four intramural softball fields and a soccer area.

Plans were also discussed for a student activities building.

The board also heard that current projections indicate that the fall enrollment will increase for the seventh consecutive year and that the college will operate in the black.

E. Tennessee pastors to meet on C-N campus

The East Tennessee Pastors' Conference will meet April 28 at 9:30 a.m. on the campus of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City.

Brooks Faulkner, supervisor of the career guidance section of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, will speak on "Personal Time Management for Pastors." Faulkner is the author of several books on stress and burnout in the ministry and time management.

The meeting will conclude following lunch on campus.

Daughter's death tests faith of missionaries

By Robert O'Brien

NAIROBI, Kenya (BP) — Jim Richardson had always prayed God would not test the depth of his Christian faith — through family crisis.

Citizen's Corner

By Jerry Isfeld
Public Affairs and
Christian Life
Consultant



Last week three men with expertise on pari-mutuel gambling testified before the Senate state and local government committee. Their testimonies will probably be ignored by the committee.

John Gill, U.S. attorney general from Knoxville and former FBI agent, commented that illegal gambling increases with legal gambling. He stated that no state has a history of successfully controlling corruption within gambling. He also questioned whether there would be a benefit in taxes because taxes drive gamblers to the bookies.

Arzo Carson, director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, observed that gambling is not good for society because it does not produce a product. He defined gambling as one person taking something from another based on chance or conniving. Any kind of gambling, Carson commented, will create a burden on law enforcement. It presents an opportunity for people to attempt to bribe law enforcement people as well as public officials. When questioned about increased manpower, Carson answered that the TBI would have to add at least a half dozen people.

Clarkson Beard, special programs administrator of the State Racing Commission of Kentucky, had a favorable opinion of gambling. However his testimony was filled with warnings.

He began by acknowledging that bringing racing into Tennessee will mean that the system will be tested by undesirables. Beard pointed out that the last Kentucky General Assembly put into effect a two-year tax rebate of three percent for their two smaller tracks. The reason for the rebate was that the smaller tracks could not survive when they were taxed at a four and one-half percent rate.

The bills currently before the Tennessee General Assembly would establish a six or seven percent rate.

Beard also stated that chemical tests on the horses require a laboratory which would cost \$300,000 to set up and a similar annual figure to operate.

The implications of Beard's testimony are that enormous hidden costs counteract the tax revenue from racetrack gambling. Also, what little money comes in from gambling taxes can be eliminated by an emergency rebate to bail out a track that gets in trouble.

By the time you read this, the committee which heard this damaging testimony will probably have found the votes necessary to send the bill for a full Senate vote.

A recent major newspaper editorial commented on the silence of the churches in the face of the threat of pari-mutuel gambling. It is time to contact your state senator and representative.

But as his car careened at more than 60 miles an hour through congested traffic toward the Nairobi Hospital emergency room, another prayer dominated his thoughts.

"Please, God, let her live, let her live, let her live," prayed the Southern Baptist missionary from Roanoke, Va., as he cradled his 9-year-old daughter's bleeding head on his lap.

A jolt still courses through his body whenever his mind replays the scene he watched helplessly in Nairobi, Kenya, on June 15, 1982 — the last day of the school term for Sheri and the last day of her life. He can still see Sheri, dress caught in the door, dragged along the pavement by the Rosslyn Academy school bus.

Jim and Marcia Richardson have not spent much time analyzing why God did not answer the prayers. Instead, they have spent a lot of time exploring the resources of their Christian faith, learning how to let it grow enough to deal with their sorrow.

The Richardsons have fought off depression which led to lethargy and a "constant ache — almost physical ache" as they and 7-year-old Amy and 4-year-old Jay struggled to understand. They have not had to do it alone.

They credit a number of things with helping them cope — the love and ministry of both their missionary and Kenyan Baptist church "families," hundreds of letters from people in the United States who read of Sheri's death, mind-occupying work, Bible study, prayer, and each other.

"But there comes a point at which

Commencement set at Carson-Newman

JEFFERSON CITY — The 132nd commencement of Carson-Newman College is scheduled for May 6. About 276 students are expected to receive their baccalaureate degrees.

On commencement day a service of dedication for the graduates will be held at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City.

At 10:30 a.m. in Stokely Memorial Cafeteria, the graduates and their families will be honored at the annual senior alumni brunch sponsored by the alumni association.

An ROTC commissioning ceremony is scheduled at 1:15 p.m. in Gentry Auditorium of Henderson Humanities Building. Five graduates will receive their commissions as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army.

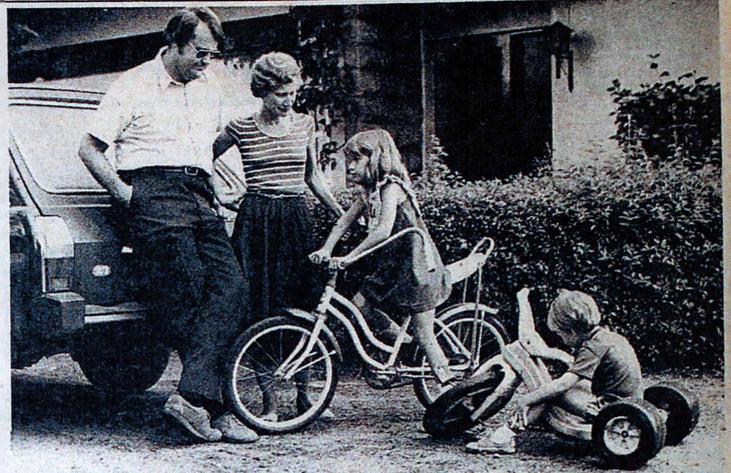
From 2-4 p.m., President Cordell Maddox will host the senior-faculty reception in Sarah Swann Resident Hall.

The day's activities will conclude with the 7:30 p.m. commencement program at Burke-Tarr Stadium.

C-N forensics team wins speech awards

JEFFERSON CITY — The Carson-Newman College forensics team captured first-place sweepstakes awards at the Northern Kentucky University speech tournament held this month in Hiland Heights, Ky.

Eight C-N speech team members will travel to Illinois State University April 20-26 for competition at the annual National Forensics Association Tournament.



FAITH TO CONTINUE ON — Last summer, Southern Baptist Convention messengers paused in prayer for this family after hearing news of the death of 9-year-old Sheri Richardson in a bus accident. Today, Jim and Marcia Richardson continue their missionary work in Kenya, and call on their faith to help them and their children, Amy and Jay, deal with grief.

friends or work or husband or wife can't help," says Mrs. Richardson. "That's when you have to go it alone with the Lord. This has taught us to have faith that God will bring us through even when we can't feel it."

Shortly after Sheri's death, Richardson addressed the student body at Nairobi Baptist Centre which he directs in the city's needy Shauri Moyo area to "let them know where we were in our faith at that time."

A few days later, a Kenyan girl who had attended the assembly came to the Richardsons' house to talk and pray. Grieved by Sheri's death and aware of her own need, she accepted Christ as her Saviour, as Sheri had done about six months before her death.

The Richardsons have sensed a deepened rapport with Kenyans in their community — especially the young people — who surrounded them with love as they grieved. "Before, they were a little standoffish with the 'Mzungu lama' (white mother)," Mrs. Richardson explained of the young people in Shauri Moyo Baptist Church and the Nairobi Baptist Centre.

"When Sheri died, they hurt, and they knew we were hurting, too," Richardson said. "They would come to our house and sit. In a sense, just sitting said, 'Pole' (poh-leh), the Swahili term which expresses heartfelt sorrow."

