

Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 149/No. 19/May 11, 1983

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

Board sets state offering goal

By Al Shackleford

At its mid-year meeting last week, the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention voted to set the goal for the 1983 Golden State Missions Offering at \$610,000; approved six recommendations for ministry to mentally retarded; and adopted guidelines for the 1983-84 TBC Cooperative Program budget-goal.

The board met May 3 at the Executive Board Building in Brentwood.

In other actions, the board created the position of evangelism intern in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board; approved position descriptions for two program assistants in the Sunday School department; and voted to raise the debt ceiling for Belmont College of Nashville from \$3-million to \$3.5-million in order for the college to proceed with expansion of student housing.

On recommendation of the board's state missions committee and the WMU Executive Board, the TBC Executive Board established a \$610,000 goal for the 1983 Golden State Missions Offering. This is an 11 percent increase over the 1982 goal of \$550,000.

The annual offering will be given by Tennessee Baptists during the Week of Prayer for State Missions, Sept. 11-18.

TBC Executive Secretary Tom Mad-den told the board that as of April 29, more than \$553,000 has been received toward the 1982 state offering goal.

A breakdown of the 1983 offering allocations is printed on page 3 of this issue of the Baptist and Reflector.

After an intensive study by the board's Christian services committee, the Executive Board approved six recommendations from that committee concerning the convention's ministry to mentally retarded individuals.

Under this program of ministry, the convention will follow these procedures:

"(1) Seek to increase awareness by Tennessee Baptists about the problem of mental retardation, primarily through the Sunday School;

"(2) Conduct awareness conferences with pastors and church staff regarding problems of mental retardation and ways for ministry;

"(3) Provide training of present and potential church workers at the associational and local church level;

"(4) Conduct leadership conferences in conjunction with other Convention program emphases;

"(5) Encourage the Tennessee Baptist Convention staff to develop viable options for ministries on the associational and local church level;

"(6) Encourage Tennessee Baptists to undergird this developing ministry with prayer support."

In other action, the Executive Board approved guidelines to be used in planning the state Cooperative Program budget-goal for the November 1983-October 1984 convention year. The basic budget-goal would be \$18.3-million, which is an 8.9 percent increase over the \$16.8-million basic budget-goal for the current convention year.

The guidelines would specify that all funds received above the \$18.3-million basic budget-goal would go into a Bold Mission Thrust challenge section.

Another guideline for planning would increase the percentage shared with the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program from the current 36 percent to 36.25 percent.

(Continued on page 3)



VBS SEASON — Bryan Berry works on a project during Vacation Bible School at First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro. More than 3-million Southern Baptists are expected to attend Vacation Bible School this summer. Photo by David Haywood.

Stanley releases Committee on Boards report

By Dan Martin

NASHVILLE (BP) — The 1983 report of the Southern Baptist Convention Committee on Boards was released May 4 by Charles Stanley of Atlanta, committee chairman.

The report includes 224 nominations to the 20 SBC boards of trustees. Included are 116 renominations, 82 nominations of replacements for persons rotating off boards, three bumps — persons eligible for a second term who were not renominated — and replacements for 12 persons who moved, three who declined further service, two who resigned, and two who died.

The release during the first week of May — five weeks in advance of the 1983 annual session of the SBC in Pittsburgh — follows through on a request made by SBC President James T. Draper Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church of Euless, Tex., that the report be released far enough in advance for messengers to the annual meeting to be able to study the nominees.

All of the persons nominated must be voted on by messengers to the annual meeting.

In releasing the report, Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta, asked that a three-paragraph statement accompany it:

"We have chosen to release the committee's nominations on May 4, 1983, preceding the convening of the annual convention in Pittsburgh.

"This committee is pleased to submit these nominations after many hours of prayerful consideration. Rather than

subject any nominee to personal embarrassment or public criticism, the committee, desiring to be fair and preserve order within the convention meeting, requests any person desiring to challenge the committee's nomination submit a formal written challenge, complete with specific documentation regarding any person in question.

"Such challenges will be studied and reviewed by the committee in a called meeting, June 13, 1983. We recognize that the right to nominate from the floor of the convention is still in order. But in light of this advance notification, the committee would appreciate all challenges to take place before the committee in special session."

Stanley requested challenges be mailed to him at First Baptist Church, 754 Peachtree St., NE, Atlanta, GA 30308.

Of the report, Stanley said the committee has been "fair in nominating people who really, truly, represent the full spectrum of Southern Baptists. We've not undercut anybody. We've not tried to take a lot of people off. We have been, I think, considerate of people who have been there and serving . . ."

When asked if the report reflects moderate and conservative factions in the denomination, Stanley replied: "I think when people look at it they can make up their own minds. There are some people on there who, I'm sure, are

moderate. I have no problem with that."

The Committee on Boards has been the focus of controversy in the SBC for several years, as one faction has publicly stated aims of controlling the appointive process, and thus turning the 13.9-million-member SBC to a more fundamentalist theological stance.

In commenting on the report, Stanley said "a couple of people" requested they not be nominated for a second term, and "several" were bumped. Actually, three requested they not be renominated, and three were not renominated even though they were eligible.

Those "bumped" are Julian Cave, pastor of St. John's Baptist Church in Charlotte, N.C., on the Christian Life Commission; James E. Zimmerman, a layman from Morningside Baptist Church in Spartanburg, S.C., on the SBC Annuity Board; and Richard A. Deaton, a layman from Southview Baptist Church in Lincoln, Neb., on the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary board.

Committee sources indicate Zimmerman and Deaton were not renominated because of inadequate attendance records, and Cave was not selected for a second term because of a controversial stand he took on a local option liquor election.

Nominated to take Cave's place is Coy C. Privette, a temperance organization spokesman from North Kannapolis Baptist Church, Kannapolis, N.C. Privette is a former president of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and un-

(Continued on page 2)

SBC CP gifts top \$50-million

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptist support of the Cooperative Program continues at record levels but the present pace is behind some budget projections.

As of March 31, halfway through the Southern Baptist Convention fiscal year, the national Cooperative Program has received \$50,825,754. The unified giving program, which is voluntary at all levels, supports the mission and educational programs of the 13.9-million-member denomination. This is the first time contributions have passed \$50-million just six months into the fiscal year.

If giving continues at the same rate the last half of the fiscal year, the \$100-million basic budget would be surpassed but the \$6-million challenge budget, would fall about \$4.2-million short.

Twelve states have given at least \$150,000 more to the Cooperative Program than last year. Florida (which is up 21.07 percent) is \$626,810 ahead, followed by: Georgia (\$534,804), Alabama (\$311,816), Oklahoma (\$289,128), Tennessee (\$245,055), Louisiana (\$224,314), Virginia (\$213,043), Mississippi (\$202,585), Texas (\$202,537), North Carolina (\$180,505), Missouri (\$171,814), and South Carolina (\$169,800).

Carson-Newman board sets record \$10.3-million budget

JEFFERSON CITY — At its annual spring meeting May 5 the Carson-Newman College board of trustees adopted a \$10.3-million budget, the largest in the school's 132-year history.

The new budget represents an increase of \$800,000 over last year's budget.

In presenting the budget to the board, Robert Drinnen, business manager-treasurer, explained that tuition and fees are projected to provide 53.75 percent of the revenue, auxiliary enterprises are expected to provide 23.66 percent, and unrestricted gifts are projected to provide an additional 16.49 percent.

The Tennessee Baptist Convention designated \$1,642,166 for Carson-Newman in its 1982-83 budget. That amount was allocated with \$1,228,819 for current

operations and \$413,347 for capital expenditures. The college's '83-84 budget anticipated a 10 percent increase from the TBC in both current and capital funds.

The new budget includes six new faculty and staff positions, according to Cordell Maddox, Carson-Newman's president.

Applications to Carson-Newman are about 8.7 percent ahead of this time last year, and the college anticipates another slight increase in enrollment next fall.

Maddox, who is concluding his sixth year as Carson-Newman's chief executive officer, reported that through the first nine months of the fiscal year unrestricted gifts (\$256,233) had increased 24.3 percent over the same period last year. Restricted gifts (\$1,127,679) have risen by 20.2 percent. Total gifts to the college are 21.02 percent ahead of this period last year, according to Maddox.

Maddox said \$5.2-million has been pledged or given to Vision '80: Carson-Newman's Campaign for Greatness.

California quake damages church

COLINGA, Calif. (BP) — First Southern Baptist Church in Colinga, Calif., reported destruction of its fellowship hall but only minor damage to its main auditorium in the devastating earthquake May 2.

Pastor Frank Reuter, said the fellowship hall was knocked off its foundation, had sunk nearly two feet into the ground, had all its windows broken, was "leaning precariously," and was "a danger to be near." The church parsonage "looked as if a tornado had hit it," Reuter said, with everything spilled from the cupboards, taken off the walls, with broken glass and furniture strewn all over the floors.

He had been checking on church members and had not had time to estimate the amount of damage. After checking with the members, Reuter took his wife and two young children to Stratford, and was back at the church Tuesday morning.

The home of one member who lived directly across the street from the pastor was totaled, as were the homes of some people who had been attending the church, but were not members. Several of the members reported fireplaces knocked out.

Reuter said two women members of the church were on the plaza at the time the earthquake hit but neither of them was injured. Both of them were in shock, but had no physical injuries except one had a scraped knee.

As Reuter completed his telephone reports, his last comment was, "Pray about our new building for us."

Belmont establishes F. M. Dowell fund

NASHVILLE — The F. M. Dowell Scholarship Fund has been established at Belmont College by the executive committee of the board of trustees.

Dowell, one of Belmont's original six trustees in 1951 when Baptists established the Nashville college, was a longtime Tennessee pastor and denominational employee, serving as director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention evangelism department for 20 years until his retirement in 1976.

The scholarship fund will be used to assist students preparing for a church-related vocation.

Contributions to the fund may be sent to the office of the president, Belmont College, Nashville, TN 37203.



SERVICE RECOGNITION — At last week's meeting, the Executive Board presented service pins on work anniversaries to (front row, from left) Lois Nugent, Pat Mulloy, Bobbie Lowery, (back row) Kenny Rains, Irene Hodgkins, and Jerry Self.

TBC employees recognized

Six employees of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention were recognized during the board's May 3 meeting for their years of service.

Service pins are given by the Ex-

ecutive Board to employees for each five years of service on the board's staff.

Lois Nugent was honored for 20 years of service. During this period, she served in several departments of the Executive Board office and is currently secretary in the missions department.

Pat Mulloy, administrative assistant in the executive secretary's office, has completed 15 years as an Executive Board employee.

Receiving service pins for five years were:

— Irene Hodgkins, offset printing supervisor in the program services department;

— Bobbie Lowery, receptionist in the Executive Board Building;

— Kenny Rains, program assistant in the Brotherhood department, working with Royal Ambassadors;

— Jerry Self, public affairs and Christian life consultant.

Committee nominees . . .

(Continued from page 1)

cessful candidate for governor.

Nominated to replace Deaton is Randy Strassburg, a member of Immanuel Baptist Church of Topeka. Zimmerman's successor would be George H. Ballentine Jr., a member of Central Baptist Church of Greenville, S.C.

The report also includes four new positions for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. The Kentucky convention receives new seats on the Executive Committee, Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, and Baptist Sunday School Board. Since Kentucky went over the 750,000-member mark in the just completed church year, it was entitled to an additional member on each of the four boards.

Several Tennesseans were among the lists of nominees.

Baptist Sunday School Board — New nominees from Tennessee are Sam Moore, a layman from First Baptist Church, Mount Juliet, replacing Henry Love of Memphis, president of the Baptist Medical-Dental Fellowship; J. B. Miller, pastor of First Baptist Church, Joelton, replacing Delbert Nowell, a layman from Crieveewood Baptist Church, Nashville; and Ralph Stone, pastor of Nashville's Two Rivers Baptist Church, replacing Ralph Harris, pastor of First Baptist Church, Donelson.

Roy Gilleland of Nashville, retired Tennessee Baptist Convention Brotherhood director, was nominated for a second term.

SBC Executive Committee — Earl Wilson, pastor City View Baptist Church, Knoxville, was nominated for a second term.

Foreign Mission Board — Trevis Otey, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, was nominated for a second term.

