

Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 149/No. 48/November 30, 1983

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

Carter Davis relates Grenada's 'hectic' days

By Erich Bridges

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (BP) — Carter Davis had quite a month.

The Southern Baptist missionary dentist in Grenada witnessed an invasion of the island, said goodbye to his wife as she was evacuated by airlift, laid low for days to avoid being shot at, saw his den-

tal clinic become a temporary camp for U.S. troops, and worked feverishly to set up a relief ministry.

"It's been kind of hectic," reported Tennessean Davis with a rueful laugh Nov. 18. It was his first direct telephone contact with the Foreign Mission Board since the Oct. 25 invasion of Grenada by

U.S. and Caribbean forces. He spoke from a public telephone in St. George's. Phone service to the area around his home is not expected to be restored for several months.

His wife, Charlotte, along with Missionary Robin Eberhardt and her son, David, returned from the United States Nov. 9. Two Southern Baptist dentists, Jack Fuson and William Davis, both of Knoxville, followed a few days later. Davis and Missionary Michael Eberhardt never left the island.

The two volunteer dentists worked with Davis in government clinics around the island, treating hundreds of patients. Public service radio announcements publicized their work.

The extra help has allowed Davis, one of only two dentists living in Grenada since the exodus of Cuban health workers, to reopen his Baptist clinic. Davis practiced with the Ministry of Health the week before the volunteers arrived. During the post-invasion food shortage, Davis and Eberhardt provided about 40 families with flour, rice, sugar, and powdered milk. Now they are coordinating Grenadian Baptist construction teams who will use \$5,000 in Southern Baptist relief funds to repair war-damaged homes.

"These families we are going to assist initially are in houses which are damaged but repairable," Davis said. "Some other homes in the same area have been destroyed so we are looking for ways we might utilize volunteer construction teams from the States. Right now men in our churches are going to be helping these families repair their homes."

Davis is also asking the Foreign Mission Board to find a volunteer surgeon, pediatrician, ear-nose-throat specialist, and more dentists to come to Grenada beginning in January. The original request came from the Grenadian Ministry

of Health; since a serious health care shortage has developed with the Cuban departure.

Life is beginning to return to some semblance of order for the Davises and Eberhardts. But the two men laid low during the fighting.

"I went across the road to a neighbor's house once or a couple of times," Davis said. "But we didn't try to move around. Near where we live there was a lot of uninhabited ground along one stretch of road and there was a lot of shooting on that ridge between American forces and the People's Revolutionary Army and Cuban troops. It just wasn't safe to move along that road."

Eberhardt later learned that the son (a Grenadian militiaman) of a member of a Bible study he teaches was killed during the fighting. His father and other members of the Bible study expressed bitterness and hostility toward Americans, including Eberhardt, after the fighting.

The general feeling among Grenadians on the street and in the churches, however, is relief and gratitude toward the U.S. and Caribbean forces, Davis reported.

Argentine train kills missionary

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (BP) — Southern Baptist Missionary Kent W. Balyeat was killed in Buenos Aires, when he walked in front of an express train late in the evening Nov. 21. He was 58 years old.

Balyeat was returning home from International Baptist Theological Seminary when he stepped off his bus and walked across the railroad tracks nearby, apparently not seeing an oncoming train.

He and his wife, the former Lloydene Umstot of Kansas, were appointed missionaries in 1961. He had been director of the church music school at the seminary since 1977.

Mrs. Balyeat was to attend a memorial service at the seminary and burial in Buenos Aires before leaving Nov. 23 for Atlanta, Ga., where the family was to meet her.

A native of Alexandria, La., Balyeat was a graduate of Ottaway (Kan.) University, Colorado State College (now University of Northern Colorado), Greeley, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Before his appointment he taught music in Kansas public schools and was music director for churches in Oklahoma and Texas. He was professor of church music at the seminary in Buenos Aires for 15 years before becoming director.

Besides his wife, he is survived by four children: Michael, of Fairfax, Ala.; Merry Carol and David, of Dallas, Tex.; and Susan Keshtkar, of Austin, Tex. His mother, Mrs. Eibert Weir lives in San Rafael, Calif., and his sister, Mrs. Stanton Nash, lives in Fort Worth.

Churches to observe week of prayer

Southern Baptists will observe the 92nd annual Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions Dec. 4-11, learning about and praying for missions, in addition to giving through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Churches across Tennessee will set individual goals to do their part in helping reach the national \$60-million offering goal. Tennessee's goal is \$3.75-million.

The theme for this year's week of prayer is "Because He First Loved Us" (1 John 4:19).

In the 223 nations on earth today, 32.6 percent of the 4.5-billion people are Christians. The total Christian community is adding new believers at the rate of about 23-million a year.

Churches must win new persons at the rate of 45-million every year between now and A.D. 2000 just to stay even with population growth.

In 1982, the Foreign Mission Board appointed 406 new Southern Baptist missionaries — a 2.58 percent increase. In order to keep up with the Bold Mission Thrust goal of having 5,000 missionaries overseas by the turn of the century, a 3 percent annual personnel gain is necessary for this decade.

During 1982, Southern Baptists channeled \$110.2-million through the Foreign Mission Board to enable people across the world to hear the gospel. Of this total,

41.8 percent was given through the Cooperative Program and 46.5 percent through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

The Baptist bodies with which Southern Baptist missionaries work established 700 new churches last year, an average of 13 per week.

Last year, more than 94-million of the world's people heard the gospel by means of local Baptist radio broadcasts and telecasts.

About 170 medical missionaries, working alongside nationals, ministered to 143,000 inpatients and 1.4-million outpatients in 20 hospitals and 114 clinics during 1982.