Throughout their ordeal, the Richardsons have impressed their friends with their openness and willingness to vent their grief rather than allow it to become impacted.

A visible sign of that openness came on a recent evening when the family sat down to watch a videotape and some slides taken of Sheri before her death. Jim's mother, Mrs. Hazel Richardson, and Marcia's parents, Dwight and Elizabeth Jones, watched with them. Mrs. Richardson was visiting from Roanoke, Va. Mr. and Mrs. Jones of Eldon, Mo., are in Nairobi on a one-year mission volunteer assignment.

Watching the videotape Richardson had taken of Sheri in a school play was not easy. "It ripped us apart," Mrs. Richardson said. But it, too, played its part in venting their grief and allowing the entire family to share in the healing process.

By mid-August 1982, about two months after Sheri's death, the Richardsons began to feel like they had really come through.

Then came early September and the

first week of school. Amy, now a first grader, would attend Rosslyn Academy for the first time and ride the bus involved in Sheri's death.

"The experience set us back emotionally," Mrs. Richardson said. "But we realize there'll be times we feel good and then other times when something will happen to set us back."

Richardson rode the bus the first two days with Amy to check out new safety measures. He did pretty well until he overheard someone asking for a list of fourth graders in the class Sheri would have attended.

He stifled the tears and turned and walked away. But even though the pain lingered — and lingers still — he walked toward hope rather than despair.

—Adapted from *The Commission*, magazine of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

BSSB seeks names for staff vacancy

NASHVILLE (BP) — Officials of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board have requested recommendations for director of the Sunday School department.

The position, which is responsible for leadership of Southern Baptists' 7.6-million-member Sunday School program, was vacated Feb. 28 when Harry Piland resigned to become associate pastor of administration at First Baptist Church, Houston, Tex.

Ralph McIntyre, director of the Bible teaching division and interim director of the Sunday School department, said recommendations may be submitted by any Southern Baptist and must be made in writing.

Recommendations should include the writer's profile of personal, spiritual, educational, and professional qualifications for the position, a biographical sketch of the person being nominated, and the reasons for the nomination. McIntyre said recommendations should be mailed no later than May 2.

He said, as part of the continuing search process, all recommendations will be carefully reviewed by executive management personnel. It is hoped a nominee can be presented to the board's trustees at the Aug. 16-17 meeting.

Recommendations should be mailed to Ralph McIntyre, Sunday School Board, MSN 148, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, TN 37234.

Parks urges planning with partners overseas

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — Southern Baptists are inviting Baptist partners overseas to join in planning world evangelization strategies that will lift Bold Mission Thrust into a higher orbit.

R. Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board, hopes the proposal approved at the board's April meeting will enable Baptists to move into the future of world missions with daring and boldness. At least 12 of the conventions or unions with which the board works overseas are already sending missionaries to other lands. Others are beginning to witness across national lines.

The board voted to "consult all interested Baptist bodies with whom we are linked in a working relationship to discover better strategies for jointly sharing Jesus Christ with everyone in the world before the end of the century."

Parks said Bold Mission Thrust, the denomination's 25-year plan to accelerate evangelism both at home and abroad, was never intended to imply "Southern Baptists would reach the world by ourselves." Neither, said Parks, is he suggesting the Baptist

unions and conventions with which Southern Baptists are linked overseas will be "the sole builders of the kingdom of God."

But to reach the next thrust in foreign missions, he told board members, "we must move to a new level of participation where we have lines of responsibility and organizational ties."

Parks does not foresee this strategy planning will involve all evangelical Christians or even all Baptist denominations related to the 30-million-member Baptist World Alliance.

A co-chairman of one of the BWA's key committees on evangelism and strategy, Parks said the type of partnership effort the board is proposing would be exactly what the BWA is encouraging its member bodies to do.

Parks did not elaborate on when or how the strategy planning would be carried out, but said the necessary follow-up actions would be presented at a later meeting.

Southern Baptists have about 3,200 missionaries in 96 countries, with plans announced in April to start work in three other nations. Overseas Baptists to

whom the board relates totaled about 1.57-million at the end of 1982. Their churches reported more than 140,000 baptisms last year.

Parks noted that significant missions progress followed two consultations in 1965 and 1975. But at these only a few Baptists from other countries joined the predominantly Southern Baptist planning sessions.

Missions has changed drastically in recent years, he noted, with some experts predicting the strength of Christianity may be moving south of the equator for the first time.

Today, Brazilian Baptists have their own foreign mission board with 75 missionaries serving in 15 countries. Nigerian Baptists have official foreign missionaries only in Sierra Leone, but Nigerians living in other west African

nations have helped start 20 churches each in Benin, Togo, and Ivory Coast, four in Upper Volta, and three in Ghana.

Other Baptist missionary-sending bodies include Spain, Portugal, Germany, Mexico, Argentina, Venezuela, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia, Jamaica, and the European Baptist Mission.

With such strong interest being shown, Parks said "we need to sit down with any who will join us as equal partners and begin to project which ones among us will be approaching this neglected area or that needy country or those hidden peoples (unreached by the gospel)."

"We need to reassess our resources to see what each can provide and how these can be intermingled in such a way as to be used of God to preach the gospel to the most people possible in the shortest possible time."

Two Tennesseans accept foreign mission positions

RICHMOND, Va. — Judy K. Carpenter, a native Tennessean, was among 23 people named missionaries by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board April 12 at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis.

Miss Carpenter will work in Brazil as a teacher. Currently she is director of physical education and minister of education, youth, and children at Calvary Baptist Church and School in Harlingen, Tex.

Born and reared in Memphis, Miss Carpenter considers Audubon Park Baptist Church there her home church.

She is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. She also attended Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, Ark.

She served in the U.S. Air Force as an analyst and linguist, stationed in the United States and Europe. She has also served as a Southern Baptist Home Mission Board summer missionary in California, Nevada, Iowa, and Washington; minister of education and youth at Severn (Md.) Baptist Church; and minister of education at First Baptist Church, Kennedale, Tex.

She will go to Pine Mountain, Ga., in September for an 11-week orientation before leaving for the field.

Another Tennessean, Beverlyann Milam, was employed as a special project medical worker. She will work as a nurse in Yemen.

Most recently, Miss Milam worked as a staff nurse at Parkway Hospital, Jackson.

Born in Massachusetts, Miss Milam considers Jackson her hometown and East Union Baptist Church there her home church.

She is a graduate of Kentucky Baptist Hospital School of Nursing, Louisville, Ky., and Union University, Jackson. She also attended Jackson (Mich.) Community College, and Boyce Bible School of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. She achieved registered nurse standing by examination in Michigan.

Miss Milam has worked as a staff nurse

at W. A. Foote Memorial Hospital, Jackson, Mich. She has also served as a Foreign Mission Board summer missionary in Jordan and as a missionary journeyman in Yemen.

A special project medical worker is a physician, dentist, nurse, or paramedic who volunteers to help meet critical needs in mission locations overseas for one year.

FMB funds to aid Polish churches

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board released \$75,000 in its April board meeting to help three Polish Baptist congregations construct church buildings.

Funding of \$25,000 each was approved for Baptists in Katowice, Gdansk, and Elblag. Nearly \$120,000 more was released for seven building projects and two building funds in the eastern European countries of Hungary, Yugoslavia, East Germany, and Romania.

The three buildings in Poland already have foundations, according to Isam Ballenger, the board's director for Europe and the Middle East. The properties were made available to the Polish Baptist Christian Union by the government on the condition that churches be built.