Home Mission Board — Eugene Cotey, pastor of First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, was nominated for a second term.

Annuity Board — No Tennesseans were nominated.

Southern Baptist Foundation — New nominees are Stan Smith, a layman from Park Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville, replacing William Crook of Nashville; and William Coles, a layman from Belmont

Heights Baptist Church, Nashville, replacing M. W. Egerton Jr., a layman from Knoxville.

American Seminary Commission — Robert Orr of Dyersburg, retired pastor, was not renominated even though he was eligible for a second term. No reason was given. He was replaced by Ralph Carter of Statesville, N.C.

Hoffman Harless, a layman from Crieveewood Baptist Church, Nashville, was nominated for a second term.

Education Commission — No Tennesseans were nominated.

Brotherhood Commission — Joe Bob McGinnis of McAllen, Tex., replaced Jack Knox, a layman from Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown.

Christian Life Commission — David George, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville, was nominated for a second term.

Historical Commission — Fred Rolater, a layman from Southeast Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, replaces Mrs. C. W. Rich, a Tennessee lay person.

Two Tennessee local members will be named June 13 to replace Fred Kendall of Nashville, retired Tennessee Baptist Convention executive secretary, and Don Whitehead, a layman from First Baptist Church, Maryville.

Radio and Television Commission — No Tennesseans were nominated.

Stewardship Commission — Larry Taylor, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City, was nominated for a second term.

Committee on Public Affairs — No Tennesseans were nominated.

Committee on Order of Business — Morris Chapman of Wichita Falls, Tex., replaces Douglas Watterson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Knoxville.

Denominational Calendar Committee — No Tennesseans were nominated.

North American Baptist Fellowship — No Tennesseans were nominated.

Southern seminary — Wayne Allen, pastor of Briarcrest Baptist Church, Memphis, replaces James McCluskey, pastor of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville.

No Tennesseans were nominated as trustees of the other five Southern Baptist seminaries.

Griffin Bell to teach at Mercer University

MACON, Ga. (BP) — Former United States Attorney General Griffin B. Bell has been appointed distinguished university professor at Mercer University, according to President R. Kirby Godsey.

Bell is the first person to hold this newly-created position, Godsey said. The former attorney general will lecture periodically in all of the university's schools in both Macon and Atlanta.

Bell, a cum laude graduate of Mercer's Walter F. George School of Law, was appointed United States Attorney General in 1977 by then President Jimmy Carter and served until August 1979 when he returned to his private law firm in Atlanta.

He has served several terms on Mercer's board of trustees and now serves on the president's council.

Hardin-Simmons faculty re-elects Tennessean

ABILENE, Tex. — Taylor Rankin, head of the department of biology at Hardin-Simmons University since 1969, has been re-elected president of the HSU faculty for the 1983-84 school year.

Rankin, a Tennessee native, is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City; the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and Auburn University, Auburn, Ala.

Howard Shoemake dies after bout with cancer

GARLAND, Tex. (BP) — Howard Shoemake, who with his wife pioneered Southern Baptist mission work in the Dominican Republic, died May 6 at his home in Garland, Tex. He was 63 years old.

The emeritus missionary's death ended a five-year battle with bone marrow cancer. He outlived the early prognosis that he would die within five months and discovered a ministry to other chronically ill patients in both the Dominican Republic and the United States.

Appointed missionaries in 1947, Shoemake and his wife, the former Dorothy Dell Moore, served first in Colombia and

then Ecuador before being asked to enter the Dominican Republic in 1962 to pave the way for future missionaries. Shoemake was pastor of Central Baptist Church in Santo Domingo but critical economic and medical needs in the country challenged him to broaden his ministry.

As local director of the Christian Medical Society's (CMS) Medical Assistance Program (MAP), he helped set up a dozen rehydration centers to save dying babies, and handled requests for and storage of free medicines coming into the country from MAP.

When Hurricane Edith struck the island in 1963, he manned his ham radio to assist in rescue operations. Afterward, he developed a national civil defense plan. When civil war erupted in Santo Domingo in 1965, he took his family to Puerto Rico, then returned. He frequently skirted gunfire exchanges to deliver medical supplies to both sides in the conflict.

In 1980, as the Shoemakes prepared to leave the country, Dominicans hailed him as a "son of the Dominican Republic" and presented him the nation's highest civilian award, the badge of the Order of Duarte, Sanchez, and Mella, for his service in the medical and social fields.

The Shoemakes stayed on in Santo Domingo for more than two years after his cancer was discovered. He went to the Rehabilitation Center for Invalids there for regular chemotherapy treatments. After working through his own in-

itial depression, he found he had an instant rapport with fellow patients. He counseled and encouraged them with Scripture and prayer.

In Texas, he participated in "CanSurmount" at Baylor University Medical

Center's Sammons Cancer Center in Dallas, where he went for treatment. Through that program, Shoemake and other patients who had learned to cope with cancer and its treatment visited patients who were still struggling to cope.

Draper, Childers to speak at Union

JACKSON — SBC President James Draper and Bob Childers, executive director of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools will address nearly 275 Union University graduates at the college's 158th commencement exercises May 29.

Draper, president of the convention since 1982, will deliver the 10:50 a.m. baccalaureate sermon in the G. M. Savage Memorial Chapel.

Childers, a 1953 Union alumnus, will speak to the graduating class in a 6 p.m. commencement service outside the chapel. In case of rain, the ceremony will be held at the Jackson Coliseum.

1983 Golden State Missions Offering allocation

These are the allocations for the 1983 Golden State Missions Offering which will be received with the Week of Prayer for State Missions, Sept. 11-18. The allocations were approved by the TBC Executive Board at its May 3 meeting.

Program of Work:	1982 Allocation	1983 Allocation	Increase (Decrease)
Burney Love Gifts (Aid to children of Tennessee missionaries)	\$ 9,000	9,500	500
Black Baptist Student Work	7,500	7,500	-0-
Camps Capital (New buildings, improvements, etc.)	184,000	214,500 ¹	30,500
Campus Baptist Young Women — Supplement	1,000	1,500	500
Church-related Vocations Student Scholarship Fund	5,000	7,000	2,000
Disaster Relief: Brotherhood	10,000	10,000	-0-
Emergency Relief Funds/Baptist Health Care Center Patients, Lenoir City	5,000	5,000	-0-
Gifts to Native Tennessee Missionaries at Christmas	5,250	5,750	500
International Student Ministries	12,000	12,000	-0-
Language Missions Ministries	10,000	12,000	2,000
Ministers' Aid Fund	-0-	7,500	7,500
Ministry to the Handicapped	9,000	9,000	-0-
Mission Center Ministries	2,000	2,000	-0-
Mission Lot and Building Fund	50,000	50,000	-0-
New Work Revolving Loan Fund	50,000	60,000	10,000
Offering Promotion Expense	17,000	17,000	-0-
Prison Ministry (formerly Scripture distribution) ..	2,500	3,000	500
Proposed Conference Center Fund	5,000	5,000	-0-
Resort Missions	5,000	5,000	-0-
Special Rural and Mountain Missions	15,000	15,000	-0-
Student Scholarships (WMU)	24,500	28,500 ¹	4,000
Student Summer Missions (WMU & Missions Dept.) ..	9,000	9,000	-0-
Summer Preachers' Schools	12,000	12,000	-0-
Sunday School, VBS Summer Missionaries	-0-	6,000	6,000
United Tennessee League, Inc.	60,000	65,000	5,000
Videotape Ministry — Associations	5,000	6,000	1,000
Videotape Ministry — Bold Missions	5,000	5,000	-0-
WMU Budget Supplement (Metropolitan WMU Promotion)	13,250	13,250	-0-
WMU Budget Supplement (Rural WMU Promotion) ..	5,000	5,000	-0-
World Witness through 1982 World's Fair	10,000	-0-	(10,000)
Contingency Fund	2,000	2,000	-0-
TOTAL	\$550,000	\$610,000¹	\$60,000

¹The last \$25,000 of the offering goal will go to camps capital needs.

²Scholarships are: Graduate Scholarship Fund — \$3,500; Mary Northington at three colleges — \$7,500; at Harrison Chilhowee — \$3,500; Medical — \$500; Acteens Stuidact — \$5,000; and "At Large" scholarships — \$5,000. Allocation of the additional \$3,500 is subject to action of the WMU Policy Committee.

³Any offering received above the \$610,000 will go to camps capital needs.

TBC Executive Board meets . . .

(Continued from page 1)

This TBC-SBC division would apply to the Bold Mission Thrust challenge section, as well as the basic budget-goal.

The action by the board specified that of the TBC's 63.75 percent of the chal-

lenge section, 35 percent would go to the TBC's educational institutions and 65 percent would be used for Bold Mission Thrust creative ministries.

The Executive Board created a new position of evangelism intern for the TBC evangelism department. Under an agreement with the SBC Home Mission Board, the HMB would provide salary, housing, retirement and insurance, and a portion of the travel expense, while the TBC would provide moving expense, a portion of the travel, and office expenses. It was stated that there would be no additional cost to the evangelism department for office expenses.

The new evangelism intern would be chosen by the Executive Board.

In other action, the board approved position descriptions for the director of preschool work and the director of children's work in the Sunday School department. This follows a previously established policy of having separate position descriptions for program assistants, rather than a uniform position description for all program assistants as in the past.

The board also approved the increase in the debt ceiling for Belmont College, so that the Nashville college can proceed with plans for additional student housing. The ceiling was raised from \$3-million to \$3.5-million.

Also, the board members officially ratified an earlier mail poll of the membership which approved the sale of convention property at 144-148 8th Avenue North in Nashville for \$157,000. The property is being purchased by the city of Nashville to make way for a downtown convention center.

At an earlier board meeting, the members had authorized an independent appraisal of the property before accepting the offer.

In other action, the Executive Board approved the purchase of an insurance policy which would cover directors and officers in the event of lawsuits related to their work for the convention.

The Executive Board heard a report from its public affairs and Christian life committee that the current drive in the Tennessee General Assembly to legalize gambling on pari-mutuel races is apparently dead for this session. However, the legislators have authorized a study to deal with some of the expected problems which would come if such gambling was legalized.

The public affairs and Christian life committee has named a subcommittee to explore ways that Baptists and other concerned Tennesseans can take an aggressive stand in opposing legalized gambling.

The board was also told that information is being secured to assist churches in complying with new Internal Revenue Service requirements that W-2 Forms be issued for all church employees. When compiled, this information will be sent to all churches and printed in the Baptist and Reflector.

The next scheduled Executive Board meeting will be Sept. 16 at the Executive Board Building in Brentwood. All meetings of the board are open to visitors.



ALUMNI LEADERS — Victoria Jackson (left front), Belmont College's alumna of the year, is pictured with past and present alumni presidents Helen Kennedy (1983-84), (back row left to right) Stephen Horrell (82-83), Randy Smith (81-82), and Bill Henry, president-elect.

Belmont alumni hold annual spring banquet

NASHVILLE — During the recent annual spring reunion banquet of Belmont College's Alumni Association, the association recognized newly-elected officers, presented the alumni of the year award, and discussed "An Agenda for Greatness," Belmont's upcoming fund-raising campaign.

Officers for 1983-84 are Helen Kennedy, director of children's work for the church training department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, president; Bill Henry, associate director of the TBC student department, president-elect; Nancy Hopper, an employee of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, communications vice-president; Joyce Jones, a teacher in Hendersonville, projects vice-president; Mike Loffi of Chicago Title Insurance Company, Nashville, finances vice-president; and Gina Wiseman of Nashville, a self-employed interior decorator, homecoming vice-president.

The alumni of the year award was given to Victoria Jackson, chief executive officer of Diesel Sales and Service Co. Inc. The award recognizes professional attainment, civic involvement, church participation, and loyalty to Belmont.

EDITORIAL

Electing, certifying SBC messengers

As many as 15,000 messengers and visitors may attend the Southern Baptist Convention when it meets in Pittsburgh June 14-16, according to some observers. This estimate is based on the large demand for hotel rooms which has come through the SBC Housing Bureau.

Although this would be far below the record 22,872 messengers who attended the 1978 SBC in Atlanta, the large turnout of messengers will present many problems — where to sleep, where to eat, and where to park.