Baptist Hospital, Kediri, Indonesia, reported an average of 20 persons trusting Christ each month last year.

Strange Forest Baptist Church in the Philippines is one of the fastest growing churches with which Southern Baptist foreign missionaries work. In 1979, the congregation baptized 2,500.

Missionary Calvin Fox says, "Growth has slowed because this church has now reached most of the people in their valley. It will begin again when they get established in the next valley."

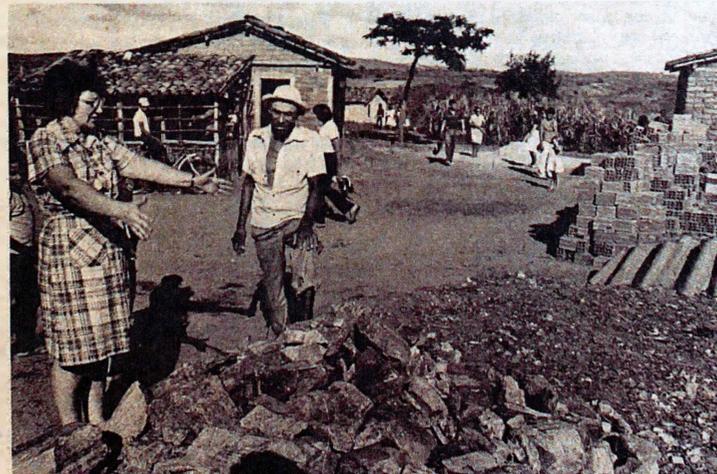
OBU honors Madden with alumni award

Tom Madden, executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, was honored this month by his alma mater, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla.

At a homecoming banquet Nov. 5 on the campus, Madden was presented an "Alumni Achievement Award" which is given to alumni who have established reputations as national or international leaders in various fields.

Madden is a 1943 graduate of the college, which is an institution of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

Before becoming TBC executive secretary-treasurer in 1979, Madden was director of the TBC convention ministries division. He also was pastor of First Baptist Church, Tullahoma, and First Baptist Church, Greenbrier.



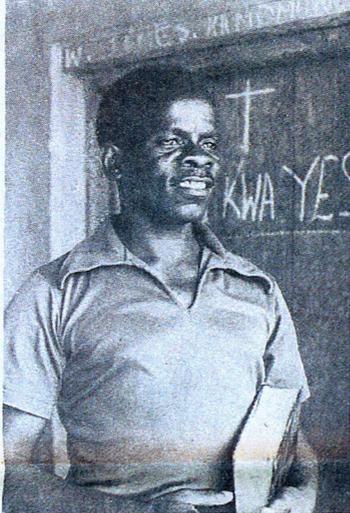
TENNESSEAN IN BRAZIL — Clara Lynn Williams, a native of Jackson, directs a seminary audiovisuals laboratory and coordinates the work of four Baptist missions in Recife, Brazil. She is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin and Memphis State University.

Court drops 'corruption' charges against Tanzanian Baptist pastor

KYELA, Tanzania (BP)— Walden Kamomonga, a Baptist pastor jailed for alleged involvement in economic sabotage and racketeering in Tanzania, has been released.

Kamomonga, pastor of Busona Baptist Church in Kyela District, was arrested by Tanzanian police April 13. Police confiscated 72 bags of unhulled rice, bicycle parts, hoes, and other items worth more than \$8,330. These were left from his shop, which he had closed several months earlier.

The arrest came during a crackdown announced early this year by the Tanzanian government to stop economic corruption contributing to black markets and deadly price hiking in the country.



FREE AGAIN — Walden Kamomonga, a Tanzanian Baptist pastor who was jailed for six months, is free after charges were dismissed for lack of evidence.

New York Baptists focus on outreach

ENDICOTT, N.Y. (BP)— The mood of the annual meeting of the Baptist Convention of New York was one of harmony and celebration as the messengers committed themselves to continue reaching out to the 26-million people in the territory of the convention which encompasses all of New York state, northern New Jersey, and part of Connecticut.

The focal point of the convention was the recognition of R. Quinn Pugh as executive director-treasurer elect of the Baptist Convention of New York. Pugh was elected Oct. 24 by the Executive Board of the BCNY and will assume the position Feb. 1, 1984.

Pugh, executive director of Metropolitan New York Baptist Association since 1979, was involved in the formation of both Metropolitan New York Association and the BCNY and earlier worked with churches in Maryland, Georgia, Kentucky, and Louisiana.

In other business the convention adopted a budget of \$1,961,844 with 22 percent (the same as last year) of Cooperative Program gifts going to national SBC causes through the Cooperative Program. Local congregations will provide \$423,718 of the budget with the remainder coming from national SBC agencies, primarily the Home Mission Board.

The government jailed anyone suspected of being an economic saboteur and confiscated any goods suspected of being held for resale at black market prices.

A Tanzanian court, ruling lack of evidence, dismissed charges against Kamomonga and released him Oct. 19 after six months' imprisonment. He said he credits God, whom he asked to be his advocate, for his release.

The pastor said life in a Tanzanian jail was not easy and relatives were not allowed to see prisoners. Nonetheless, for a Christian, being in such a jail can be a blessing.

The pastor shared Jesus with other prisoners, six of whom accepted Christ as Saviour. He said they were receptive to the gospel because they felt hopeless. "They knew no one else could save them spiritually and physically but Jesus," he said.

As a result of this experience, Kamomonga feels there is great opportunity in a prison ministry and would like to see Tanzanian Baptists enter this work.