"Polish Baptists have been giving sacrificially so that these could be started," Ballenger said. "Our part would be only a small portion of the total." West European Baptists also are contributing.

Each congregation hopes it will soon be able to use part of its building for worship. The church at Katowice, which has met for decades in a Lutheran building, will have its own building for the first time. The congregation in Gdansk has long met in an old German Baptist church Ballenger described as a fire trap. At Elblag, the congregation is being forced to vacate an old building.

Two-thirds of the Baptists in Europe live in eastern European countries. The churches there are vibrant and well-attended, Ballenger explained. Church buildings are important because church functions are not allowed outside the building, he added.

All the allocations for construction were made from the 1982 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

FMB expands its ministry to three additional nations

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — Southern Baptists are now set to go all the way to Timbuktu for Bold Mission Thrust.

Well, almost. Effective Sept. 1, Norman and Beverly Coad will transfer from Upper Volta to become the first Southern Baptist missionaries in the west African nation of Mali, but they will work in the nation's capital, Bamako, rather than the more famous city northeast of it (now Tombouctou).

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board also voted in its April meeting to transfer Leo and Margaret Waldrop from Surinam to Curacao, Netherlands Antilles, June 1. The couple will join with Belen and Enrique Montoya, Venezuela Baptists' first foreign missionaries, to open a Baptist ministry on the tiny island off the Venezuela coast.

The board authorized mission work in Pakistan although no personnel were assigned to the country.

Presently, the Foreign Mission Board has missionaries assigned to 96 countries and geographical entities around the world. Unless there are other changes by Sept. 1, the Coads' transfer will bring that number to 98.

Sparsely-populated Mali, a traditional crossroads between Arabic north Africa and black west Africa, is half covered by the Sahara desert. Most of the population is Moslem; less than 20 percent is animist; and about two percent is Christian. The Coads will work in church planting and development ministries.

Mali is one of nine countries surveyed by former missionary Lavell Seats during a sabbatical from his duties as professor of missions at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

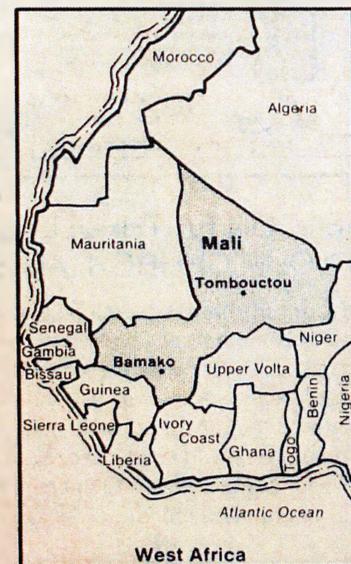
Seats visited Mali, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Zaire, and Gabon to investigate the current situation and the need for additional mission work.

The Waldrops and the Montoyas will be working on the largest of six islands in the Netherlands Antilles, a part of the Netherlands. Curacao, Aruba, and Bonaire are located off the Venezuela

coast and three smaller islands are located across the Caribbean at the north end of the Leeward Islands chain. Dutch is the official language of Curacao, but most of the people speak Papiamentu.

Since deciding to send the Montoyas to Curacao, the National Baptist Convention of Venezuela has suffered the effect of a currency devaluation which means they must raise twice as much money as expected to support the couple, said Bryan Brasington, Foreign Mission Board director for western South America.

The ministry in Pakistan is expected to center around its second largest city, Lahore, just across the border from India.



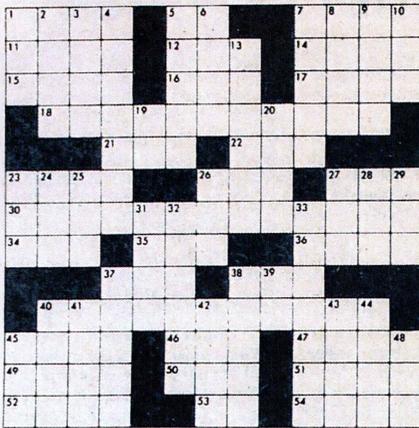
NEW WORK — Missionaries Norman and Beverly Coad will transfer from Upper Volta to Mali to begin Baptist work there.



Miss Carpenter

Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 11



ACROSS

- 1 Jaaziah's son (1 Ch. 24:26)
- 5 3.1416
- 7 Tolerable
- 11 Lopsided
- 12 Insect (Prov. 6:6)
- 14 "Arad, and —" (1 Ch. 8:15)
- 15 Dog-faced ape
- 16 Celtic sea god
- 17 Islands, off Timor
- 18 "not with eye-service, as —" (Col. 3:22)
- 21 Caleb's son (1 Ch. 4:15)
- 22 Margosa tree
- 23 U.S. state
- 26 American College of Physicians: abbr.
- 27 "— his finger" (Lev. 4:6)

- 30 "In — and lying" (Isa. 59:13)
- 34 Electric unit
- 35 Europe: abbr.
- 36 "—, and Ivah" (2 Ki. 18:34)
- 37 Seventh day: abbr.
- 38 N.T. book: abbr.
- 40 "grace and —" (Rom. 1:5)
- 45 "— with sandals" (Mark 6:9)
- 46 Ice: Ger.
- 47 "Duke —" (Gen. 36:43)
- 49 City, Hawaii
- 50 Return: abbr.
- 51 Sound
- 52 Empty: Scot.
- 53 Sunday School: abbr.
- 54 Enter: combining form

CRYPTOVERSE

AR VO CNG CMZSXAMU CIEKLAMU

SE XAN VAJJ XO XOCKOSX QN

Today's cryptoverse clue: X equals H

DOWN

- 1 Sheep's cry
- 2 Shem's son (Gen. 10:22)
- 3 "— righteous" (Rom. 3:10)
- 4 "mine —" (Job 32:6)
- 5 Reuben's son (Gen. 6:14)
- 6 Poison, arrow
- 7 "king of —" (Gen. 14:18)
- 8 River in Baltic
- 9 Plural of set
- 10 Boundary: combining form
- 13 "in a —" (Acts 11:5)
- 19 Public Relations: abbr.
- 20 Little drinks
- 23 Sioux
- 24 Her Royal Highness: abbr.
- 25 "— That I Am" (Ex. 3:14)
- 26 Arrival: abbr.
- 27 "If a man —" (Job 14:14)
- 28 "in the —" (Luke 2:7)
- 29 Professional
- 31 "two — met" (Acts 27:41)
- 32 "up to the —" (2 Sa. 5:8)
- 33 "Bidad the —" (Job 2:11)
- 37 "—, and Gomorrah" (Gen. 10:19)
- 38 What sleep does
- 39 Plural ending
- 40 "And —, Shashak" (1 Ch. 8:14)
- 41 Marco —
- 42 "forgers of —" (Job 13:4)
- 43 "brass and —" (Josh. 6:19)
- 44 "— after the dust" (Amos 2:7)
- 45 Sheet: abbr.
- 48 India farmer

New York City 'Festival of Faith' marks association's anniversary

NEW YORK (BP)— Almost 3,000 Southern Baptists gathered for a four-hour "Festival of Faith" in New York City, the largest gathering of local Southern Baptists in the Northeast. The evening of celebration and fellowship at Madison Square Garden commemorated the 20th anniversary of the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association.

Among the 146 churches and mission centers that comprise the Metro association, worship is held each Sunday in 15 languages. The evening presentation, highlighted by a message by Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, was translated into Spanish, Chinese, and sign language for the deaf.