These problems, which are evident in a gathering of this magnitude, are more than offset by the importance of having a large number of Southern Baptists attending to make significant decisions which will affect the future of our denomination. In a real sense, the annual convention is the "business meeting" for the Southern Baptist Convention.

The "messenger" concept is unique and meaningful to our convention, to the messengers, and to the churches which elect them. These messengers are not "delegates." They are not elected to represent the churches — but only to vote their own personal convictions.

A church does not instruct its messengers how they are to vote on any issue that might come up. To do so would mean that any action approved by the convention in session would be binding on that church — a violation of the Baptist principle of the autonomy of the local church.

However, it is important that SBC churches properly elect their messengers and certify these messengers to the convention. This certification requirement is easily met, if the messenger has an official registration card when he gets to the registration table. The cards are available from associational offices throughout the state.

Messengers must be elected by a church in a regular or called business meeting. The registration card should be filled out and signed by either the moderator or the clerk of the church.

Messengers attempting to register without this official registration card will be referred automatically to the convention's Credentials Committee, in accordance with procedures approved by the convention. If cards are not available, the messenger may present to a member of the Credentials Committee a letter from a church official stating that he has been elected by that church.

Or, the messenger who arrives at the convention without either a registration card or such a letter can have a telegram or mailgram from the church's moderator or clerk sent to him in Pittsburgh.

According to the SBC Constitution (Article III, Membership), every church "which is in friendly cooperation with this Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and has during the fiscal year preceding been a bona fide contributor to the Convention's work" is entitled to one messenger.

Additional messengers are permitted for each 250 members OR for each \$250 contributed to SBC causes during the previous year.

Under no circumstances can a church have more than 10 messengers.

In the Southern Baptist Convention sessions, there are no provisions for "alternate" messengers, as in some associational meetings.

A messenger must be a member of the church which elects him and must register in person.

Registration tables will be open from Sunday afternoon (June 12) through the close of the convention on Thursday, June 16.

Of course, there is no way for the SBC registration secretary and his helpers to check on the accuracy of thousands of messengers' credentials during the convention session.

Therefore, the main insurance that the messengers are properly elected and certified belongs to the local churches and the messenger's conscience. It is important that churches "police" themselves and make sure that all provisions are observed.

If the messengers and their churches will carefully and prayerfully abide by these provisions, there will be few, if any, problems at the Pittsburgh registration tables.

We urge churches to elect their messengers at a regular or called church business meeting. Then they should secure registration cards from the Baptist associational office, accurately fill these out, and give these to the messengers before they leave for the June 14-16 SBC in Pittsburgh.

Pray for the SBC

Next Sunday, May 15, has been suggested as a Day of Prayer for the 1983 meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention which will be held June 14-16 in Pittsburgh.

John Sullivan, SBC first vice-president, has been asked by SBC President James Draper Jr. to coordinate prayer support for this year's convention.

In recent years, our convention sessions have faced some critical issues — many of which had the potential of intensifying the divisions within our denomination. It has been apparent that the strong prayer support by Baptists throughout our nation has been used by our God to lessen these tensions and keep our denomination focused on the unifying tasks of evangelism and missions.

Although there does not seem to be the critical tensions mounting for the 1983 SBC as in past years, this does not negate our necessity to pray for next month's convention.

We join with John Sullivan and our Tennessee coordinator, Charles Sullivan, in urging you and your church to pray for our convention during next Sunday's services. Hopefully such prayer concerns will continue in the hearts of Tennessee Baptists from now through the convention meeting.

God has given Southern Baptists His blessings in order that we can perform His task with the resources He has provided. Please pray that everything that happens in Pittsburgh will cause us as a denomination to continue — and to intensify — our commitment to advancing His work.

Cicero's
comment

By the editor

"Cicero, I am pleased to inform you that we have finally found a volunteer minister of music for New Harmony Baptist Church," reported Mona Tone, church pianist.

"That is great news and music to my ears," I replied, remembering that the church has not had anyone to direct the music program for months. "Who is he?" inquired Cicero.

"He is the new dentist in town, Phil R. Pullum," Miss Tone intoned. "You might say he really filled a cavity in our church! Our music program was pretty gummed up."

She continued, "We had been using one of our members to direct the music, Nova Caine, who had a deadening effect on the singing."

Cicero wondered what Phil R. Pullum had done to pull out the music program.

"Well, the choir has new white robes, and they really look nice all lined up," Mona mused, "almost like a row of teeth. The choir also sounds much better, since Phil has taught us to 'open wide' when we sing."

Mona also felt that another reason the choir sounds better is because the dentist-director conducts longer choir practices several times each week during which the singers repeat the same song over and over. "You might say he just drills and drills."

According to the church pianist, the new minister of music is really challenging the choir with some difficult types of music, such as cantatas; oratorios, and anthems. "He certainly is giving us something to get our teeth into," she added. "To be in our choir demands more than mere lip service."

Just because a person is a member of the choir does not mean they can continue automatically. Mona chimed in, but there must be a semi-annual tryout, or checkup. The only member who has as established position is longtime member, Flo Ryde.

Mona reported that another help had been Phil's wife, Flossie, who had really gotten in among the choir members.

"Another aid to our music program is that Phil has started a men's chorus. Not only do they sound great, but they look tremendous standing there in their matching jackets and caps."

"And he has even helped me and the church organist, Manual Keyes, by teaching us about the use of bridges in music."

Cicero asked if there had been any problems with having a dentist as volunteer minister of music.

Mona Tone confessed that there had been several problems.

"It is a little disruptive in the worship services, when he has the choir brush their teeth after every medley."

"And, when we got a good report at the state music festival, he proudly announced, 'It must be the Crest.'"

But the worst problem, Mona moaned, is that the congregation is getting tired of singing Phil's favorite hymn at every service — "Crown Him with Many Crowns."

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 76,784

Alvin C. Shackelford, Editor

Charlie Warren
Associate Editor

Baptist and Reflector

Steve Higdon
Assistant Editor

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 Faust, W. Fred Kendall II, Jack May, Earl McCosh, Rudy Newby, Jerry Oakley, Thomas Pope, James Porch, James Sorrelli, Fred Steelman, Clarence Stewart, and Earl Wilson.

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.

Three resurrections

Dear editor:

I cannot agree in the interpretation on the doctrine of the resurrection that appeared in the Baptist and Reflector by Herschel H. Hobbs, when he writes that Jesus taught one resurrection, not two or more.

We must truly and rightfully divide the word of truth in the body resurrection of the saved and the unsaved dead. The Scriptures speak of two resurrections of the saved and one of the unsaved. The final resurrection refers to the lost.

The saints are resurrected at the time Christ comes in the air to translate the believers into His presence. All the saved must appear at the judgment seat of Christ to be judged for their works (1 Thessalonians 4:13, 17).

The martyred saints who died in the tribulation period, will be resurrected for refusing to take the mark of the beast. This occurs when Christ returns to earth with the armies of heaven following Christ at the time of the battle of Armageddon. The martyred saints of the

tribulation will share in the blessings of the first resurrection (Revelation 20:4-6).

The resurrection of the church and the tribulation saints, seven years later, is the resurrection into life. The final resurrection, unto death, occurs 1,000 years later. Christ's kingdom on earth will last 1,000 years; then comes the final resurrection of the unsaved dead. The lost are raised to appear at the great white throne judgment (Revelation 20:7, 15).

Teaching a general resurrection is the same as saying the lost will be blessed in the first resurrection. How can the lost be blessed in going to hell? How can the lost be priest of God and of Christ?

Paul W. White
407 Little Echo Court
Kingsport, TN 37663

'SBC' identification

Dear editor:

Recently I attended a rally at a Presbyterian church concerning Bible teaching in the public schools. I reached into the cubicle on the back of the pew in front of me and took out a visitor's card. On it, after the name of the church, I read the letters "PCA" (Presbyterian Churches of America). I have not been able to forget it.

Since we have approximately 27 different groups calling themselves Baptists, should not we all be more specific? I am a Southern Baptist and honored to be a member of this great convention that only eternity will reveal the souls that have been saved throughout the world because of our efforts through the Cooperative Program.

I am suggesting that all the Southern Baptist churches have "SBC" after their name on all signs, literature, etc. This way we can know if it is the original, true missionary Baptist church. If they are "independent," they should designate themselves as such. These "independent" churches make constant verbal and written attacks on our Southern Baptist Convention, seminaries, professors, etc. If these people are our Christian brothers and sisters and our "friends," we do not need any enemies. Have you ever heard anyone make derogatory remarks about the people and things they love?

I realize our SBC and our colleges, seminaries, as well as our professors are far from perfect, but so are we all. If any of these people who find fault with our SBC are perfect, I would like to meet them, since the only perfect human was Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Mrs. Mary M. Cannon
1027 Virginia Ave.
Bristol, TN 37620

Lewis begins ministry in Greenbrier church

John Preston Lewis recently assumed duties as pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Greenbrier, in response to a call from the church.

Lewis is a former pastor of First Baptist Church, Lowell, Ark. He has served as moderator, vice-moderator, and clerk of Benton County Baptist Association in Arkansas.

Lewis is a graduate of Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Allen urges federal guidelines to regulate children's programs

WASHINGTON (BP) — Television programs for children should be governed by federal guidelines and not by the law of supply and demand, Jimmy R. Allen told the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) April 28.

Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, spoke at a public hearing of the FCC, which is once again considering regulating children's television programming and advertising practices.

The FCC first took up the matter in 1971, issuing a strongly-worded policy statement three years later that said broadcasters have a special obligation to serve children. An FCC task force reported in 1979 broadcasters had not complied and recommended further action.

But recent decisions have favored less government regulation of television and radio content and more dependence on the marketplace. FCC Chairman Mark Fowler has stated TV ratings better represent the public interest and should replace the FCC as a judge of program content.

Allen and others argued children are a special audience that has little voice in the economic marketplace or in the ratings and should be treated separately. "There is a burden on children's programming in the marketplace on the individual programmer who has to be competitive in a place where this kind of program really won't make money," Allen said.

"Rules need to be set so children's programming is exempt from the marketplace philosophy," he said. "or we will continue to have these hearings, like

we've had the last 20 years, complaining every time that we are not doing very well."

Allen said broadcasters who have wanted to do more and better children's television have been handicapped, since they are not operating on equal ground with others interested only in profits.

Fowler asked each network representative if he felt a personal obligation to children which affected his programming decisions. Although conceding broadcasters have a special obligation to serve children, the network representatives were reluctant to describe the role their personal morality played in programming decisions.

Manget Herrin dies in Georgia

ATLANTA (BP) — Manget Herrin, who with his wife started Southern Baptist mission work on the Windward Island of Grenada, died May 7 at Georgia Baptist Hospital in Atlanta. He was 50 years old.

For the past several months he had battled cancer, discovered after the missionary couple had taken a leave of absence in 1982. He had become associate director of stewardship for the Georgia Baptist Convention.

Herrin and his wife, the former Elaine Jones of Dothan, Ala., were appointed missionaries in 1969. They were stationed first in Georgetown, Guyana, but transferred in 1974 to become Southern Baptists' first missionaries to Grenada.

The Chocopee, Ga., native considered Gainesville his hometown. Prior to appointment he was a public school teacher and pastor of churches in Alabama, Georgia, and Louisiana.

Herrin was a graduate of Howard College (now Samford University), Birmingham, Ala.; New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Personal Perspective

By Tom Madden

TBC Executive Secretary-Treasurer



What does it mean to "dwell in the house of the Lord forever?"

One meaning is that the believer is so pleased and happy with the Good Shepherd and so contented with the blessings He has so freely given, that there is no desire for a change.

Perhaps the background for this verse is that the shepherd has led his flock through the valleys, up the mountains, and across the streams. During this time they have experienced heat, cold, rain, sleet, and snow. Now they have returned to their permanent shelter for the winter. Looking back at the tender, loving care given by the shepherd, the sheep are so happily satisfied with their relationship with the shepherd, they are anxious for the relationship to continue forever.

It means also that the shepherd loves the sheep and does not want to be separated from them. To live in the "house of the Lord forever" means to live also in the presence of and under the full view of the shepherd.

Our Lord expressed it this way in John 10:27-28, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand."