The government has promised to return the confiscated property.

Mississippi elects former senator

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)— Mississippi Baptists elected a former state senator as president and two directors of missions as vice-presidents at their convention Nov. 14-16 at First Baptist Church, Jackson.

They also passed a \$16,485,000 Cooperative Program budget of which 35 percent (up from 34.5) will go to Southern Baptist Convention causes outside the state and voted to consider a major endowment campaign for their three colleges and their child care facility.

Attorney Charles Pickering, state senator from 1972 to 1980, was elected president. Ervin Brown, director of missions for Northwest Baptist Association in Tate and Desoto counties, was elected first vice-president and J. C. Refroe, director of missions for Rankin County Baptist Association, was named second vice-president.

A Constitutional change was approved which specifies a church must have given gifts through the Cooperative Program in the preceding year to qualify for messengers at the annual meeting. The convention also voted to increase the percentage of giving to SBC causes by half of one percent each year through 1990.

Messengers approved a convention board and state education commission recommendation to begin a study toward development of an endowment campaign for Mississippi College, Blue Mountain College, William Carey College, and the Baptist Children's Village. The committee, to be appointed by Pickering and Executive Secretary Earl Kelly, was voted \$200,000 for the study and told to bring recommendations to the 1984 convention.

By resolution, messengers opposed tuition tax credits, lotteries, pornography, and the appointment of a United States ambassador to the Vatican; supported raising the legal drinking age to 21; urged black and white congregations to work for harmony among the races; and encouraged Mississippi Baptists to participate in the shaping and supporting of public schools and to seek volunteers with nutrition-related skills to work in the fight against hunger.



HISTORY AWARD — TBC Consultant Eleanor Yarborough congratulates Fred Rolater, current president of the Tennessee Baptist Historical Society, upon receiving the fourth annual Tennessee Baptist Heritage Award. That award was presented during the recent Tennessee Baptist Convention in Chattanooga.

Baptists in Virginia reject attack on hospital over abortion policy

SALEM, Va. (BP)— In their quietest session in several years, messengers to the Baptist General Association of Virginia adopted a \$12,075,000 Cooperative Program budget and sustained every committee report without amendment.

A lone resolution opposed the establishment of formal diplomatic relations with the Vatican.

Messengers also amended the general association bylaws to require a three-fourths majority vote for adoption of future resolutions.

The 1983-84 spending plan of the general association is in three phases with the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program receiving an increased share in phases two and three. The division will be 62 percent Virginia and 38 percent SBC in phase one, 64-40 in

phase two, and 50-50 in phase three.

Turning back a motion to request the Virginia Baptist Hospital in Lynchburg to remove the word "Baptist" from its name because of its abortion policy, messengers adopted instead a strongly worded commendation of the institution.

The hospital's policy states that convenience abortions will not be performed, but permits abortions when they protect the physical and mental health of the patient.

By a wide margin messengers rejected the criticism of the hospital and instead commended it "for its ministry, its healing, caring, and lovingly sharing in the lives of all those to whom it ministers in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ on behalf of the Baptists of Virginia."

Medical premiums, deductible to rise

DALLAS (BP)— Southern Baptist ministers and church employees are facing an increase in medical premiums next year, according to officials of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board.

Effective Jan. 1, 1984, participants in the Church Insurance Program will experience a 12 percent aggregate increase in medical premiums. According to Insurance Services Director John Dudley, the increase will range from 11 percent to 14 percent among the three geographical regions to six percent for those eligible for Medicare.

Dudley said the increase was due to the continued medical inflation rate and the escalation in use of medical care. He noted last year's medical claims rose to nearly \$18-million, a 21 percent increase over the previous year.

"One of the ways the Annuity Board was able to avoid a 31.5 percent rate hike recommended by the insurance carrier was by adjusting the participants' initial out-of-pocket expense from \$100 to \$200," said Dudley.

Dudley noted with the adoption of new actuarial tables the disability plan rates will decrease for women while those of the male participants will not be changed. Life insurance premiums will not be affected, Dudley said.

S.C. Baptists hit abortion policy

COLUMBIA, S.C. (BP)— The South Carolina Baptist Convention rejected a resolution opposing the ordination of women to the ministry. After brief debate the messengers overwhelmingly defeated the resolution, saying it was a matter for each church to decide and not convention business.

Messengers also voted to "instruct" South Carolina Baptist hospital trustees to amend their current policy on abortion. The approved motion would permit abortion only in documented cases of rape, incest, or for preservation of the physical life of the mother. This alters the former policy which would "protect the physical or mental health" of the mother.

Other resolutions which were adopted opposed a U.S. ambassador to the Vatican; favored more emphasis on world peace; and opposed pari-mutuel gambling which will be considered by the state legislature early next year. A fourth resolution requests the state legislature to charge a 10 percent surtax on the sale of beer and wine with revenue to be used for alcohol and drug abuse rehabilitation programs.

The convention adopted an \$18-million Cooperative Program budget for 1984. This includes \$6.9-million or 38.3 percent for the Southern Baptist Convention.



TBC INSTALLS DISH — Workers install a satellite dish at the Tennessee Baptist Convention building in Brentwood. Jarvis Hearn (foreground) serves as a liaison between churches, the TBC, and SBC agencies concerning Baptist TelNet and the ACTS network.

Florida nears 50-50 CP split

LAKELAND, Fla. (BP) — The Florida Baptist Convention approved a record budget and the purchase of land for a south Florida satellite assembly during its annual meeting.