Allen challenged pastors and lay leaders to "draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you. You cannot lead anyone closer to God than you are walking."

Metro association Executive Director Quinn Pugh called the ministry conducted by New York City churches "exceedingly challenging. Obviously, we have to work at it not from the over-

whelming perspective of numbers, but community by community, individual by individual," he said. "We take the 'Big Apple' one bite at a time!"

"The impact of this festival is for our own people to experience the diversity and richness we share among our churches," he said.

Metro association churches plan to start 61 new churches in the association by 1987. A survey last year determined there are 200 possible sites where residents have no access to a Baptist church. New York City has a population of 18-million, with 146 churches and mission points. That statistic equals "one church for every 125,000 people," Pugh said.

Roy D. Gresham, acting executive director of the Baptist Convention of New York, said "It is an encouragement any time we can bring this diversified group together for any opportunity. I feel good about the sense of fellowship and togetherness which strengthens our cause out in the fields."

"The future of Southern Baptists lies in the Northeast," said Gresham, who retired in 1982 as executive director of the Baptist Convention of Maryland.

Pugh praised Southern Baptists for contributions to ministries in the Northeast. "We are greatly strengthened every day by the influx of financial and personnel resources," he said.

Harrison Chilhowee alumni meeting set

SEYMOUR — The annual meeting of the Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy International Alumni Association will be held April 23 on the academy's campus in Seymour.

"We Are Family" is the theme for the festivities. Program features get underway with an alumni and visitors reception at 4 p.m. followed by class reunions. The 1923 graduating class will receive special recognition.

Miss Elaine Morgan of Lancing, the reigning Miss Carson-Newman of 1983, will be featured in a special musical presentation during a banquet scheduled to begin at 6 p.m.

Other banquet features include President Hubert Smothers' report to the alumni, the induction of the 1983 graduating class into the alumni association, and the annual business session under the direction of alumni president, Dwight Stokes.

Memphis businessman joins staff at Union

JACKSON — Businessman Les Clark of Memphis has joined Union University as development officer for Memphis and Shelby County.

Formerly executive vice-president of Leader Specialty Company Inc., the Memphis native will coordinate all of the college's development activities in Shelby County, said President Robert Craig. He assumed his duties with the college last week.

Clark will join recruitment officer Cappy Chinn at Union's Memphis office located at Southland Baptist Church on Knight-Arnold Road. His duties will consist of church relations, alumni affairs, and financial development.

A graduate of Memphis State University, Clark has been an active member of First Baptist Church in Memphis for over 30 years.



Clark
President Robert Craig. He assumed his duties with the college last week.

To change or correct your address . . .

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

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

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

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

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Address all requests to
Baptist and Reflector
Post Office Box 347
Brentwood, TN 37027

Name Please Print

Address

City

State Zip

Carson-Newman College needs two rooms for the Pittsburgh SBC. Anyone having a hotel room reservation that is not needed, contact Don Mitchell, Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, TN 37760.

BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR
brings you news first

CHURCH FURNITURE
by LINDSEY
DIRECT FROM THE FACTORY—BENCHES, PULPIT TABLES, CHAIRS, FIBRE-GLASS BAPTISTRIES AND CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT
PHONE 615-762-2249
BOX 429
LAWRENCEBURG, TENN. 38464



THIS DEACON FAITHFULLY SERVES HIS CHURCH —AND YOUR CHURCH, ALSO.

Leland Cunningham is a deacon in the Southern Baptist church where he is a member. Leland also is a supervisor in the Administrative Services Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. As a board employee, he plays an important part in providing the best possible religious education material for your church. Leland is typical of Sunday School Board employees who are committed to the ministry of the local church—your church and theirs.

YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD
SERVING YOU.
SERVING CHRIST

Grady C. Cothen, President

Tennessee Scene

LEADERSHIP . . .

Bethel Baptist Church, Greenfield, called Mark Abbot as minister of youth. Wayne Perkins is the pastor of the church.

Retired minister Delbert Payne of Clinton accepted a call from Shiloh Baptist Church, Kingston, to come as interim pastor.

Charles F. McMinn, minister of education at Immanuel Baptist Church in Nashville, accepted a call from Union Avenue Baptist Church in Memphis to come as minister of education and administration. McMinn, who begins the new position May 15, served at the Nashville church for 14 years. David Drumel is the pastor at Union Avenue.

CHURCHES . . .

Old Bethlehem Baptist Church, Rutherford, observed its 150th anniversary April 17. Former pastors and members of the church participated in the sesquicentennial program, at which a plaque from the Historical Society of the Tennessee Baptist Convention was presented by Ken Sparkman, director of missions for the Gibson County Baptist Association. Bill Sims III is the pastor of the church.

First Baptist Church, Halls, celebrated its 100th anniversary April 10-17. Guests for the week-long festivities included R. G. Elliott, Doug Baker, Vernon Sisco, Dan Redmond, R. J. Cooper, Nick Harris, Jesse Newton, Paul Williams, Mark Branson, Olen Law, John Snead, Gary Schaefer, and Eugene Baker. The church's pastor is Thurman Spurgin.

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church, Talbott, recently broke ground for the construction of recreation facilities. Participating in the groundbreaking were Pastor Norman C. Turley, Minister of Music and Youth David Smith, Nolachucky Baptist Association Director of Missions Glenn Toomey, Deacon Chairman Alan R. Campbell, and several church members. The building will be part of a 25-year plan to develop over 15 acres of property.

A March 27 dedication service at Shawanee Baptist Church, Shawanee, celebrated the completion of the church's fellowship hall and newly-extended auditorium. The pastor of the church is Ralph Berry.

Members of First Baptist Church, Morristown, recently voted to build a new 1,140-seat auditorium as part of a three-phase building program. The program also includes a new office complex, music suite, activities center, and renovation of the current facilities. The church's pastor is Ian H. C. Walker.

REVIVALS . . .

West Paris Baptist Church, Paris, was led in a recent revival by Bob Kendig of Memphis. Bill Robbins, the church's pastor, reported 11 professions of faith, one new member by letter, and 20 rededications as a result of the services.

Donald Owens, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lebanon, was the evangelist for revival services at First Baptist Church, Sparta. Ten professions of faith, four new members by letter, and a large number of rededications were reported by Sparta Pastor Stephen L. Playt.

An April 4-10 revival at New Home Baptist Church, Baxter, resulted in two new members to the church by letter and several rededications. Dewey Robinson, pastor of Stevens Street Baptist Church in Cookeville, was the evangelist; Mont E. Hooper is the pastor of the church.

Westwood Baptist Church, Nashville, was led in revival March 27 through April 3 by Evangelist Lee Castro of Mount Juliet and his family. The church recorded 15 professions of faith, four new members by letter, and many rededications. James M. Gregg is the church's pastor.

An April 3-8 revival at Leawood Baptist Church, Memphis, resulted in 85 professions of faith, and five new members for the church by letter. Rick Ingle was the evangelist for the services and Jerry Swimmer led the revival music. Jerry Glisson is the pastor of the church.

Walter K. Ayres of Garland, Tex., was the evangelist and Russell Newport of Springfield, Mo., was the music director for an April 3-8 revival at First Baptist Church, Bemis. Pat Kough, pastor of the church, reported 17 professions of faith, one new member by letter, and several rededications.

Bethlehem Baptist Church, Henry, held a youth-led revival March 25-27. Pastor Harville Petty reported two professions of faith, one new member by letter, and a number of rededications.