Satan would like to intervene and break apart this eternal relationship. Under the tyranny of Satan there is no contentment or happiness, only discontentment, ache, hurt, and a wretched forever.

Knowing that our Lord is conscious of every circumstance we encounter, and that He attends us with care and concern because we belong to Him, and knowing also this will continue through eternity, we can only respond with our utmost love and thanksgiving.

We are grateful that we can "dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Washington site for SBC scrapped

WASHINGTON (BP) — Plans to present the nation's capital as an alternate site for the 1989 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention apparently have been scrapped, after officials of the D.C. Convention Bureau filled the available dates with another convention.

Vernon Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church of Alexandria, Va., told Baptist Press he planned to present Washington as an alternate to Las Vegas, which will be proposed to messengers at the 1983 annual meeting by the SBC Executive Committee.

While the move to present an alternate site has some denominational political overtones, Davis said it was being presented because some Southern Baptists — fundamentalists and moderates alike — do not wish to go to Las Vegas because of gambling and the city's image as vice-ridden.

Davis said he had a verbal agreement with the D.C. Convention Bureau to hold the second week in June of 1989 for the SBC. However, the bureau made a commitment to allow another organization to have the 20,000-seat hall on those dates.

While the proposal to substitute Washington as the site has died, reports indicate Louisville, Ky., will be presented as a site for the 1989 convention. The city was proposed as a possible site to the February, 1983, meeting of the Executive Committee, but was turned down because it does not meet current guidelines for a convention city.

Current guidelines call for a hall capable of seating 16,000 persons, 50,000 square feet of exhibit space, and 6,000 hotel rooms within two miles of the meeting hall.

Coyle to aid C-N in planned giving

JEFFERSON CITY — Alfred B. Coyle, pastor of First Baptist Church, Rockwood, since 1979, was named planned giving officer at Carson-Newman College.

He will work with A. P. Minshew, assistant to the president for planned giving.

A native of Memphis, Coyle is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Coyle has served as a trustee of Union University and the Tennessee Baptist Foundation. Active in the Tennessee Baptist Convention, he has served on the TBC's Educational Committee, Executive Board, and Building Committee.

Tennessee Baptist churches he has served as pastor include Westover Baptist Church, Jackson; Signal Mountain Baptist Church, Chattanooga; First Baptist Church, Rogersville; and Highland Heights Baptist Church, Memphis.



Coyle

Walk through park to accent SBC Pastors' Conference

PITTSBURGH (BP) — A walk through Point Park, with Evangelist Arthur Blessitt carrying a large cross, will be a featured event in the annual Pastors' Conference June 12-13 prior to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Blessitt, who made headlines by carrying the cross across the United States, will lead the walk beginning at 4 a.m. Sunday (June 12). The walk will go through Point Park and end at the Pittsburgh Civic Arena, where the conference will be held.

The Pastors' Conference is one of the meetings held in conjunction with the annual convention of the nation's largest evangelical denomination, which will meet in the Civic Arena June 14-16.

"We hope the walk through the park will encourage people to come to the conference in the arena," said Fred H. Wolfe, pastor of Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala., and president of the Pastors' Conference. "We hope to reach some unchurched people. That is the purpose of the walk."

Wolfe said an art festival will be underway at the park during the walk, and "thousands of people will be there."

"It is our prayer that the walk of the cross will attract the people to the Civic Arena to hear Arthur Blessitt preach and will result in many coming to Christ in salvation," he said.

"We hope a number of people will come and walk with us and the cross," Wolfe said. "It will be a very low key thing... people mingling in the streets. There is no way of knowing how many people will join us, but we are hoping for a good group."

Blessitt will be one of 14 speakers featured at this year's conference. Of those, Wolfe said, 10 have never spoken at the national meeting before.

"One of the criticisms (of the conference) has been that the same people

speaking over and over again. I believe it encourages pastors of smaller churches to be able to speak at the meeting," Wolfe said.

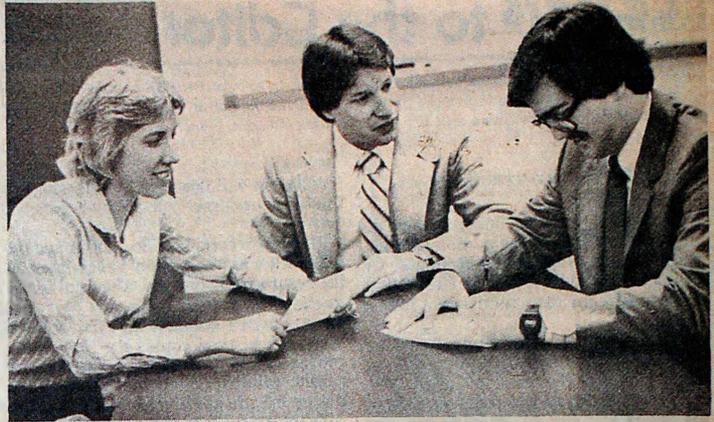
He said he believes "the Pastors' Conference is a time of inspiration and encouragement for the pastors... its purpose is to inspire, encourage, and edify the ministers." Another purpose, he added, is "to set a good spiritual climate for the convention."

"I believe it will be a very positive Pastors' Conference. We have no axes to grind. We'll just be trying to build a positive spirit going into the convention," he added.

In addition to Blessitt, those who previously have addressed the meeting include Adrian Rogers, former president of the SBC and pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis; Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta; and Stephen Olford, evangelist with Encounter Ministries, Wheaton, Ill.

Evangelist Mark Stone from Virginia Beach, Va.; Evangelist Mike Gilchrist of Shreveport, La.; Charles Campbell, a SBC foreign missionary to Argentina; and James T. Draper Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church of Euless, Tex., and president of the 13.9-million-member SBC, also will speak.

Others on the program include Fred Lowrey, pastor of New Pisgah Baptist Church in Spartanburg, S.C.; Ron Long, pastor of Glenwood Hills Baptist Church in Lithonia, Ga.; Morris Chapman, pastor of First Baptist Church in Wichita Falls, Tex.; Jim Hylton, pastor of Lake County Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Tex.; Ron Herrod, pastor of First Baptist Church of Kenner, La., and vice-president of the Pastors' Conference; Len Turner, pastor of First Baptist Church of Merritt Island, Fla.; and Edward V. Hill, pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Los Angeles.



UNION GRAD ELECTED — Don Mayberry (center), a graduate of Union University, Jackson, was recently elected president of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's student coordinating committee. Mayberry is shown in a planning meeting with C. C. Haag, vice-president/secretary, and Richard Skaggs, vice-president/treasurer.

1983 WMU annual meeting to feature bridge building

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — "Building Bridges" will be the theme for the 1983 Woman's Missionary Union national annual meeting June 12-13 in Pittsburgh, Pa., the city which boasts more bridges than any other in the country.

The meeting of the auxiliary at the Pittsburgh Hilton is one of the meetings prior to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 14-16 at the Pittsburgh Civic Arena.

"The theme is what the Southern Baptist Convention needs to remember today," said Carolyn Weatherford, WMU executive director, adding, "Baptist women can build bridges to make a strong network for missions."

Promoting unity among Southern Baptists around the call of missions will be a major meeting thrust.

The annual meeting general session will begin at 2 p.m. Sunday and continue through Monday morning, afternoon, and evening with the concept of bridge building dominating all activities.

A major addition to the regular format will be WMU's first national prayer conference from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. It is designed for the WMU Executive Board, leaders in state and associational WMU work, and women in a five-state driving area of Pittsburgh. Helen Jean Parks, wife of Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks and author of *Holding The Ropes*, will be a featured speaker.

Sunday's annual meeting session will feature a special commissioning service for two dozen Home Mission Board church planter apprentices. "This unique service will allow us to feature congregationalizing as a way of building bridges," Miss Weatherford said.

"Journey Home," the premiere showing of a new Foreign Mission Board movie about the life of Lottie Moon, will be shown at the Monday evening general session, held in the Stanley Theater.

On Monday, WMU will host another world premiere, "A Call To My People," a musical drama commissioned by the Home Mission Board for the dedication of the Luther Rice Homesite and written by Bob and Esther Burroughs. It will be performed in the morning session by Eastside Baptist Church choir and orchestra from Marietta, Ga.

To accommodate convention goers who cannot get to a Southern Baptist

church, WMU will host an international Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. featuring Baptist World Alliance leaders Gerhard Claas, general secretary, and June Totten, executive director of the Women's Department.

WMU will help celebrate the Brazilian Baptist centennial with an appearance in Sunday's session of Charlotte Vaughan, national children's leader, Brazil WMU, Rio de Janeiro.

WMU will sponsor seven meal events, including an Acteen riverboat dinner and a banquet for associational WMU directors. Advance ticket purchase is necessary for all meal events through: WMU Meal Tickets, P.O. Box C-10, Birmingham, AL 35283.

Finlator opposes equal access laws

WASHINGTON (BP) — Proposed equal access laws permitting public school students to gather before or after school for religious meetings are unconstitutional and should be defeated in the name of Baptist principles, according to W. W. Finlator, Southern Baptist minister and a vice-president of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Finlator said "religion has flourished and grown under our Constitution. I don't want the government diluting or compromising my religion." Finlator was pastor of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh, N.C., for over 25 years before his retirement in 1982.

The bills, S.425 and S.1059, introduced by Sen. Jeremiah Denton and S.815, introduced by Sen. Mark O. Hatfield, are designed to prevent public school districts from discriminating against voluntary, student-initiated religious meetings by students.

Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell, speaking for the Reagan administration, said the legislation would "merely put voluntary religious activity on an equal footing with other extracurricular activities." By not allowing religious groups to meet, Bell said, "society singles religion out and undermines it."

Students from six states testified religious groups in their high schools were denied the right to meet.

Home Mission Board dominates 1983 BPRA awards presentation

MEMPHIS — The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board dominated the annual awards presentation of the Baptist Public Relations Association held during the association's workshop in Memphis last month.

HMB staffers collected 27 of the 70 awards, including 14 of 39 possible first places.

"The Word is Energy," a multi-image slide presentation used at the Knoxville World's Fair, earned the M. E. Dodd Award for best audio-visual production for the Home Mission Board's Wayne Grinstead.

Four others won major awards. Karen Benson of Baylor University, Waco, Tex., won the Arthur Davenport Award for best total publications or public relations effort for her work on "Candybar

Energy." Gary Meek, of the Home Mission Board, received the Fon H. Scofield Award for best photography for "Fording Red River." Mike Creswell, of the Foreign Mission Board, took the Albert McClellan Award for excellence in publications for *The Commission*. Stan Hasteley of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs won the Frank Burkhalter Award for excellence in religious journalism.

Foreign Mission Board staffers received 12 awards, including seven first places. The Baptist Sunday School Board took five and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs each won four.

Five state conventions, four state convention affiliates, and three other SBC agencies also were honored.

Tennesseans who won first place awards were all Sunday School Board employees: Don Fearheiley, audio production; Donald Whitehouse, advertising series; David Haywood, annual report; and Linda Thompson, product catalog.

Two Tennesseans took second place awards. Marshall Walker, Sunday School Board, took second in the television production category. Tim Fields of the Christian Life Commission took two seconds, one in the product catalog category and one in the poster category.

Lethcoe accepts call to Midway pastorate

Frank Lethcoe accepted a call from Midway Baptist Church, Johnson City, to come as its pastor.

Lethcoe, who began the position April 3, was previously pastor of First Baptist Church, Church Hill. He is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City.

Baptists move into Tennessee

Editor's note: This is the first of a series of four articles on Tennessee Baptist history, written by W. Fred Kendall, executive secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention from 1956 until he retired in 1972. These articles are designed to assist Tennessee Baptists in celebrating their 150th anniversary. A special day of celebration, set for June 25, will include a tour of Baptist historical sites in the Nashville area and a program at Judson Baptist Church, Nashville.

By W. Fred Kendall

Baptists today are familiar with the movements of people from one community to another. Businessmen are transferred and people move for many reasons.

In early American history, there was great movement by many people to get new land and to settle new communities. Baptists were a part of this movement and history records their growth as they moved and established new churches.