Without discussion or serious question, messengers adopted a 1984 FBC Cooperative Program budget goal of \$19,044,175 and a Cooperative Program basic budget of \$17-million with 51 percent of the basic budget designated for Florida Baptist causes and 49 percent designated for SBC causes.

That is a one percent increase from last year's budget.

In 1980 Florida Baptists started moving toward a 50-50 division of Cooperative Program funds between FBC causes and SBC causes. In the past four years Florida has moved from giving 40.8 percent of total receipts to the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program to 49 percent.

The convention approved the purchase of 400 acres of land for \$680,000 near LaBelle for a south Florida satellite assembly and accepted a property gift of 78.62 acres of land from Thelma S. Thompson, the owner and seller of the property. The gift will bring the total acreage for the new assembly to 478.62 acres.

Baptist Bible Institute at Graceville, Fla., was granted permission by the convention to construct a single-story dormitory to accommodate 32 students and was authorized to borrow a portion of the \$190,000 construction costs from the quasi-endowment fund of the institute. Also BBI received approval to increase the student enrollment ceiling by 25 students per year for the next five years beginning in 1984. This action permits a total enrollment of 525.

Through a resolution, Florida Baptists were called upon to participate in "Coalition for 21," a movement to sign petitions and get a Florida state Constitutional change on the November 1984 ballot to raise the allowable drinking age to 21. Another resolution requested the FBC to consider placing on its calendar "The Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice" on the first Sunday in August, coinciding with the SBC planning calendar.

Kentucky rejects college merger

PADUCAH, Ky. (BP) — A suggestion to combine Kentucky's three Baptist senior colleges into one university and the election of the convention president produced sharply divided votes Nov. 15-17 at the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Willis W. Henson, pastor of Lone Oak Baptist Church in Paducah, received 50 more votes than T. A. Prickett, pastor of Seven Hills Baptist Church in Owensboro, in the presidential election, even though there was little discussion.

But when messenger Greg Hancock advocated combining Georgetown College, Campbellsville College, and Cumberland College into a single university with campuses in Georgetown, Campbellsville, and Williamsburg, the audience was "visibly stirred," according to news reports.

A 38-vote majority voted not to name a committee to study the idea.

The 1,884 messengers also approved an executive board recommendation to establish ties with Kenya in a partnership plan and adopted a 1984-85 budget goal of \$17.5-million.

The national Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention will receive 36.25 percent (up from last year's 36 percent) of the basic budget and 37 percent of all income toward a Bold Mission challenge section.

The partnership with Kenya will join volunteers from Kentucky churches in evangelism projects in the east African nation during 1985-88.

Resolutions adopted expressed opposition both to state lotteries and the appointment of a U.S. ambassador to the Vatican.

W. Tenn. pastors to hear Patillo

JACKSON — Wesley M. "Pat" Patillo Jr., vice-president for development at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., will lead the Dec. 6 meeting of the West Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference at Union University.

The session will be held in Room D-48 from 10:50 a.m. to 12:05 p.m., according to John Lee Taylor, pastor of West Jackson Baptist Church and conference president.

Patillo will speak on "The Pastor and his Personal Image." The conference is open to all west Tennessee pastors, noted Taylor. Lunch will be served in the cafeteria immediately following the meeting.



TBC MUSIC — The A Cappella Choir of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, sang at the recent Tennessee Baptist Convention. The choir is directed by Eric Thorson.



MUSIC OFFICERS — Elected Nov. 14 as officers of the Tennessee Baptist Church Music Conference are (from left) Julian Suggs, executive council; George Webb, second vice-president; Larry Brooks, president; John McCall, first vice-president and president-elect; and Jere Adams, secretary-treasurer.

Church Music Conference organizes in Chattanooga

The Tennessee Baptist Church Music Conference was officially organized Nov. 14 when the group approved its constitution. Over 100 church musicians attended the banquet at First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, on the eve of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Membership in the conference is open to all Baptist musicians, either full time,

part time, or volunteers in churches, institutions, or denominational agencies in Tennessee.

Elected as officers were president, Larry Brooks, Central Baptist Church of Fountain City, Knoxville; first vice-president and president-elect, John McCall, First Baptist Church, Tullahoma; second vice-president, George Webb, First Baptist Church, Paris; and secretary-treasurer, Jere Adams, TBC church music department.

In addition to the officers, other members of the executive council are the immediate past president (Joe Easterly, First Baptist Church, Gatlinburg) and the director of the TBC church music department (Julian Suggs).

At the Nov. 14 meeting, a concert was provided by Anita Renfroe, Louisville; Miles Larson, Chattanooga; and David Friberg, Chattanooga.

The Church Music Conference, in partnership with the TBC church music department, sponsors an annual retreat for Tennessee Baptist musicians. The next retreat is scheduled May 17-19, 1984, at Fall Creek Falls State Park.

Nolachucky group adds Union Grove

Nolachucky Baptist Association added a 55th church to its membership during the association's 156th annual meeting Oct. 18-19.

Voted into fellowship with the association was Union Grove Baptist Church, located in Hamblen County. Allen Payne is the pastor of the church.

Also at the meeting, Nolachucky Director of Missions Glenn Toomey was honored for his 20 years of service to the association. Toomey and his wife were given lifetime occupancy of the NBA's missionary home in recognition of that service.

In officer elections, Ron Jones, pastor of Buffalo Trail Baptist Church in Morristown, was elected moderator, while Jack Arwood, pastor of Montvue Baptist Church in Morristown, was elected vice-moderator. Jones succeeds Billy Bush, pastor of Enterprise Baptist Church, also of Morristown.

Re-elected were Clerk-treasurer Joyce Bruce Vile and Associate Clerk-treasurer Alma Green, both members of Morristown's Bethel Baptist Church.