Thomas Mosley, pastor of First Baptist Church of White House, led First Baptist Church, Westmoreland, in revival services April 3-8. The church received two new members by letter and four persons making rededications. Allen Shelton led the revival music; Jack Dewees is the pastor of the church.

PEOPLE . . .

Kenny Jenkins, Hollin Jones, and Roy G. Paschall were ordained as deacons of North Fork Baptist Church, Puryear, on March 27. The pastor of the church is James G. Phelps.

Cottage Grove Baptist Church, Cottage Grove, ordained Scott Berryman, Larry Clark, and Eddie Shankle into its deacon ministry April 10. Gary McEwen is the church's pastor.

Ray Burns was ordained March 6 as a deacon of Westside Baptist Church, Dyersburg, where James Combs is the pastor.

Munford Baptist Church, Munford, ordained Guy Hollingsworth and Johnny Stimpson as deacons March 27. Ray Newcomb, pastor of First Baptist Church, Millington, delivered the message during the ordination service. Mike Owens is the pastor of the church.

Clinton pastor's mother succumbs after illness

Mrs. James R. Dean, mother of Clinton's First Baptist Church Pastor Samuel Dean, died March 31 following a short illness.

Mrs. Dean, of Greeneville, was 76 at the time of her death. In addition to her son, she is survived by three daughters, another son, and seven grandchildren.

Gibson County Baptist Association Director of Missions Ken Sparkman, and his wife Kathleen, were honored by the association on the occasion of his 10th anniversary with GCBA. The Sparkmans were given a reception of First Baptist Church, Trenton, on Feb. 27, and were presented with a gift of a Holy Land trip.

Thomas Lane, minister of adult music at Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, and his wife, were honored with an April 3 reception on the occasion of his 35th anniversary with the church. Also honored during the reception were the Lanes' daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Ridenour, who will leave in late June to serve as missionaries in Kenya. The church's pastor is Adrian Rogers.

C. R. Story dies

Retired pastor Collus R. Story died April 8 at Decatur County General Hospital in Parsons. He was 78.

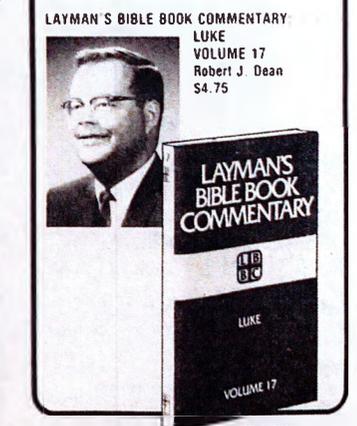
Story was pastor of several west Tennessee churches during his ministry, including Sardis Baptist Church, Sardis; Bethlehem Baptist Church, West Point; Friendship Baptist Church, Pinson; Chapel Hill Baptist Church, Lexington; Hinkle Baptist Church, Hinkle; and Friendship Baptist Church, Bunches Chapel Baptist Church, and Old Union Baptist Church, all of Parsons. He also served as a moderator of Beech River Baptist Association.

The funeral service was held at Parsons Mortuary with Ken Sparkman, director of missions for the Gibson County Baptist Association, officiating. Story is survived by his widow, Norma Holly Story, and three sisters.

THE LAYMAN'S BIBLE BOOK COMMENTARY

Robert J. Dean prefaces the Luke Gospel because it emphasizes God's love for all kinds of people. In this nineteenth release of the twenty-four volume series *The Layman's Bible Book Commentary Luke, Volume 17*, he interprets Luke's record of God's revelation in Jesus Christ paragraph by paragraph in a clear and popular style for laymen.

Dr. Dean is editorial and curriculum specialist, Church Programs and Services Office of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee. He is the author of *Philippians—Life At Its Best* (Broadman).



AT YOUR BAPTIST BOOK STORE
BROADMAN



CEREMONY — First Baptist Church, Decaturville, held a recent note-burning ceremony, marking the completion of phase two of a three-phase expansion program. Surrounding Pastor Don Franks (third from left) are Deacons Hollis Keeton, Leon Franks, Paul Talley, Edd Renfro, and Jimmy Boroughs.

BUILD BUILDBUILD CHURCHES

designed, built, and furnished on your lot, average price \$36/sq. ft. We design for seating 100 to 2500 (Not prefabricated)

Includes: Masonry and wood construction, social area, offices, classrooms, nursery, choir, robe rooms, baptistry, steeple, carpet, and Sanctuary with padded pews.

FAMILY ACTIVITY CENTERS
Steel or masonry from \$22/sq. ft.

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL DESIGNS
4 classrooms and larger

Write or call for FREE information and brochures
(803) 268-7297 (803) 268-7090

NORTHWAY CONTRACTORS INC.
P.O. Box 591
Taylors, SC 29687

Over 200 buildings constructed in Southeast

BIBLE BOOK SERIES
Lesson for April 24

Solomon builds the Temple

By Jack Parker, pastor
Forest Hill Baptist Church, Parrottsville

Basic Passage: 1 Kings 5:1 to 7:51 (2 Chronicles 2:1 to 5:1)
Focal Passages: 1 Kings 5:2-6; 6:9, 21; 7:1, 13-14, 51

In the beginning of this lesson, allow me to urge you to read all the basic Scripture passage. When students have a comprehensive overview of the Temple, they can reap greater understanding of specific passages such as those emphasized in the focal passages of the lesson.

In modern perspective the Temple was a study in contrasts. The size of the structure, in terms of square footage, was about the size of a comfortable house. The assembly hall (chapel) was only 90 feet by 30 feet. Some local churches have larger sanctuaries than this.



Parker

Yet, in terms of magnificence, the decor was breathtaking. The internal use of gold and silver and the cedar wood was awesome. The exterior in white limestone was equally impressive.

The grandeur was further emphasized in the seven and one-half years needed to construct the Temple and the 180,000 craftsmen and laborers drafted into service to do the work.

To understand the contrast, remember the structure was not designed necessarily as a meeting place for worshippers. It was a dwelling house for Jehovah (God).

Solomon's treaty with Hiram (5:2-6) Hiram, king of Tyre, maintained friendly relationship with King David. It continued when Solomon came to power. They entered into a commercial treaty mutually profitable to both.

Solomon furnished food to Tyre and work for many of their skilled laborers. Hiram furnished Solomon with internationally famous cedar of Lebanon, a rich, red wood that was pleasant to smell; timbers of fir; and qualified wood craftsmen to work alongside drafted Israelites who did not know the woodcraft.

The outside finished (6:9)

The outside was as elegant as the inside. The stone was beautiful. Each one was large and undamaged. The roof was covered with cedar, a hardwood that is highly resistant to dry rot and insects. The structure was on a hill where its beauty could be easily seen.

The inside finished (6:21)

Preceding verses describe the inner

beauty of the Temple. Gold inlaid in cedar carvings, the holy of holies designed as a perfect 30-foot cube, and the curtain of gold chains probably used to divide the holy place from the holy of holies added to the splendor. The gold overlay on the walls announced for all that such was the dwelling place of God. It was a place benefiting His honor.

Yet remember all Solomon's thoughts about himself had not been revealed at this point in time.

The palace finished (7:1)

A quick reading of this verse suggests that Solomon spent more effort building his own house than he did building the house of God. However, such a conclusion changes when a person studies the whole picture. There was not the same time-consuming preparation in building the palace that he invested in the house of God. His residence was more than one building; it was a complex of residences and governmental halls.

This network served as residences for Solomon's large family, for ceremonial functions, and for a place of tribunal judgment.

There is no evidence that the palace complex was as magnificent as the adjacent Temple.