Baptists settled in New England first but soon moved into the southern colonies. South Carolina had the first Baptist church in the South. Last year, First Baptist Church, Charleston, celebrated its 300th anniversary. Baptists also moved into Virginia and North Carolina at a very early date.

Baptists differed in their theology from the earliest times.

In England they were known as General Baptists and Particular Baptists. They differed over the doctrine of the atonement. Particular Baptists believed that Christ died only for the elect. General Baptists believed that He died for all men.

Baptists in America also had doctrinal differences. They were called Regular and Separate Baptists. The details of their differences would require too much space but Baptist histories discuss their differences.

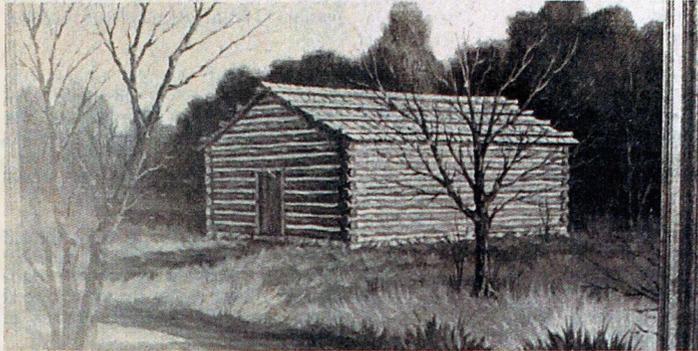
Regular Baptists were more restricted in their views of the atonement and were less missionary.

Separate Baptists were given this name because of their experiences in New England revivals, called the "New Light Movement." They experienced genuine conversion and stressed the work of the Holy Spirit. They separated from the older churches and formed new ones. They were more evangelistic and missionary than the churches from which they separated.

Baptist historians give Separate Baptists much credit for helping to determine the theology and missionary and evangelistic zeal of Southern Baptists. They moved southward into Virginia, North and South Carolina, and later into Georgia. They made a great contribution to the free church movement over the state church concept. They contributed to the spirit of missions and evangelism and to the evangelization of the Negro in the South. They had influence on the Southern Baptist's choice of convention organizational structure instead of society structure when Southern Baptists organized in 1845.

Baptists moved into Tennessee from North Carolina and Virginia as early as 1765. The first churches were destroyed in Indian wars.

Baptists had been persecuted by the state churches from the earliest days. They were opposed in England and again in America. In both North Carolina and



FIRST TENNESSEE CHURCH — The Sinking Creek Baptist Church, depicted by Artist Jack Jewell, was the first Baptist church in the state of Tennessee. The church was organized in the 1770s near the present city of Elizabethton.

Virginia they faced persecution.

In North Carolina, the Battle of Alamance was fought May 16, 1771. The state sought to suppress the opposition of a group called Regulators who opposed the state church.

Baptists had multiplied rapidly at Sandy Creek (N.C.) under the able ministry of Shubal Stearns. Over 1,500 families moved westward from Sandy Creek during this period of persecution. Many came into Tennessee. They formed the earliest churches.

Persecution was not the only motivation for this movement of Baptists. There were economic reasons. Many came seeking land, which was plentiful on the second frontier. Many had been socially rejected by the wealthy people in Virginia and North Carolina who supported state churches. Baptists sought political and religious freedom.

Regular and Separate Baptists had united in 1787. They had worked out a confession of faith in a meeting in Virginia which was acceptable to both groups. It was later considered and

adopted by both groups in North Carolina. They were then called United Baptists. In both Kentucky and Tennessee, some associational minutes listed their churches as United Baptists until very recent years.

According to the thorough historical research by O. W. Taylor, who retired as editor of the Baptist and Reflector in 1950, Sinking Creek was the first Baptist church organized in Tennessee. The old log "meeting house" of Sinking Creek was purchased by the Tennessee Baptist Convention and is now maintained as a Baptist historical landmark. It is located adjacent to the present Sinking Creek Baptist Church near Elizabethton.

Able pastors led in the movement of Baptists into Tennessee and were leaders in the rapid growth and organization of so many churches. J. J. Burnett, an early Baptist historian, recorded the biographies of many of these pioneer pastors, beginning as early as 1896. Tidence Lane was the first permanent Baptist pastor in the state. Tennessee Baptists maintain a monument at his

grave site near Whitesburg.

Baptists moved into what was known as the Cumberland country very early. The first church in middle Tennessee was organized in 1791 and by 1796, five churches had been organized. Mill Creek Baptist Church was organized in 1797 in the home of James Menees, south of Nashville.

West Tennessee was purchased from the Chickasaw Indians in 1818. Baptists had already settled in the Indian territory. West Tennessee was settled very rapidly because the Indians were friendly to the English.

Western District Baptist Association was organized in 1822, just four years after the purchase of west Tennessee. Forked Deer Baptist Association was organized in 1825 and Obion in 1827. This indicates how rapidly Baptists had organized churches in the new part of the state.

Early Tennessee Baptists were very evangelistic and missionary.

Historians have pointed out that Baptists were especially fitted for developing frontier America. They had a democratic and congregational form of government. They recognized no hierarchy.

Organizing a new church in a frontier community was a simple procedure. They based their faith in the Bible as their only authority. Their organization was simple. They believed in a regenerate church membership. They usually observed strict church discipline and emphasized the living of a true Christian life. Their ethical and moral standards were usually very high.

They made a great contribution to the community life. They had a great influence in the development of Tennessee into a great state and of America into a great nation.

GGBTS approves \$3-million budget

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — The Board of Trustees of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary set a record budget and welcomed the seminary's new president during its annual meeting April 18-20.

They also named Charles Carter of Jackson, Miss., as executive vice-president.

In adopting a budget of \$3,422,909, trustees awarded nine percent cost of living increases to faculty and staff, approved several faculty promotions, and granted sabbatical leaves to four faculty members.

The board held its first meeting with newly-elected President Franklin D. Pollard, former pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex., and preacher for the "Baptist Hour" radio program, who was elected in a special called meeting in February.

Pollard plans to move to the campus in May.

The trustees elected Frank Terrell Swift Jr. as associate professor of pastoral care. Swift will move to the seminary from El Dorado, Ark., where he has been pastoral counselor for the Liberty Baptist Association since 1978.

The trustees passed resolutions of appreciation for Jack and Duna Rice of Sacramento, Calif., for their "financial support of the institution" and to Baker James and Eloise Cauthen for the "inspiration and support of the Chair of

World Missions and the World Mission Center." Cauthen was executive director of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention for 25 years. He has served for two years as distinguished professor of world missions at Golden Gate.

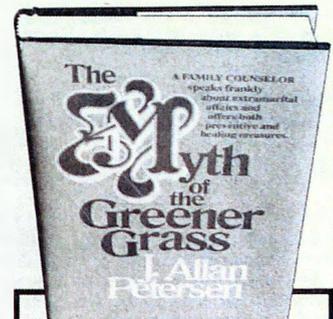
Trustees also approved the organization of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary Foundation Inc., and the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary Housing and Development Corporation which have been accepted by the Southern Baptist Convention to aid the school in its financial development program and in providing housing for students and faculty.

The board also voted to hold two meetings each year on the campus instead of the one meeting now scheduled. The new schedule will begin in 1984.

Southern Baptist Convention from Knoxville June 12-16

Charter Bus: Continental Trailways
Lodging: Ramada Inn
Price: \$227.50 per person

Roberts World Tours
Rt. 5, Box 107
Seymour, TN 37865
(615) 573-5632



Read It Before You Need It

The Myth of the Greener Grass by J. Allan Petersen. Extramarital affairs are creeping into Christian circles and destroying families. J. Allan Petersen believes it's time to take action. This book is a helpful analysis of extramarital affairs — how they begin, underlying causes, what to do if you know of your spouse's affair, steps to prevent it from happening, and healing measures to be taken when an affair has occurred. Nothing on the market today offers a more comprehensive look at this sensitive subject. Pick up your copy today. Read it before you need it. Available at your Baptist Book Store. Cloth, \$8.95.

TYNDALE
HOUSE PUBLISHERS

Tennessee

CHURCHES . . .

Moran Baptist Church, Clinton, held a dedication service April 10, for their sanctuary expansion and remodeled building. Kenneth Seeber is the pastor of the church.

Members of Greenwood Baptist Church, Doyle, broke ground March 26 in anticipation of a new multi-purpose building. The proposed 5,678-square-foot facility will be used as an educational and fellowship center. The pastor of the church is Tom Farmer.

Stuart Heights Baptist Church, Chattanooga, held a note-burning service April 24 to celebrate the final payment on its debt. The church's pastor is Richard Blalock.

An April 17 note-burning service at First Baptist Church, Howell, signified the end of the church's debt. Joe Mayberry, director of missions for the William Carey Baptist Association, and Mike Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church in Fayetteville, participated in the service. Dalton Ward is the pastor of the Howell church.

First Baptist Church, Paris, had Organ Dedication Day April 24. Al Travis, associate professor of music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., was the church's guest for the dedication recital; and Julian Suggs, director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention church music department, spoke in the morning worship service. Thomas H. Walker is the pastor of the church.

Members of First Baptist Church, Lebanon, broke ground April 17 on the site of a proposed Christian Life Center. Special guests of the church for the groundbreaking were businessmen who will be involved in the building of the center. The pastor of the church is Ray F. Cleek.

Spring Creek Baptist Church, Clarksville, celebrated its 175th anniversary April 24. Participants in the celebration included James A. Williams, pastor of First Baptist Church in Henning; Morris Lee, pastor of Big Rock Baptist Church, Big Rock; Dwight Dickson, a former minister of music at Spring Creek; Harold Shoulders, director of missions for the Cumberland Baptist Association; Eleanor Yarborough, Tennessee Baptist Convention consultant for church media library, church recreation, and the Tennessee Baptist Historical Society; and Spring Creek Pastor Roy L. Mullens. In addition to the April 24 services, the youth of the church presented a play on the early days of the church April 10.

REVIVALS . . .

Mars Hill Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, was led in revival recently by Thomas Mattox. The church recorded one profession of faith, one new member by letter, and 16 rededications. Milton Michaels is the pastor of the church.

April 24-27 revival services at Lookout Valley Baptist Church, Chattanooga, were led by Evangelist Evie Megginson and Lookout Valley Minister of Music Tim Jones. April 24 was designated "Miracle Day," on which the church recorded a record attendance of 421 in Sunday School, including 135 visitors. Normal average attendance is 221, according to Pastor Alan Johnston. The revival resulted in two for baptism, three new members by letter, and several rededications.

Richard Jones was the evangelist for recent revival services at Sink Valley Baptist Church, Butler. R. L. Poole, pastor of the church, reported five professions of faith and many rededications.

A youth revival at Gum Springs Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, resulted in five persons making decisions for baptism. Jeff Noblit was the evangelist; Leo C. Bunt is the church's pastor.

North Etowah Baptist Church, Etowah, was led in revival by Fred Kendall II, pastor of First Baptist Church in Union City. North Etowah Pastor Don Pharris reported five professions of faith and several rededications during the services.

Jim Smith, president of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, led Mountain Terrace Baptist Church, Memphis, in revival services. The church recorded 15 professions of faith and five other additions to its membership. The church's pastor is Clint Oakley.

A recent revival at Meadow View Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, was conducted by Jimmy Harrison as the evangelist. Two professions of faith were recorded during the services.

A March 20-25 revival at First Baptist Church, Celina, resulted in 10 professions of faith. Ken Jordan, pastor of First Baptist Church in Livingston, was the evangelist.

Evangelist Wade Clemons of Morristown led Westover Baptist Church, Jackson, in a March revival. Dwight W. Mercer, pastor of the church, reported 40 professions of faith, five new members by letter, and over 40 other decisions. Because of the results, the church has invited Clemons to return for a July revival.

Good Hope Baptist Church, Adamsville, was led in a spring revival by its pastor, Billy Joe Stewart. The church recorded 26 professions of faith, three new members by letter, and many rededications during the services.

Wyman Copas led First Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, in revival recently. Pastor Charles O. Dinkins reported six baptisms, one new member by letter, and several rededications as a result of the services.

An April 17-23 revival at Gum Springs Baptist Church, Walling, resulted in 13 professions of faith and five new members by letter. Ken Jordan, pastor of First Baptist Church, Livingston, was the evangelist; Fate Wilson is the pastor of the Gum Springs church.