The meeting was hosted by Enterprise Baptist Church and Fairview Baptist Church, Mohawk.

Holston Valley holds 100th annual meet

Holston Valley Missionary Baptist Association held its 100th annual meeting Sept. 22-23.

During the meeting, Larry Parrott, pastor of McPheeters Bend Baptist Church in Church Hill, was elected moderator of the association, while Robert Cummings, pastor of West View Baptist Church in Rogersville, was elected to assist him as associate moderator. Parrott succeeds E. C. Hageman, a member of First Baptist Church in Rogersville.

Also elected were Evelyn Greene, a member of First Baptist Church in Rogersville, as treasurer, and Audrey Forgety, a member of East Rogersville Baptist Church in Rogersville, as associate treasurer. Re-elected were Clerk Linda Williams, a member of Rogersville's Choptack Baptist Church, and Associate Clerk Wilma Bennett, a member of Howe's Chapel Baptist Church, Rogersville.

Henry Guy Jackson, who recently retired as director of missions for the association, was recognized for his years of service and presented with a new car.

The association met at Oak Grove Baptist Church, Mount Carmel, and West View Baptist Church, Rogersville.

EDITORIAL

Baptists' response to a loving God

We, who have experienced the redeeming love of our Lord Jesus Christ, must continually consider our response to such love — and to the One who loves us so dearly.

Part of that response will come next week as Southern Baptists observe the annual Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and the time for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

The theme for this year's observance is "Because He First Loved Us," taken from the familiar Scripture, "We love Him, because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19).

The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions will generally be held Dec. 4-11, although some churches will set their own dates. Materials have been sent to all churches to guide our thoughts, our study, and our prayers during this important period.

The specific Scripture for the 1983 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions is "My children! Our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love which

shows itself in action" (1 John 3:18, Good News Bible).

As we pray, it is imperative that we earnestly ask God what our response should be to His tremendous love for this world — and for the 4.5-billion people who live in this world.

Perhaps our "action" will be a commitment to pray daily for missionaries as their names appear on the prayer calendar.

Or, perhaps our response will be to share directly as a mission service corps volunteer for a brief period of time — such as in Upper Volta — or to participate in one of the many "partnership evangelism" projects which are being held with our missionaries in various parts of the world.

Perhaps our action will be to truly be a "missionary" to those around us — maybe to the internationals who live in our communities, either as students or as permanent residents.

And, perhaps our loving response will be to sacrificially give to missions through the Cooperative Program and through the 1983 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

This year, Southern Baptist missionaries entered five more countries, bringing the number of nations and territories where we serve to 100 — where almost one-half of the world's population lives.

Our denomination's response to Bold Mission Thrust has led the Foreign Mission Board to have a record 3,300 missionaries under appointment. This success has brought many economic problems — because our FMB family is growing faster than the SBC agency's income.

This year's goal for the Lottie Moon Offering is \$60-million — which will supply almost one-half of the operating budget of the Foreign Mission Board.

The needs are further compounded by two factors: (1) the 1982 offering fell almost \$4-million under its goal, and (2) worldwide inflation continues to reduce the buying power of the money which is given.

In order to reach the challenging \$60-million Lottie Moon Offering goal, every church and its members must increase giving to the special offering by 11.1 percent over that given in 1982.

Tennessee's 1983 goal, as set by the state Woman's Missionary Union organization, is \$3,750,000.

Last year with a goal of \$3.6-million, Tennessee Baptists gave \$3,677,628.28 — which was an 8.99 percent increase over the \$3,374,366.43 given to the 1981 offering.

How important is it for Southern Baptists to reach the national \$60-million goal?

Because of the desperate need to reach our world with the gospel of Jesus Christ, the trustees of the Foreign Mission Board — with faith in God and in those who have experienced His love — have already placed the entire amount of the \$60-million goal in the 1984 budget.

Five out of every six dollars which the offering will provide will go to support the growing number of missionaries and help pay for their work around the world. The offering not only helps pay for the missionaries' support, but also provides for their children's schooling, pays their medical bills, and sets up money for their retirement.

If the goal is met, the remaining \$10-million will be available for capital needs that our missionaries have labeled top priority.

God's redeeming love for us involved sacrifice — "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son..." (John 3:16).

How much are we willing to sacrifice "because He first loved us" so that the billions of this world might hear the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ?

Cicero's
comment

By the editor

Cicero was packing up the typewriter at the end of this month's Tennessee Baptist Convention, when up walked Minnie Tyme, who was attending her 39th consecutive TBC, and Newt Joyner, who was at his first.

Newt really enjoyed the convention, although he did not always understand what was going on. "When the president announced 'call to order,' I wanted to order a grilled cheese sandwich, but he kept saying 'out of order.' Did he mean the convention is out of bread?"

But Minnie noted that it was perhaps our most fulfilling convention. "Downstairs in the exhibit area, not only were there free apples, cheese, and candy at the booths, but there was a place where you could buy sandwiches and donuts."

Minnie stated she was so excited when they kept announcing how close we were to a new registration record, that she tried to register again. "They wouldn't let me, but I was glad we set a new record anyway," she added.

Newt figured there must have been more than 1,713 messengers at the convention, since he counted 1,873 cars in the parking lots.

Minnie said that the large attendance resulted in one good thing — getting to watch the convention on closed circuit television in the chapel. "The programming was basically very good, but I felt the commercials by the institutions and departments were too long!" Minnie mused.

Newt said he had one unanswered question. "When we would get ready to vote on a motion, people started calling out 'Question, question' but they wouldn't ask one!"