The Temple's furnishing (7:13-14)

Hiram of Tyre knew the craftsmanship of the Phoenicians. They were skilled in bronze and brass. His mother was Hebrew; thus, he knew the traditions of the Hebrew faith. "Wisdom and understanding" in verse 14 indicate he was a practical man.

Therefore, he was a worthy person to work in the Temple. He knew the needed craft, he knew the tradition of his mother's faith, and he could use common sense in putting them to practice.

The commencement (7:51)

The end of construction was the beginning of worship. Now the things dedicated to God could have a safe place of maintenance.

Conclusion

All God's people need a place to worship. It should be a worthy place. Yet, we must remember that its physical beauty is not to impress people, it is to aid us in our worship and Christian development.

The best in physical physicalities is not good enough unless it is dedicated to God. When we dedicate whatever we have to Him, He can and will use it in His service.

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES
Lesson for April 24

Good news for all people

By Hyran E. Barefoot, vice-president for academic affairs
Union University, Jackson

Basic Passages: Acts 15:1-35; Galatians 2:1-10
Focal Passage: Acts 15:4-14, 19-21

When Paul and Barnabas had completed their missionary work in Cyprus and Asia Minor, they went back to Antioch, their home base. There, they gathered the church together and reported on their accomplishments.

There were many things they could have reported to the church but the one thing they highlighted was that God "had opened a door of faith to Gentiles" (Acts 14:27). The movement which had begun on a completely Jewish level, by Jews and for Jews, had gone through a transformation to the point that Gentiles were being accepted equally into the church on the basis of faith alone.



Barefoot

This may seem to us to be such a logical conclusion of the good news of Jesus that it is difficult to understand how anyone could challenge it, but challenge it they did!

The question of salvation of Gentiles

The Jerusalem brethren had always been hesitant and suspicious about the gospel going to any new group other than Jews.

When Samaritans were saved as a result of the preaching of Philip, the Jerusalem church sent Peter and John to check it out (8:14). When Peter preached to God-fearing Gentiles at Caesarea and they were converted to the faith, there were some in the Jerusalem church who criticized them (11:1-3). When a revival broke out in Antioch of Syria which embraced Gentiles, the church in Jerusalem sent Barnabas to check on it (11:20-22).

It was but natural that when Gentiles began to come into the church in great numbers there would be some who would question this practice. This group within the church were known as Judaizers.

They did not question whether the gospel was open to Gentiles or whether Gentiles could be genuinely saved. What they did question was whether Gentiles could be saved as Gentiles and on the basis of faith only without the Law.

Judaizers believed that just as Gentiles could become proselytes to Judaism, it was absolutely necessary that they become Jews and accept all of the Law before they could be saved (15:1, 5). They accepted the fact of faith in Christ, but believed works of the Law must be added to that faith.

Paul argued in Galatians that such a teaching completely changed the gospel and made it "another of a different kind" (Galatians 1:6-7). His view, as a Jew, was that it was alright for Christian Jews to circumcise their children and keep the

Mosaic Law but that it was wrong to force that on Gentiles as a condition of their salvation (Galatians 2:1-3).

There is some question about the relationship between Acts 15 and Galatians 2 but apparently they are dealing with the same question and the same incident. The same issues are involved in both cases - the question of the acceptance of Gentiles and the matter of their circumcision. The same personalities are involved in both - Barnabas, Saul, Peter, James, and John. The same basic conclusions are reached - Paul's position is accepted and no burden of circumcision is placed on Gentile converts.

The discussion of the issues

The question of Gentile salvation precipitated what is known as the Jerusalem conference or council, which was of tremendous significance to the church. The conference heard Peter give testimony that the Gentiles heard the word of the gospel and believed and that God made no distinction "between us and them, but cleansed their hearts by faith" (15:9). Barnabas and Paul added their testimony of what God had done through them among the Gentiles. James, the brother of Jesus and the recognized leader of Jerusalem Christianity after Peter, gave his testimony that the salvation of Gentiles was the fulfillment of prophecy and that "we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God" (15:19).

It is evident that the conference settled the issue of Gentiles salvation in favor of the Pauline view - faith without Mosaic Law. But to settle this question raised another one and the conference went on to deal with that also.

The question of fellowship with Gentiles

To settle the problem of salvation for Gentiles without requiring the mosaic ritual, including circumcision, immediately raised a new problem for the Jewish Christian - how was he to accept and to treat these ceremonially unclean Gentile Christians, especially in such matters as the eating of the common meal?

To deny one fellowship within the context of the Christian group when the occasion calls for it is to deny the reality of his salvation. It is to insist that something is lacking in him which fails to qualify him as a Christian brother. This was precisely the point Paul insisted on in the incident of Peter's withdrawal from table fellowship with Gentiles (Galatians 2:11-21).

Therefore, in order to help ease the problem of fellowship between Jew and Christian, certain requirements were asked of Gentile converts which would make them more acceptable to Jewish Christians. These were not conditions of salvation but they were conditions of fellowship between two groups with differing backgrounds and customs.

Specifically, these were abstaining from (1) pollution of idols, (2) unchastity, (3) things strangled, and (4) blood. Some of these things may have been moral issues but at least some were ritual restrictions. All of them may have been ritual in nature. Paul's willingness to agree to restrictions on Gentiles that would satisfy the scruples of the Jew and thus improve relations between them may be seen in his treatment of eating meats (1 Corinthians 8:13; 10:27-29) and in his sweeping conciliatory statement in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23.

Southern Baptist Convention
Charter Express - June 12-16
Lodging and Travel \$227.50
For information Write
ROBERTS WORLD TOURS
Rt. 5, Box 107, Seymour, TN 37865

OUTSTANDING GROUP PACKAGE! Stay at KELLER'S COUNTRY DORM RESORT, Rt. 1, Eureka Springs, Ark., and see the GREAT PASSION PLAY (Apr. 26 thru Oct.) for only \$18 each, including tickets, lodging & meals! Call 501/253-8418.

Pews, pulpits, baptistries
steeples, chairs,
tables, lighting,
stained glass,
folding doors,
carpet

Van Winkle Church Furnishings

(formerly Tennessee Church Furnishings)

Bill Van Winkle
Box 501, Fulton, MS 38843
Phone (601) 862-9521 (collect)

Add-a-pad Specialists
Call for a Free Estimate

CHURCH STEEPLES

- BAPTISTRIES
- WALL CROSSES
- BAPTISTRY WATER HEATERS

COLONIAL, CONTEMPORARY, AND MODERN DESIGNS.
ERECTOR WITH COMPANY CRANES AND CREW AVAILABLE.
WRITE OR CALL FOR COLOR LITERATURE AND PROPOSALS:

TOLL FREE
800-241-3152
IN GEORGIA CALL
COLLECT:
404-993-8860

GLASSTECH PLASTICS, INC.
P.O. BOX 910
ROSWELL, GA. 30077

CHURCH FURNITURE

At a price
Any Church Can Afford
Write or call

WAGONER BROS.
MFG. CO.
Tel. (501) 675-2468
Booneville, Arkansas
72927

LIFE AND WORK SERIES
Lesson for April 24

God of the past, present

By Fred M. Wood
full-time author, preacher, teacher, Memphis

Basic Passage: Isaiah 43
Focal Passages: Isaiah 43:1-3a, 10-11, 16-19, 25

The symphony continues, but the theme changes! This section stands closely connected in thought with the last part of the previous chapter.