Evangelist Jim Lindsey led Stony Creek Baptist Church, Elizabethton, in its spring revival. Kenneth Jordan,

pastor of the church, reported three professions of faith, and numerous rededications.

First Baptist Church, Athens, conducted a recent revival with Clyde Chiles of St. Louis, Mo., as the evangelist. Ten professions of faith, eight new members by letter, and over 50 rededications were recorded during the services. Ansell Baker is the pastor of the church.

Ken Jordan, pastor of First Baptist Church in Livingston, was the evangelist for revival services at Allons Baptist Church, Allons. Terry Geren, pastor at Allons, reported nine professions of faith.

REVIVAL PRAYER REQUESTS . . .

"Jackson, We Care" will be the theme of the spring revival at West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson. Altus Newell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Opelika, Ala., will be the evangelist for the May 15-18 event; Russell McIntire of Jackson will lead the revival music. Morning services are scheduled for 10:50 a.m. Sunday and 12:20 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, and evening services are slated for 7 p.m. John Lee Taylor is the pastor of the Jackson church.

Avondale Baptist Church, Chattanooga, will be in revival May 15-20. Joe Abel, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Biloxi, Miss., will be the evangelist; Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Hobbs of Chattanooga will lead the music. The church's pastor is Frank Witt.

First Baptist Church, Bulls Gap, will have revival May 22-27 with a different speaker each night. Scheduled to speak are John R. Parrott Jr., pastor of Henards Chapel, Rogersville; Gene Carroll, pastor of Alpha Baptist Church, Morristown; Richard Emmert, pastor of Manley Baptist Church, Morristown; retired pastor Judson Taylor, of White Pine; Joel Wood, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Morristown; and Ian Walker, pastor of First Baptist Church, Morristown. The revival is part of a month-long emphasis celebrating the church's 100th anniversary. Robert D. Walker is the pastor at Bulls Gap.

LEADERSHIP . . .

Wayne Causey has resigned as minister of music and youth at Ooltewah Baptist Church, Ooltewah, to accept a call from First Baptist Church, Princeton, Ky., to come as its minister of music. C. Henry Preston is the interim pastor at Ooltewah.

Trinity Baptist Church, Maryville, recently accepted the resignation of its pastor, David Arwood Jr.

James L. Downey, pastor of Little Flat Creek Baptist Church in Corryton, resigned effective May 1 to attend Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Cedar Hill Baptist Church, Chattanooga, called Robert Christopher "Chris" Stephens as minister of youth and activities. The pastor of the church is Maurice Blanchard.

After 23 years as pastor of Corryton Baptist Church, Corryton, Damon Pat-

erson has resigned to accept the pastorate of the Monroe Missionary Baptist Church in Monroe, Mich. Patterson will begin June 5 at the church, the oldest Southern Baptist church in Michigan.

Tim Jones accepted a call from Lookout Valley Baptist Church, Chattanooga, to come as minister of music and education. Jones, who began the position May 8, previously served in a similar capacity at First Baptist Church, Flomaton, Ala., and at churches in Louisiana and Florida. He is a graduate of the University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette, La., and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary. Alan Johnston is the pastor of Lookout Valley.

North Johnson City Baptist Church, Johnson City, called Clyde T. Angel as interim pastor.

Elmer Tate recently resigned as pastor of Piney Flats Baptist Church, Piney Flats.

Ardmore Baptist Church, Memphis, called Shane Studdard as minister of music and youth, a ministry he will begin May 15. Studdard will come to the church from a similar position at First Baptist Church, Coppell, Tex. A native of Gilmer, Tex., he is a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. The pastor at the Ardmore church is Norris Smith.

David Rayburn, minister of music and youth at First Baptist Church in Rogersville for the past three years, has resigned to enter Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Aubrey B. Floyd is the church's pastor.

PEOPLE . . .

Antioch Baptist Church, Johnson City, recently ordained Bill Harrell and Charles Leonard as deacons., Kenneth Kyker is the church's pastor.

Robert E. Barnes was ordained April 24 as a deacon of First Baptist Church, Lebanon. The pastor of the church is Ray F. Cleek.

White Oak Baptist Church, Chattanooga, ordained John Murray to the gospel ministry April 10. Ed Jump is the pastor of the church.

Jake Gross was ordained March 20 into the deacon ministry of East Watauga Avenue Baptist Church, Johnson City. Participants in the ordination service were Charles "Tonnie" Cash, who presented the charge and the ordination sermon; Thurman Oaks, the church's chairman of deacons; and Fred Strouth, pastor at East Watauga Avenue.

Members of Park Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville, honored Mary Donihi May 1 on the occasion of her 25 years of service as the church's secretary and bookkeeper. The church's pastor is Bob Mowrey.

East Walland Baptist Church, Walland, ordained Jerry Huskey, Johnny Leatherwood, and John Theriot as deacons recently. The pastor of the church is Gerald Smelcer.

Bill Rice was licensed to the ministry April 24 by First Baptist Church, Humboldt. The church's pastor is W. Darrell Clarke.

Midway Baptist Church, Louisville, ordained Paul Dunlap and Robert Palmer into its deacon ministry April 10. A. J. Rowland is the pastor of the church.

Organ for Sale

Lowrey 2 manual church organ
\$2,000

Alta Loma Baptist Church
Madison, TN

615-865-8340, M-F, 8-4 p.m.

Dunn asks panel to reject school prayer amendment

By Larry Chesser

WASHINGTON (BP) — Warning President Ronald Reagan's proposed Constitutional amendment would lead to prescribed rather than voluntary public school prayer, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Executive Director James M. Dunn asked a Senate Judiciary panel to reject the measure.

Dunn cited a paper released by the White House when the amendment was originally proposed stating state governments and local school boards would be free under the amendment to compose their own prayers. "If groups of people are permitted to pray," the White House document explains, "someone must have the power to determine the content

of such prayers."

Dunn's remarks to the Senate Subcommittee on the Constitution came during two days of hearings on the president's proposal, S.J. Res. 73. No further hearings are scheduled, according to a judiciary panel spokesman who said the committee leadership plans to move the measure out of committee this spring.

Two law school professors also expressed concern the amendment would involve state agencies in the prayer-writing business.

"The amendment would lead to control of the content of prayer," charged Walter Dellinger, law professor at Duke University School of Law.

Yale University Law School Professor

Burke Marshall said the primary objection to the Reagan amendment "is that it inescapably leaves the matter of choice of the prayer or prayers to be offered as part of a school program up to the agents of the state."

None of the legal community witnesses during the hearings recommended passage of the amendment as the administration proposed it, while most opposed passage of any amendment.

At one point, Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, subcommittee chairman and co-sponsor of the measure, indicated to Dellinger the panel will undoubtedly change some of the language before voting the amendment out of committee.

As proposed, the Reagan amendment reads, "Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to prohibit individual or group prayer in public schools or other public institutions. No person shall be required by the United States or by any State to participate in prayer."

In his testimony, Dunn cited a 1982 Baptist Joint Committee statement opposing all Constitutional amendments on school prayer. He also cited statements adopted by 10 state Baptist conventions last fall.

In a reversal of previously held positions on public school prayer last summer, the Southern Baptist Convention, one of the nine Baptist bodies affiliated with the B.I.C.P.A., went on record endorsing President Reagan's proposed amendment. Despite the White House acknowledgment that state governments and local school boards would be authorized under the amendment to write prayers for use in local schools, the SBC resolution declares the amendment

does not call for "government-written and government-mandated" prayer in schools.

SBTS grants tenure to Tennessee native

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Tennessean Timothy George, assistant professor of church history and historical theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, was granted tenure by trustees of the seminary at their recent annual meeting.

Born and raised in Chattanooga, George is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Harvard Divinity School, and Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.



George

Revivals in Spain record 600 professions of faith

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) — Some 600 professions of faith were recorded in 61 revivals conducted in Spanish churches by teams of 203 Oklahoma ministers, singers, and lay people in mid-April.

The Sooners represented 82 Oklahoma churches and returned from Spain with testimonies of "witnessing in the streets" experiences, spirited revival services, and life-changing events in the lives of the Spanish.

The revivals were another phase of the Oklahoma-Spain Baptist Evangelism project and were so successful that another series of evangelistic meetings in Spain in the fall of 1985 were agreed upon by the officials of the Spanish Baptist Union, SBC missionaries, and Oklahoma convention leaders.

Groundwork was laid last November when Roy Moody, associate in the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma evangelism department, led a team of 18 ministers and laymen from Oklahoma in visits to the 61 Spanish Baptist churches.

"This effort resulted in one profession of faith for every 10 Baptist church members in Spain," said Joe L. Ingram, BGCO executive director-treasurer. "The Spanish Baptists benefited from this in various ways.

"First, the additional members will give them greater confidence and they've learned they can give an open invitation and people will respond. Also, the nationwide information campaign conducted gave them more visibility than they ever have had before. The Oklahoma Singing Churchmen's concert

in a public hall in Madrid was a standing-room-only event and was broadcast nationally by the public radio service."

Jerry Don Abernathy, convention evangelism department director, said the publicity blitz in connection with the revival included newspaper and radio news which covered Spain's 38-million citizens.

"The informational services estimated 90 percent of the population knew of the revival. We also had 200 billboards around the country announcing the revivals," he said.

Ingram said the next phase of the project will be a visit to Oklahoma next fall by 35 Spanish pastors who will preach revivals in state churches, attend a seminar at Falls Creek Conference Center, and attend the opening of the Billy Graham Crusade in Oklahoma City.

The Oklahomans will return to Spain in 1984 to conduct stewardship campaigns.

In the spring of 1985 Sunday school enlargement campaigns will be conducted in Spanish churches, followed by extensive visitation and outreach programs during the summer of 1985. Finally, the fall of 1985 will see the Oklahomans returning to Spain for the second series of evangelistic efforts with another nationwide campaign preceding their revival.

12 Day Holy Land Tour Plus Vienna, Cairo, Amsterdam (London Optional) Sept. 19-30 For Brochure and Details Write Ansell T. Baker First Baptist Church Athens, Tenn. 37303

Winebarger
 Church Furniture
 LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA
 Call Toll Free 800-446-0945
 Area Rep SOWER CHRISTIAN SUPPLY P.O. BOX 849 OODLETSVILLE, TENN 37072 615-865-1070
 Pew's, Pulpits, Chairs, Cushions, Renovations, Light Fixtures, Pew'r Comfort, Chancel Furniture, Stained Glass Windows, Custom Interior Designs

Tennis tournament set for May 23-24

The annual Tennessee Baptist Convention Tennis Tournament will be held at Centennial Tennis Center, Nashville, on May 23-24. All fulltime church or convention workers are eligible to participate in the tournament.

The tournament format will provide competition for all levels of ability, according to Hugh S. Cater, minister of education at First Baptist Church, Mt. Juliet, who is serving as tournament director. Both singles and doubles are scheduled, with doubles partners being determined by how persons finish in singles competition.

Those wishing to participate in the event should send the \$10 registration fee to Hugh Cater, P. O. Box 266, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122.

How to Publish a Church Newsletter

HOW TO PUBLISH A CHURCH NEWSLETTER is a how-to book for planning and producing attractive, readable church newsletters. Provides resource for designing layout, writing copy, editing, using photographs and artwork, and maintaining an up-to-date mailing list. Includes sample newsletters and other guides to help you effectively communicate the program of your church.

Paperback, \$6.95

George Knight is a writer, editor, and Christian communications consultant for Knight Media, Antioch, Tennessee.



At your Baptist Book Store
BROADMAN

BUILD BUILD BUILD CHURCHES
 designed, built, and furnished on your lot, average price \$350/sq. ft. We design for seating 130 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) 268-7000
NORTHWAY CONTRACTORS INC.
 P.O. Box 597 Taylors, SC 29687
 Over 200 buildings constructed in Southeast

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 _____

BIBLE BOOK SERIES
Lesson for May 15

God judges Solomon

By Jack Parker, pastor
Forest Hill Baptist Church, Parrottsville

Basic Passage: 1 Kings 11:1-40
Focal Passages: 1 Kings 11:4-7, 11-12, 14, 23, 28-31

This lesson begins the second unit in 1 Kings. Through the next three studies, we will discover internal problems that plagued Solomon because he departed from spiritual principles.