Minnie explained that they really wanted to vote on not asking any more questions.

Newt figured out why those attending are called messengers, when he saw what a mess they made by littering the church property with all the brochures and leaflets thrust upon them in the exhibit area. "But the nice members of Brainerd Baptist Church kept picking them up, so it didn't look messy."

Minnie Tyme observed that the 1983 TBC might be called the Women's Convention. "Not only did we have a woman as parliamentarian, we also had a woman nominated as president — and she made the runoff. Also, a woman was chairman of the Committee on Resolutions."

Minnie added, "And with all the discussion about the resolution on women, we talked more about women than at any other convention I attended."

Newt said he was confused. He knew there are no women pastors in Tennessee, but he saw women attending the Pastors' Conference.

Minnie explained that to attend the Pastors' Conference, you did not have to be a pastor — no more than you had to be a woman to attend the WMU Convention.

Newt closed with a general observation about Baptists' stewardship of time. "I never saw so many long meetings in three and one-half days."

Week of Prayer for
Foreign Missions

December 4-11, 1983

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
International Goal: \$60,000,000
Tennessee Goal: \$3,750,000

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 75,573

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.

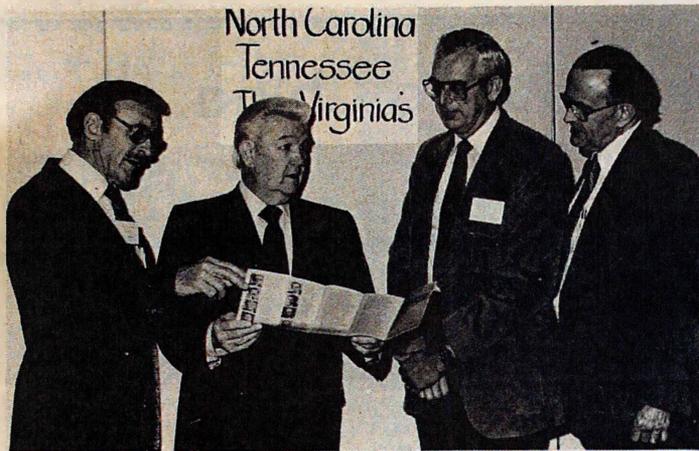
Space forbids printing of resolutions and obituaries. Advertising rates on request.

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 Foust, Jack May, Earl McCosh, Rudy Newby, Jerry Oakley, Thomas Pope, James Parch, James Sorrell, Fred Steelman, and Clarence Stewart.



TENNESSEANS AT MEDICAL FELLOWSHIP — Tennesseans (left to right) Roy Bourgoyne, an oral surgeon from Memphis; Henry Love, director of the Baptist Medical-Dental Fellowship; Merrill Moore, Alcoa physician; and Memphis internist A. B. Weir Jr. were among about 400 doctors and dentists who attended the Baptist Medical-Dental Fellowship meeting in Oklahoma City in November.

Donaldson to write lesson comments

Buck Donaldson, dean of the boys' dormitory at Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour, has been chosen to write the Uniform Lesson Series commentary for the Baptist and Reflector, beginning in this issue.

Donaldson took his current position this year after serving five years as a Southern Baptist foreign missionary to Kenya. Earlier, from 1960 to 1970, he was an SBC missionary to Tanzania and Nigeria.

Not new to Harrison Chilhowee, Donaldson was the academy's director of development and public relations from 1970 to 1973, and was public relations consultant and Bible teacher from 1974 to 1978. From 1973 to 1974, he was interim pastor of York Road Baptist Church in Leeds, England. He also served as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Townsend, from 1957 to 1960.

A native of Louisiana, he is a graduate of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.



Donaldson

Stewart Co. adds 17th congregation

Stewart County Baptist Association, meeting in annual session Oct. 27-28, added a 17th church into its fellowship.

Calvary Baptist Church was elected into the membership of the association, following approval of the congregation's application. The church, located in Bumpus Mills, was recently organized and is presently without a pastor.

In officer elections, Harold Phillips, pastor of Bear Springs Baptist Church in Bear Springs, was elected moderator, succeeding Morris E. Lee, pastor of Big Rock Baptist Church in Big Rock. Elected to assist Phillips as vice-moderator was Artie Rivers, pastor of Lakeview Baptist Church, Tennessee Ridge.

Re-elected to their positions were Clerk Wanda Luffman, a member of Fairview Baptist Church in Dover, and Treasurer T. L. Askew, a member of Corinth Baptist Church in Dover.

The meeting was held at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church of Indian Mound and Fairview Baptist Church. According to Stewart County Director of Missions H. D. Knight, the 1984 meeting of the association is scheduled for Oct. 25-26 at Pugh Flat Baptist Church of Bumpus Mills and Lakeview Baptist Church.

Personal Perspective

By Tom Madden
TBC Executive
Secretary-Treasurer



It has been my privilege to attend several dedications of church buildings. It is always an impressive and meaningful worship experience. These dedications involve vision, sacrifice, cooperation, and trust by the church family.

I recall quite vividly the first dedication I ever attended. I was a seminary student and a well-known pastor delivered the dedicatory message. He graphically painted how dark the night was spiritually in the first century.

A church was planted in Asia and a light punched a hole in the darkness. Then another church was planted and another light and then still others until the whole continent was ablaze with spiritual light.

I believed it then and I still believe that our Lord through His church shines and all the darkness in the world cannot put it out. It follows then that all of us need to be involved in planting new churches.