The prophet, however, no longer contrasts the ideal Israel with the actual one, but rather Israel in the misery of exile with Israel in the glory of her coming salvation. Having warned the returning captives that their calamities had come because of God's punitive hand, he now assures them that, in spite of all their sin, God has not cast them off but rather has in store for them a bright future that is about to dawn.



Wood

God's great redemption (43:1-3a)

The prophet addresses the people in a historical situation of pain and sorrow, but he emphasizes the meaning and significance of the events. The God of creation is also the one who delivers His people in their time of deep need.

The "but now" serves as a contrast with his past rebuke while the "have redeemed" may be understood as a prophetic perfect, a peculiar Hebrew form where a speaker is so sure an event will occur that he speaks of it as having already taken place.

God shows His intimate concern for the people with such phrases as "called thee by name" and "thou art mine." The metaphors of water and fire, the two extremities of human peril, reminded Israel of perilous situations through which the nation had gone and promised deliverance from any future contingencies.

The "piling up" of divine names, as in verse three, indicates the intensity of the Lord's concern as well as the sovereign majesty of His character. Israel has no weak God, but one who possesses infinite resources to meet her need regardless of how great the crisis.

The greatest part of God's character, however, is that He is Saviour, the one who redeems from bondage, whether, Egyptian, Babylonian, or that which comes in one's personal life because of sin.

Command for Israel to witness (43:10-11)

In verses eight and nine, God, through His prophet, challenges the nations to prove their gods have power to act in history and tell of events before they happen.

He then calls upon Israel, far from perfect though she is, to give testimony from her personal experience of God's omnipotence and omniscience. Only

Israel's God holds the key of history in His hand and can account for the world's origin. Since this is true, Israel alone understands the real meaning of events both past and future. Other nations have only mythological explanations of how things came into being.

Polytheism splinters man's existence, but, when one worships the true and living God, life becomes a meaningful unity. The prophet had seen the baneful effects of idolatry upon the lives of his people. To worship a multiplicity of gods splits life into fragments and drives one's being into many different directions.

Both the beginning and end of history have purpose and truly "make sense" only within the context of Israel's unique faith. The nation must stand apart as a witness of God's sovereign power and tender compassion. Without the God of Israel, no salvation existed and consequently there would be no hope for her or for the world!

Promise for a new work (43:16-19)

Forget the past! Although it has been great, an even more tremendous event is about to occur. The cataclysmic events of the Egyptian exodus will be surpassed by that which the Lord will do when He brings Israel from Babylon.

Referring to the former deliverance with such phrases as "maketh a way in the sea" and "path in the mighty waters," the prophet speaks of God as the one who brought forth chariot and horse, army and mighty man, causing them to become extinct.

In the new work, however, He will bring His people across a great desert,

providing the resources necessary for their livelihood and protection.

Dramatically, the prophet asks, "Can't you see it as I can?" When all of this comes to pass, the previous deliverance will seem as nothing. All of this, however, only prefigures the one who said, "Behold I make all things new" (Revelation 21:5), even Jesus in whom we are all a new creation.

The great forgiveness (43:25)

Israel had done nothing to merit God's forgiveness. She had not even repented. Why, then, was the Lord willing to restore her? The text says, "for mine own sake." This has often been interpreted as meaning that God delights in mercy and He does, of course. A deeper meaning is present, however, related to God's eternal purpose in history.

He chose Abraham and promised that through his seed the world would be redeemed. God purged Israel from her idolatry and used her in spite of her later shortcomings. He was working a work and would not be deterred from bringing it to completion.

In Jesus Christ, worldwide redemption would be provided and He would come from this nation. God was forgiving and restoring Israel to her land so she could be His servant to bring the true Servant into the world.

Church Pews, Inc.
2250 Hwy 43 N
Grove Hill, Ala. 36451
205-275-3101
Complete Line • Solid Wood

ADD-A-PAD
PEW UPHOLSTERING & REVERSIBLE CUSHIONS
Our installers have upholstered over 125,000 lineal feet of pews 15 year wear warranty. We can upholster your pews on site for less than loose cushion! Call us for a FREE estimate.
TOLL FREE 800-334-8130
Church Interiors Inc.
2029 N. Centennial Street
P. O. Box 5346 • High Point, NC 27622-5346

SOMETIMES LIFE IS SUCH A PUZZLE HELP CHILDREN PUT IT ALL TOGETHER

Remember THEM
on Mother's Day
May 8

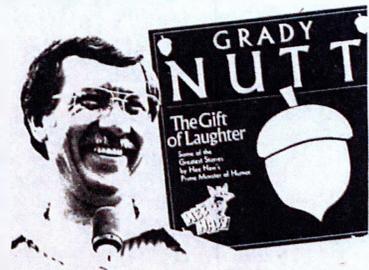


Annual
Mother's Day
Offering

TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES, INC.
Evans B. Bowen, Executive Director - Treasurer
205 Franklin Road, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027

CHURCH FURNITURE
From Factory to Church
RAINSVILLE CHURCH PEW COMPANY
220 Rainbow Ave.,
Rainsville, Ala. 35986
Phone (205) 638-2467 or 638-3882
We upholster existing pews

The Prime Minister of Humor



Now, "The Gift of Laughter" can be yours, with a new, live album by Grady Nutt, popular star of TV's "HeeHaw." Grady's delightful blend of down home wisdom and humor have earned him the title "Prime Minister of Humor", as well as the nomination as Country Music Comedy Act of the Year for the past two years by the Music City News. He was also honored with the 1982 Christian Service Award from the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. "The Gift of Laughter" is the kind of laughter and wladom the whole family will enjoy. Get it for yourself, for your family, for your friends.

Yes, I'd like _____ copies of The Gift of Laughter @ \$7.98 each plus \$1.00 postage and handling.
Mail to Oak River Productions, P. O. Box 5038, Louisville, Kentucky 40205
For MasterCard and Visa orders, call toll free 1-800-531-9255, Ext. 822
NAME _____
STREET ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 Album Cassette
Please charge me:
 MasterCard
 Visa
Account No. _____ Exp. Date _____

Not available in any store.
Now, "The Gift of Laughter" can be yours, with a new, live album by Grady Nutt, popular star of TV's "HeeHaw"

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

"If we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us" (1 John 5:14).

'Ping pong' pastor places people as priority

By Carol Rathbun

SEATTLE (BP)— Having a strong forehand or serve has never been a prerequisite among Southern Baptists for the pastoral ministry, but in Joseph Chen's case it proves to be a definite advantage.

Once the national table tennis champion in Taiwan, Chen now uses his athletic skills to bring people into church.

Chen, pastor of the only Taiwanese Baptist church in Seattle, says there are more Taiwanese people in the Seattle area than anywhere else on the West Coast. His current work with 21 Taiwanese families throughout the city and the potential for ministering to many more is broadened by his ability to play table tennis and to play it well.

Every Sunday after morning worship service in the fellowship hall of the mother church, Lake Washington Baptist Church, the people sit down to a potluck dinner. Then the tables are cleared, the chairs moved aside, and the

table tennis begins.

Chen explained that a lot of Taiwanese and Chinese people who will not come to the worship service will come to the church on Sunday afternoon and during the week to play table tennis. This is a means of getting them into the church and at least acquainting them with Christianity, he said. These contacts open the door to further witnessing opportunities.

Phil Flick, pastor of the Lake Washington church, said the church once had a "Beat the Champ" tournament as a revival promotion effort and about 50 people came to play.

"If you're going to reach the Taiwanese, I believe it must be through a Taiwanese pastor," Flick said. "And Joseph has all the credentials to do it."