In Deuteronomy 7:1-5, the Law clearly banned foreign marriages. As early as Genesis chapters one and two, God established monogamy (the principle of one wife rather than multiple wives at the same time).

Solomon violated both these statutes and these violations lead to his turning his heart after other gods (1 Kings 11:4).

This unit is strong evidence that apostasy leads to greater apostasy when it is allowed to progress in an unchecked manner. Remember, in 1 Kings 3, Solomon used Canaanite shrines as altars to the Lord. He also sealed a treaty with Egypt by taking Pharaoh's daughter as a wife.

In this lesson, we discover the extent of Solomon's disobedience and the beginning of God's judgment.

Solomon's sin (11:4-7)

In spite of God's warning in 1 Kings 11:2, Solomon violated holy statutes. His flagrant abuse of God's commandment against foreign marriages and against polygamy was focused in 1 Kings 11:3. His 700 wives and 300 concubines were excused by human arguments of expediency. (Many of those unions were seals on foreign treaties Solomon executed with heathen nations.) They were in direct violation of God's law.

Solomon's first step was compromise. "His heart was not perfect (wholly or entirely) with God" (11:4).

He diluted his worship by including the worship of gods (false gods) with the worship of Jehovah (11:4, 5, 7, 8), and he practiced evil in the sight of the Lord (11:6).

All this was done to satisfy foreign wives, whom he married outside the will of God.

God's promised judgment (11:11-12)

God previously commanded Solomon to walk in His ways. He appeared to Solomon twice, but the king did not obey.

Now God was angry. He promised to take the kingdom away from Solomon and give it to a servant. The name of the servant was not revealed at this time.

With the promise of coming judgment came a degree of mercy. The kingdom

would not be lost during Solomon's reign, but it would be lost to a coming generation. As history looks back on the loss, it was not lost to a foreign power; neither was it lost to revolution. It simply decayed. One might recall Numbers 14:18 which supports the fact that person's sin does touch lives about him.

God complicated Solomon's plans (11:14, 23)

The adversaries in these verses are not to be accepted as mere punishment of Solomon's sin, as God announced in 1 Kings 9:7. Their rise was promised to David if Solomon committed iniquity (2 Samuel 7:14-15).

Hadad's bitterness started as a result of a military campaign of David. He was an Edomite who survived the conquest of his homeland. He fled to Egypt and married a sister of Pharaoh. When David died, he left the security of Pharaoh's court to return and become Solomon's foe (11:14-22)

Rezon's opposition is not specific, but verse 25 indicates he was an enemy of Solomon from the beginning of his reign. In 2 Samuel we learned that he was an ally of the coalition of kings who sought David's defeat.

God chose Solomon's successor (11:28-31)

It is interesting that the collapse of Solomon's kingdom did not come through external forces. Jeroboam was one of the king's proven officers ("... a mighty man of valor ..." 11:28). He was probably one of the 550 officers mentioned in 1 Kings 9:23.

God revealed through the prophet Ahijah that Jeroboam would rule 10 tribes of Israel. One tribe would remain to the line of David (v.32).

In the close of chapter 11, God made the same promise to perpetuate the kingdom he had made to Solomon. Jeroboam would need to keep God's commandments and obey His statutes (v.38).

Conclusion

There are at least two major lessons Christians today can learn from this chapter.

When God's people stray it will not go unnoticed. God keeps His Word; He does punish believer's sin.

Believers are to keep themselves free from entangling alliances. They do affect our spiritual commitment.

This lesson is an excellent example for church leaders to use in helping lead Christians to marry Christians. Love can be found outside Christian commitment but the unequal bond creates problems that cannot be solved short of the unbeliever coming to Christ. Most of the time such bonds lead to spiritual compromise on the part of the believing partner.



Parker

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES
Lesson for May 15

Riot in Ephesus

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

Basic Passage: Acts 19-20
Focal Passages: Acts 19:23-29, 35-40

The importance of Ephesus

Paul's missionary strategy was to concentrate his efforts on the cities; large population centers, in order to establish strong churches; and from these churches, in time the gospel would be spread to the surrounding area.

A backward look through Acts will indicate that he centered his work in Jerusalem, Antioch, Seleucia and Paphos on the island of Cyprus, Berea, Athens, Philippi, Thessalonica, and Corinth. Because of this strategy, Ephesus would hold great interest for Paul.



Barefoot

Ephesus, one of the 12 ancient cities of Asia Minor, was the greatest commercial center in Asia Minor. Because of its location at the starting point of one of the great trade routes of the East, famous from the days of the Persian Empire as the "horse road," it was a very wealthy city.

Roman and Greek cultures intermingled there and there was a large Jewish colony in the city. The great temple of Diana or Artemis made it a sacred city.

Paul had probably been interested in Ephesus as early as the beginning of the second journey from Antioch as indicated by his desire to go into Asia (Acts 16:6).

After his ministry in Corinth, he came to Ephesus on his way to Jerusalem and Antioch, had a brief ministry, and left his companions Priscilla and Aquila there. They had a ministry in Ephesus which touched Apollos, an eloquent Jewish Christian from Alexandria, and he went from Ephesus to Corinth to continue his work.

The importance of Ephesus to Paul is further indicated in the length of his ministry there. In Acts 16:8, Luke mentions Paul's being in the synagogue for three months. In 16:10, there is mentioned a ministry of two years in the hall of Tyrannus. In Acts 20:31, Paul reminded the Ephesian elders that he labored among them "for three years."

Paul's ministry in Ephesus

To the confused disciples. Paul had a very interesting ministry to a group of "disciples," but it is not clear whether they were disciples of Jesus, John the Baptist, or Apollos.

Apollos was a Christian Jew who knew only the baptism of John; therefore, these men may have been Christians or they may have been followers of John and were informed only about the one to whom John pointed.

The fact that Paul felt constrained to rebaptize them (there is no statement of Apollos being rebaptized) may suggest that he did not think they were Christians.

Acts 19:4-5 may suggest that he was not only correcting them on baptism but on the total purpose of John's ministry. They knew nothing about the Holy Spirit (it is possible for one to experience the work of the Holy Spirit and yet not to have a rational understanding of Him). But when Paul baptized them, they experienced the same outward manifestations as at Pentecost.

To the Jewish synagogue. Paul tried to keep his principle of "to the Jews first" and to this end he went to the synagogue

and preached there. His ministry there lasted three months. When some resisted his efforts, he chose to leave the synagogue and move to a public hall where he had freedom to minister to both Jews and Greeks.

To the entire city. The success of Paul's ministry is indicated by Luke's note that all Asia heard the Word (19:10), that special miracles and wonders were done by him to such an extent that even handkerchiefs and aprons were carried from Paul, that even exorcists tried to imitate Paul by using the name of Jesus, and that such a revival came that magicians burned their books of magical formulas.

To the church at Corinth. Little is said of it in Acts, but Paul carried on an extensive ministry to the Corinthian church during his three-year stay in Ephesus. This included at least three letters written to them, at least one visit to them, and some of his companions being sent to Corinth to minister. A very fleeting reference to this is made in Acts 19:21-22 but it is very clear from 1 and 2 Corinthians.

The conflict over Paul's ministry

The effect of Paul's ministry was so great that it began to hurt the work of the artisans who made miniature shrines of Diana or Artemis. As people began to turn from idolatry, it hurt their business and the persecution was thus instigated primarily from an economic viewpoint, although there was a thinly veiled religious note as well.

Demetrius, the silversmith, made the point that (1) their business came from the religious objects they made, (2) that Paul was preaching against any handmade gods, (3) that people not only in Ephesus but from throughout all of Asia have been persuaded by Paul, and (4) that there is not only danger to their trade but also danger to the great goddess and her temple.

Artemis of Ephesus was really the great mother goddess of Asia Minor, an oriental deity, and was quite distinct from the Greek virgin-goddess of the same name. She was one of the nature deities, a divinity of fertility, whose worship dates back to earliest times.

Diana was the Latin goddess (goddess of the word and of childbirth) who was later identified with the Greek Artemis.

The image of Artemis was many-breasted, suggesting fertility, but the cult image had developed from a much simpler representation. "The sacred stone that fell from the sky" (v.36) may suggest that the cult image was originally a meteorite that had fallen or it may represent a legend to suggest a heavenly origin of the image.

The uproar and the assembly revealed (1) that the city was a free city having its own democratic constitution ruled by the people as summoned and dismissed by the town clerk; (2) that Jews were not very popular in Gentile cities; (3) that Paul was a friend of the Asiarchs, rather high Roman officials; (4) that disputes could be and should be settled in courts; and (5) that the people feared the loss of the free status of their city.

After the uproar, Paul interpreted that his ministry was finished for the present and set off to visit the regions of Macedonia and Achaia. His visit to Jerusalem brought him back by Ephesus for a discourse to the elders of the Ephesian church (Acts 20:17-38).

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

Baptistries Signs
Steeple **DIAL TOLL FREE**
1-800-445-7400
Lights
BOWLING UNITED INDUSTRIES, INC.
Box 2250, Danville, VA 24541
In VA (804) 787-3277

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 cushions! 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 27626-5346

WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF FIBERGLASS CHURCH PRODUCTS
• STEEPLES
• WALL CROSSES
• STAINED FIBERGLASS WINDOWS
• BAPTISTRIES
• BAPTISTRY HEATERS
Write for free color brochure.
Fiberglass Specialties
A/C 214 657-6522 Box 210 Henderson, Texas 75652

LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Lesson for May 15

What cost salvation?

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

Basic Passage: Isaiah 52:13 to 53:12
Focal Passages: Isaiah 53:3-7, 10-12

Whoever the prophet had in mind or how clearly he understood what he said as he spoke of the suffering servant, the ultimate fulfillment of his words are found in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth.

In a limited sense, the nation Israel performed a "servant role" for God. Her greatest function, however, was not to suffer for the principles of true religion, although she did this for a brief period of time, but rather to produce the One who would bear in His own body our sins and redeem us by His atoning death.

This poem is divided into five stanzas with each one consisting of three verses in the Biblical text.

The servant's success (52:13-15)

Up until this time, the servant passages have presented the servant as less than prosperous and almost a failure. In this last and greatest of the poems concerning him, however, the prophet begins with the climax — he will surprise everyone by being victorious in his efforts.

Who would have thought it? He was so disfigured that when people saw him, they were shocked and hardly believed he was human. World leaders stood amazed, however, at his success and were speechless because of his accomplishments.

The servant's "socialness" (35:1-3)

Completely unimpressive and totally unattractive, the servant was not the object of desire and trust for whom the masses were waiting. He came from a humble background and made no attempt to climb the social ladder.

Because he lacked any quality that made people seek him in this realm, he was forced to live a lonely life. People generally had no wish to associate with him. Many found him actually repulsive. This estrangement was a part of his suffering since human fellowship is always essential to a happy life.

The servant's substitution (53:4-6)

The key thought in this stanza is not the suffering, although it is certainly described graphically, but the reason for it.

As the people looked at the agony through which the servant went, they concluded he was suffering for his own sins. How wrong they were! The familiar "but he was wounded for our transgressions" makes it clear as to why the agony and grief came to him.

The past tense is because the prophet used a verb form peculiar to the Hebrew language. When the speaker or writer was absolutely sure something was going to happen, he often spoke of it as though it had already occurred. Notice how many "prophetic perfects" occur in this section of Scripture. The perfect form of a verb in Hebrew denotes completed action, usually translated by the past tense, in contrast to the imperfect which denotes incompleting action, usually translated future. Thus, the prophet emphasized the certainty of the coming substitutionary death of the servant.

No one but Jesus Christ meets all the requirements for fulfilling this passage.

The substitutionary nature of His work is clearly set forth as the prophet compares our sinning with the sheep who carelessly and aimlessly turns aside from the right path and becomes lost.

The seriousness of our sin is depicted, however, when the prophet speaks of our sinning as "iniquity." The Hebrew word translated "sin" means to miss the mark, but the one rendered "iniquity" is much stronger, meaning moral crookedness and the guilt that accompanies such action. The verb rendered "laid" means literally "made to light on" and clearly teaches that Christ bore our sin in His vicarious death.