Each of us can also punch a hole in the darkness wherever we go. Prayer always punches a hole in darkness. A felt need, a cry for help and guidance and forgiveness, a walk with God, and claiming His presence will always let in light.

Love will punch holes in darkness. Love always abides. It never fades. Christ came to create within us loving hearts. True warmhearted love never fails to send forth light.

Faith is a greater puncher of holes in the world's darkness. We cannot read Hebrews 11 without becoming aware of how those spiritual giants, by faith, pierced the darkness.

Once the light of Christ is allowed to shine in our darkness, nothing can put it out.

'Seat Canadians,' NWBC implores

EUGENE, Ore. (BP) — The 36th annual meeting of the Northwest Baptist Convention saw messengers approve a \$2,986,093 budget for 1984, welcome 18 new churches seeking affiliation with the NWBC, and adopt a resolution reaffirming the convention's position in favor of seating Canadian messengers in the Southern Baptist Convention.

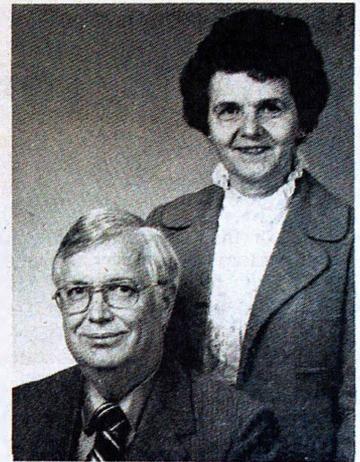
Messengers at the Nov. 8-10 meeting were told the rationale behind the 20 percent increase in the 1984 budget was to restore staff salary cuts and take advantage of Southern Baptist Home Mission Board funds being offered on a matching basis.

Cecil C. Sims, executive director-treasurer, said, in the last few years staff salaries had fallen about 20 percent below conventions of similar size and budget.

The 1984 budget upped the amount Northwest sends to the national Cooperative Program from 32 to 33 percent.

Not since 1952, when 20 churches sought affiliation with the NWBC, have more churches joined the convention. Among the churches seeking affiliation were nine from Oregon, three from Washington, three from Idaho, and three from Canada.

The resolution reaffirming the position to support the seating of Canadian messengers in the Southern Baptist Convention was unanimously approved.



Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins

Former Tennesseans take mission post

ATLANTA — Jesse Hawkins, former pastor of Fairview Baptist Church in Paris, was among six persons appointed to mission posts by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in November.

Hawkins, named with his wife Margaret, is the director of associational missions for Juniper and Klamath Baptist associations in Oregon.

He also had served as pastor of West End Baptist Church in Fayetteville. He was associational clerk-treasurer and Sunday School director in Fayetteville and associational moderator and Sunday School director in Paris.

He is a graduate of North Alabama State University in Florence and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

Hughes announces retirement plans

OAKLAND, Calif. (BP) — Robert D. Hughes, executive director-treasurer for 17 years, has announced he will retire at the end of 1984. The announcement came during the Southern Baptist General Convention of California annual meeting at the Oakland Convention Center.

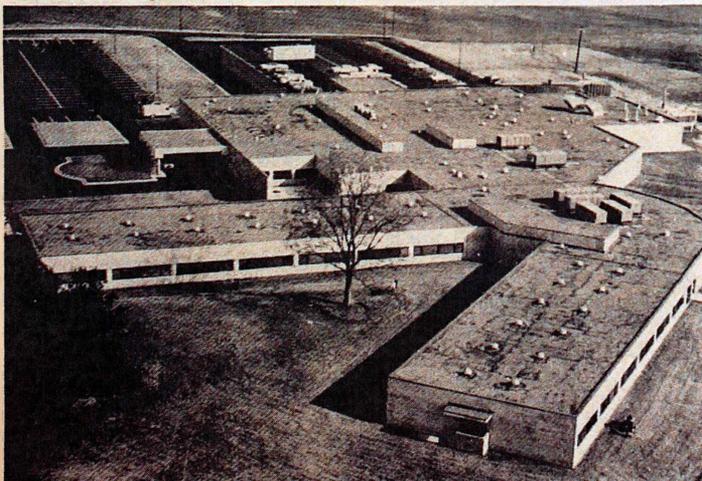
Messengers also approved a record California Cooperative Program budget of \$5.2-million for 1984, and voted to "reaffirm the infallibility and authority of the Bible."

A request by the trustees of the convention-owned California Baptist College for an emergency \$150,000 grant was pared to \$75,000 by the convention Executive Board which also recommended a special CBC offering day Feb. 26 in California churches. Messengers approved this special offering and set a goal of \$375,000.

Hughes, who will turn 65 next year, said his intention to retire was in the best interest of the convention and his family. Health problems during 1982 kept him from the annual meeting that year, but he told the Oakland convention his health had been restored and he was not retiring due to health reasons.

The budget includes 28 percent to the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program, an increase of 0.25 percent over the previous year.

The Bible issue came in a resolution which encountered lengthy debate primarily over "liberalism" in SBC seminaries and colleges. An attempt was made to add the word "inerrant" but in a close vote, the amendment failed and the original resolution eventually was approved.



NEW BAPTIST HOSPITAL — Baptist Memorial Hospital-Lauderdale in Ripley will open Dec. 4 for a public preview of the new 70-bed facility. The hospital, part of the Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Memphis, will admit patients beginning Dec. 11.

Wake Forest doctors take tour to China

By Erich Bridges

GUANGZHOU, China (BP)— The typical Chinese surgeon earns less than \$100 a month, rides to the hospital on a bicycle, and boils water in a teakettle to sterilize surgical instruments.