"He has the aggressiveness and the heart to share Christ and he has a very loving touch."

Flick said Chen has had every reason to quit several times because of health concerns and discouragement, but he has "stayed with it."

Chen's competitive days are not over, but there is less and less time to devote to competitive table tennis. In 1981, Chen competed in the U.S. Closed National Tournament in Las Vegas and took second place in his singles division.

Other tournaments are regularly held in Portland and Vancouver, Wash., but

there is little free time to participate in them with a church to take care of, Chen said.

To Chen, it is much more important to win his Taiwanese people to the Lord than to win table tennis tournaments.

—Carol Rathbun is associate editor of the Northwest Baptist Witness.

Rediscover Christ's cross, Wallis urges Christians

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)— Despite bumper stickers and billboards to the contrary, Jesus is still obscure in America, insists Jim Wallis.

"His name is known and widely spoken but sometimes all that remains of Jesus in America is His name," Wallis explained, noting Jesus' teachings and example often are not followed.

Wallis, pastor and founder of Sojourners Community in Washington, D.C., and editor of Sojourners magazine, singled out concern for the poor and for peace as Christian issues which have been ignored, when he addressed the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission's national seminar in Louisville, Ky.

Both care for the poor and peacemaking are dominant Biblical themes, he said. But instead of listening to the Bible, people have "ignored the poor ... and built walls of hostility, arsenals to destroy one another," he added. He linked peacemaking and concern for the poor by noting defense spending utilizes

funds which otherwise might go to help the needy or strengthen the economy so they can help themselves.

Wallis claimed the method being used to save the "sinking economic ship" damaged by the strain of excessive defense spending is "throwing the poor overboard." He asked, "How can we accept reports of defense spending in billions and billions of dollars when people around us are out of homes and jobs?"

He admitted, "What about the Russians?" is the question most asked when people discuss defense spending but he insisted the question replaces a proper focus on Jesus and faith in God.

Such thinking ignores the fact that "real people," creations of God, are represented behind the propaganda put out on the United States and the Soviet Union by each other, Wallis noted. He also said the problem pits Christian against Christian.

"Our national loyalty has pre-empted loyalty to the body of Christ," he explained. "We have permitted nuclear weapons to be aimed at Russian Christians."

Wallis conceded "Jesus never said we wouldn't have enemies," but added Jesus "offered a new approach to dealing with them." That approach is the "way of the cross of Christ," being willing to suffer for reconciliation the way Jesus did.

"The cross is going to be rediscovered by the church, the people of Christ, in this nuclear age," he predicted, challenging Christians to "wage peace" and to be willing to risk as much for peace as people historically have risked for war.

Such a stand for peace, culminating in the end to the arms race, will "take a miracle," he said. And the leaders who help achieve such a goal will come from among those who "still believe in miracles."

Cannata 'confesses' failure to make disciples in Africa

FORT WORTH, Tex. (BP)— When missionaries Sam and Virginia Cannata wrote a book about being thrown out of Ethiopia, they were forced to ask themselves what they really left behind.

The answer knocked the wind out of them when they realized they had only scattered seeds, not planted them.

Even more sobering was their realization that Christians everywhere are making the same mistake: baptizing multitudes but not making disciples.

"We have not made disciples," Cannata told a chapel audience at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. "We have made professions of faith. We have them sitting in pews all over America and all over the world."

"It is easy to go out and baptize folks. It is a different ballgame to make disciples."

Cannata said MasterLife, the intensive discipleship training method, originated with missionaries in Indonesia, is the best thing that has happened to Southern Baptists.

It seems to Cannata, a medical doctor, that the church and God have two different plans of operation. The church has speakers and listeners, he said, neither of which are the "doers" Jesus calls Christians to be.

He said God's plan is outlined in Matthew 25, the well-known but little-heeded passage which explains a person who feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, and gives drink to the thirsty does it as if to Jesus.

"The world gets tired of seeing our cars backing out of the driveways going to church," Cannata said, because they do not see anything they want.

"We are entertaining ourselves in church. That takes bigger and fancier buildings and programs and constantly more money."

"When we get to heaven, God is not going to ask us what translation of the Bible we used or ask us how conservative or liberal we are. He's going to ask us how we ministered to a world in need and most of us are going to be empty handed."

"We scatter seed by using television and radio and all that and think that will grow disciples. It will not."

Cannata said Jesus actually laid down His life for His friends three years before He died, when He began an earthly ministry that denied even the menial luxuries of His day for the life of a homeless, maligned, itinerant evangelist.

"We need to get in on God's program," he insisted.

Rickety 'monument' symbolizes freedom flight for thousands

By William Roberson

BATAAN, Philippines — Their dramatic stories do not catch world headlines much anymore, but a few Vietnamese boat people still struggle to reach freedom by sea.

Their resolve and determination has been recognized with a new "monument" at the Philippines Refugee Processing Center at Morong, Bataan, where Southern Baptist missionaries are assigned to a vocational ministry.

The monument is a boat used by one group of refugees to reach safety. The rickety craft looks less than seaworthy, yet it was jammed with 28 people desperate for freedom.

The ship arrived last August near the refugee center with 23 near-dead Vietnamese who had been at sea for 43 days. All were severely malnourished and suffered from shock and exposure.

The group had begun their journey on the high seas with food for only 20 days. They were ignored by more than 40 passing ships, all of which refused to give them supplies. Five of their number perished at sea.

The tiny craft, whipped by the tail of a typhoon, capsized along the Philippines' jagged east coast, but fishermen were able to pick up her human cargo.

The small boat which cradled these Vietnamese people across the treacherous South China Sea was retrieved and now stands at a strategic point at the refugee center for all to see.

The victims of this tragedy have left the center, but not before touching the lives of many there, including Southern Baptist missionaries who teach voca-

tional skills there.

After a three-week hospitalization, the new arrivals were quartered near Baptists' vocational training compound. Several of them were Christians and their first request was for a Bible. One young man in the group made a profession of faith in Jesus.

For a month after the refugees' hospitalization, the missionaries provided nutritional and dietary supplements to their 1,700-calorie-a-day diets.

—Roberson is a Southern Baptist missionary to the Philippines.

Interpretations

Cannibalism or commitment?

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"How can this man give us His flesh to eat?" (John 6:52).

Some interpreters see Jesus' discourse in John 6 as John's account of the Lord's Supper. (John does not relate the actual institution of it.) This is pure supposition. Jesus is simply showing the intimate relationship between Himself and those who commit themselves to Him.

In verse 51 Jesus likened the living bread to His "flesh." Since He had compared the living bread to manna, this could be a likeness to the quail which God provided Israel in the wilderness. If so, then the people wondered how Jesus could provide such.

But Jesus had spoken of "My flesh." In the Greek text "His" of verse 52 is not used. It is "the flesh" or a particular

flesh. This evidently refers to "My flesh" in verse 51. So the people thought of Jesus' flesh. To them this sounded like cannibalism, which of course, would be repulsive to them.

However, Jesus did not pull His punches. He spelled it out as eating His flesh and drinking His blood (vv. 53-56), but He clearly showed that He was thinking of intimate spiritual union with Him. For those doing this "dwelleth in Me, and I in him" (v. 56).

However, due to their crass outlook, His words were wasted on them. They could only say, "This is an hard saying; who can hear it?" (v. 60). Indeed, many still say this as they hear the gospel of what Jesus did for their salvation.

Some say they do not like a "bloody" religion. But God does. And He, not you, sets the terms of salvation.