The servant's suffering (53:7-9)

When the previous stanza emphasized the vicarious nature of the servant's sufferings, this one stresses their intensity. Both violence and injustice characterized the pain he bore.

In all of it, he was submissive and refused to retaliate or resist those who sought to put upon him all types of undeserved and harsh treatment. None of his peer group realized why he was suffering, thus adding to the anguish of this one who was bearing their sins as well as those of the entire world. By enduring the suffering that should have been inflicted upon his contemporaries, his anguish was heightened.

The final stigma was that he met his death as a common criminal even though he did nothing to deserve such ignominy and shame. How much he suffered when he died, no human tongue can tell!

The servant's satisfaction (53:10-12)

Behind all of the tragic happenings, however, was God's divine plan. The expression "it pleased the Lord" does not mean that our God is a fiendish and

caprice deity who delights in torture. Rather, the words convey the truth that God was doing the work necessary to make His redemptive program a reality.

Perhaps Jesus, as He hung on the cross, could see centuries of Christian history with millions of born-again people singing praises to God's glory. Victory always belongs to the Lord and to those who are acting in harmony with His purpose.

What did our salvation cost? The very best God had — His own Son! What does it cost us? In one sense of the word, nothing, but in another sense, everything! It does not take much of a person to be a Christian, but it takes all that there is of him!

Jesus suffered to the uttermost. We

are saved by grace but it takes a repentance and a faith that is to the uttermost — completely unlimited in its willingness to be committed to God and His purpose for mankind.

Beautiful mountain lodge, rooms, meals, horseback riding on mountain trails, kitchenettes available, some rooms with fireplaces. Special rates to groups, such as youth groups, deacons retreats, etc.

Cove Mountain Lodge
Route 7, Wears Valley Road
Sevierville, TN 37862
Phone 1-615-453-6533



Wood

GOD'S WORD FOR THE FAMILY



GOD'S WORD FOR THE FAMILY

Order these Scripture portions for the families in your church. They are available at a discount price by arrangement with Christian Life Consultant, Tennessee Baptist Convention. Use them in family devotions or in special studies at church.

Order Form

American Bible Society
Box 5656
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

Ship to _____

Address _____

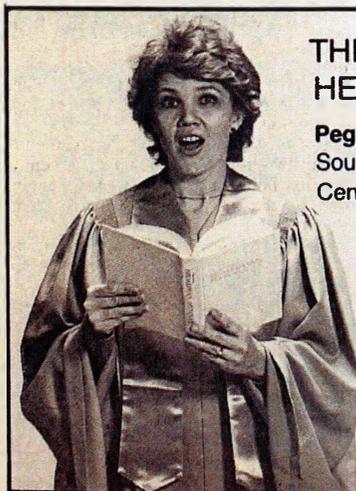
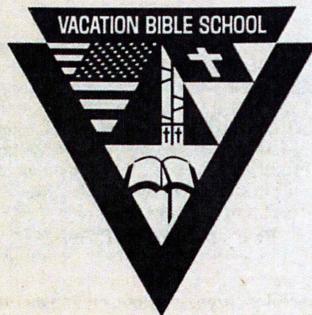
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Quantity	Order No.	Item	Price	Total
	04811	GOD'S WORD FOR THE FAMILY	\$ 10	

Payment must accompany order. Gift for World Outreach

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ GRAND TOTAL _____

Check Money Order ITW



THIS CHOIR MEMBER FAITHFULLY SERVES HER CHURCH —AND YOUR CHURCH, ALSO.

Peggy Highsmith is a faithful member of the sanctuary choir in her Southern Baptist church, Peggy also is a secretary in the Conference Center Division at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

As a board employee, she plays an important part in providing the best possible religious education support for your church. Peggy 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

Chicago street life provides challenge

By Gail Rothwell

CHICAGO (BP) — The job description read, "Wanted: One tough Christian to work in Uptown Chicago."

At first glance, Diane O'Connell knew she wanted no part of a work where 144,000 persons crowd a 10-square-block area that has the highest crime rate in Chicago.

"But God had other plans for my life," said Miss O'Connell, who began working with students in the Uptown area last September. Miss O'Connell's work is sponsored by the Arkansas Baptist Convention's Third Century Campaign and their student ministry alliance with the Illinois Baptist State Association.

Miss O'Connell said her reluctance to take the position was not of fear, "but because I grew up on the streets in St. Louis and I was afraid of all those painful memories."

The Uptown situation presented a ministry challenge unlike other inner-city areas.

"When Chicago cleaned up skid row a few years ago, they sent all the 'undesirables' to Uptown," Miss O'Connell explained. "More than 80 percent of the population live below poverty level. Nearly 13,000 mentally retarded persons live in more than 25 halfway houses and now international refugees comprise a large portion of the population."

Miss O'Connell's student work at Truman Community College campus got off to a slow start (in December her first group of five students was attacked by a local street gang and disbanded) but now she averages 35 students during weekly **Student Union meetings**.

Despite negative responses from



LEAVING UPTOWN — Diane O'Connell leaves Uptown Chicago in June with a firm conviction that God will continue the ministry she has helped begin there.

school officials reluctant to have a Southern Baptist ministry on a campus of 6,000 international students, Miss O'Connell was determined. "God sent me here to begin a ministry. I found boldness in Christ to start again," she said.

Located in the midst of Uptown, Miss O'Connell lives just three houses from the headquarters of one of the area's many street gangs. Since her arrival in early September, her car has been burglarized five times.

"Looking on the bright side, there's hardly anything left for them to take," she quipped.

Although Miss O'Connell can still see humor in much of what has happened to her, she admitted, "Sometimes the poverty and violence get me down. Once, after my car was broken into, I just sat down on the curb and cried. I didn't cry out of fear, I cried out of love. I have been where these people are and I can look into their faces and see the pain and hopelessness."

She explained that before she became a Christian eight years ago, "I didn't trust anyone because I was afraid of getting hurt. I discovered God came to offer us options for our lives and that is why I am here."

Miss O'Connell said sometimes the work gets emotionally painful. "But I know God is helping me to grow. Sometimes I get homesick for the people I love, but God protects me and fulfills all my needs."

In June, Miss O'Connell will return to Arkansas before moving to Fort Worth, Tex., to enter Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"Even though I am leaving in June, I know God is preparing someone to continue the work He has started here."

Brewton-Parker names president

MOUNT VERNON, Ga. (BP) — Lynn Holmes, an alumnus of Brewton-Parker College, has been named president of the two-year Georgia Baptist college, effective July 1.

He succeeds Starr Miller, who resigned for personal reasons and will assume responsibility for coordinating the college's new bachelor of ministries degree, the school's first four-year program.

Holmes, associate professor of ancient and middle eastern history and director of placement and cooperative education at West Georgia College in Carrollton, is a graduate of Mercer University, Macon, Ga., where he is currently a fellow of the American Council on Education doing an internship in college administration. He also is a graduate of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., and Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass.

R. T. Roberts accepts Morris Hill pastorate

R. T. Roberts accepted a recent call from Morris Hill Baptist Church, Chattanooga, to come as its pastor.

Roberts was previously pastor of Antioch Baptist Church, McDonald; Big Spring Baptist Church, Cleveland; Grace Baptist Church, Morristown; First Baptist Church, Calhoun; New Market Baptist Church, New Market; and Forest Hills Baptist Church, Florence, Ala.

Roberts has served as chairman of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Committee on Credentials, chairman of the evangelism committees of the Jefferson County Association of Baptists and of Alabama's Colbert-Lauderdale Baptist Association, moderator of the McMinn County Association of Baptists, and president of the Nolachucky Baptist Pastors' Conference.

A native of Knox County, Roberts has attended extension courses through Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City.

Miss O'Connell said. "I don't know what God has in store for my life, but He has always been there, helping me to take one step at a time and whatever I do I know God won't open the door until I am ready."

Project in Burundi taps water supply

MUSEMA, Burundi — Two afternoons of work and an investment of \$30 provided several hundred people around the Musema Baptist Church in Burundi with a badly-needed clean water supply.

Young people from Baptist churches in Burundi, where Southern and Danish Baptist missionaries work in cooperation with Burundians, took the lead in the project.

It started with the "Urukundo Project" ("Love Project") when the young people were joined by teams of young people from Baptist churches in Denmark.

The youngsters, guided by Danish Missionary Joergen Johanson, located a spring, like hundreds of other abounding in mountainous Burundi, in the side of a hill. They cleaned the spring of soft mud, constructed a casing of potter's clay, prepared a stone filter and inserted six yards of plastic pipe.

Now, the water flows from the pottery casing through the filter and pipe and provides people relatively clean water for a square mile around the area.

Southern Baptist Agricultural Missionary Fred Sorrells said this type of inexpensive but valuable assistance can help people in most of the areas where Baptists work in the small eastern African nation.

Family ministers vote to re-elect Howell

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (BP) — John Howell, professor of Christian ethics at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, was elected to a second term as president of the Southern Baptist Association of Family Ministers in the organization's third annual meeting.

Mike Horton of Houston was chosen president-elect and Bob Thrift of Miami was elected secretary.

Meeting at the Ponderosa Baptist Assembly near Colorado Springs, Colo., the SBAFM adopted a Constitution establishing objectives and membership requirements.

The organization is for persons who are family ministers in local churches as well as for denominational representatives whose job assignment includes family life education in the churches. Southern Baptists who serve in counseling centers, private counseling or who teach in marriage and family are also eligible for membership.

MK lends a hand

MAGURA, Bangladesh — Jamie Young, a seven-year-old missionary kid, is helping in a vaccination program among Christian villages in the Magura area of Bangladesh.

Presbyterian Nurse Carol McLean, who is in charge of the program, lets Jamie hand out vitamins to prevent night blindness to the villagers. Jamie is the daughter of James and Guinevere Young from Mississippi.

Missionaries relate close calls at American Embassy in Beirut

BEIRUT, Lebanon (BP) — Three members of the Southern Baptist mission family in Lebanon had planned to be at the American Embassy in Beirut April 18. None of them made it and they believe prayer saved their lives.

All three would have been at the embassy about 1:05 p.m. when a powerful car bomb shattered the building, killing at least 60 persons and injuring more than 100.

Missionary Linda Sacco had agreed to

drop by there with her American friend Becky, a new Christian married to a Lebanese, after Becky picked up her child at school at 12:15 p.m.

Missionary Frances Fuller had planned several errands, the last at 1 p.m. to take care of passport business at the embassy. She had been told early afternoon was the best time.

At Becky's house, everything went wrong all morning. At noon, her household work was unfinished and, frustrated, she decided not to go by the embassy.

Mrs. Fuller got tied up in a meeting. Before leaving for Beirut, she decided to phone to make sure she could still see someone on her list. He was unavailable so she put off her errands until the next day.

The Saccos' 14-year-old son, Paul, had an even closer call with the bombing. He and a friend at the American Community School had a free hour after lunch and slipped into their jogging clothes. They planned to run up the wide sidewalk by the sea, past the embassy, and back. But as they neared the embassy — just before 1 p.m. — a sudden cold shower began to fall and they turned back.

Two days before the blast, missionaries to Lebanon concluded a mission meeting by drawing names and promising to pray for each other.

"By (Monday) evening the entire city was in sorrow but some of the day's frustrations had started to make sense," said Mrs. Fuller. "And some who had prayed for their fellow missionaries were humbly thankful for answers."

J. H. Patterson begins Maple Springs duties

J. H. Patterson recently began duties as pastor of Maple Springs Baptist Church, Medon, in response to a call from the congregation.

Patterson came to Maple Springs from the pastorate of Silerton Baptist Church, Silerton, and is a former pastor of Keely Mill Baptist Church and New Bethlehem Baptist Church, both of Dyer; Gravel Hill Baptist Church, Ramer; Bethel Baptist Church, Henderson; Omega Baptist Church, Eudora, Ark.; Fort Necessity Baptist Church, Fort Necessity, La.; and Midway Baptist Church, Epps, La. He has served in various associational offices, including moderator and chairman of evangelism.

A native of Chester County, Patterson has attended Clarke Memorial College, Newton, Miss.; Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss.; and seminary extension courses.