But he does "just as good a job as we could with far less equipment," and often with another operation going on in the same room, says American physician Robert Cooper.

Cooper and five other doctors from Bowman Gray School of Medicine, part of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C., returned in October from a two-week stay in China.

The Bowman Gray doctors, accompanied by their wives, lectured and observed life at Zhongshan Medical College in Guangzhou (Canton), a southeastern Chinese metropolis near Hong Kong. One of China's top five medical schools, Zhongshan boasts five teaching hospitals with 2,000 beds, three research institutes, hundreds of faculty members, and nearly 3,000 students.

The Chinese invitation came to Bowman Gray surgeon Timothy Pennell through Bill Swan, Bowman Gray's medical consultant for Asia. Swan runs a clinic in the tiny Portuguese colony of Macao on the Chinese coast.

Pennell is a longtime activist for international health care and consultant to Christian hospitals overseas. He said he "handpicked" his Bowman Gray colleagues — two surgeons, a cancer specialist, radiologist, and physiologist — for their expertise, commitment to Christian service, and ability to make friends.

A "buddy" system paired Chinese and American specialists — surgeon to surgeon, radiologist to radiologist, and so on — for making rounds on wards together, discussing mutual problems, and trading stories of memorable cases.

"The most significant thing was the personal relationships, one on one with each other," Pennell explained. "Now we know who they are, what their needs and capabilities are, and they know the same about us."

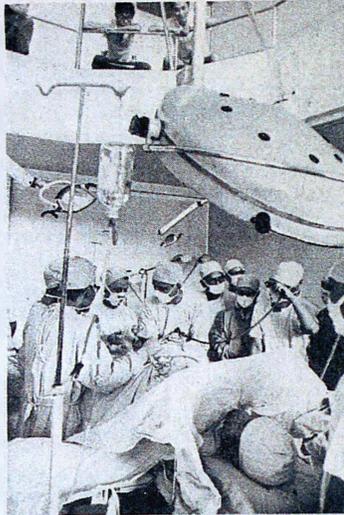
The Americans got to know doctors like Huang Jie-fu, general surgeon. Huang grew up in a small village, deciding to become a doctor after his father died from poor treatment of acute hepatitis.

"Before he died he asked me to study medicine," Huang said. "As a doctor I feel I can save many people from the agony of death. So I will do my best to become a good surgeon."

During the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution, a time of near chaos in China, Zhongshan Medical College closed for three years and many teachers and students were sent to work in the countryside. Huang went to a mine clinic in the mountains of southwest China. There he found desperately poor peasants dying of maladies such as appendicitis and ulcers.

"I had no professor to consult. I was responsible alone," Huang related. "But I could do my best to serve the patients in hardworking conditions. A surgeon must have confidence and make decisions quickly. Perhaps in this respect I am now superior to some classmates in the school." He eagerly awaits the chance for advanced study in the United States.

Though the Americans saw equipment in use that one surgeon said appeared to have come "off Noah's Ark," they unanimously praised both the Chinese doctors' medical skills and their open-



IN SURGERY — Orthopedic Surgeon Gary Poehling (center) operates on a damaged knee as Chinese doctors and students watch. Photos by Don Rutledge.

ness about shortcomings. "They desperately need Western technology and they're aware of it," observed cancer specialist Cooper. "But I was surprised at how open they were to show us their facilities and all we wanted to see."

Cooper hopes to exchange information regularly with researchers at Zhongshan's cancer institute, particularly about a type of nasal cancer very common in and around Guangzhou.

That kind of exchange is what the Chinese are looking for as they pursue the much publicized "Four Modernizations" — advance in science and technology, industry, agriculture, and defense. China welcomes foreigners who can help speed progress in any of those areas.

"I never lectured for three hours straight before," exclaimed physiologist Phillip Hutchins. "I wanted to stop for a break but they kept asking questions. They're thirsty for knowledge, very thirsty."

After another overflow, lecture, Chinese specialists eagerly surrounded Pennell, showering him with questions about study opportunities at Bowman Gray.

The Bowman Gray group wants to play a role, however modest, in China's unfolding future by establishing an ongoing relationship with colleagues at Zhongshan. The next step will likely be an exchange of medical studies and treatment plans, followed by a possible second trip to China next year. Then, both sides hope one or more Chinese physicians will be able to study at Winston-Salem.

Through it all, Cooper said, the North Carolina doctors feel "an opportunity to be ambassadors for Christ" through friendship and service.

Several of the Chinese guides and doctors said they noticed "something different" about the Bowman Gray team that set it apart from other visiting groups. As they said farewell at one airport, a female guide brushed away tears.

Pennell summarized the group's hopes: "If our institution can make a contribution, then well and good. If we all can find some means of developing a peaceful coexistence with a quarter of the world's population, then that's worth keeping in mind, too."



SHARING — American doctors swap surgery stories with Chinese surgeon David Fong (right). Timothy Pennell (second from right), also a surgeon, led a team from Wake Forest University's Bowman Gray School of Medicine to China during a cultural exchange.

Hunger expert confronts presidential task force

ATLANTA (BP)— A Southern Baptist hunger specialist urged the President's Task Force on Food Assistance to tell President Ronald Reagan cuts in federal food assistance programs have gone far past eliminating "fat" in the programs and have been a major reason for significant increases in hunger in the United States.

"What I read, what I hear, and what I experience tells me cuts in food assistance programs have gone far past cutting out inefficiency," asserted Andy Loving, administrative director for SEEDS, a hunger ministry by Oakhurst Baptist Church in Decatur, Ga., and board member for Bread for the World, a Christian citizens' coalition directed at hunger issues.

"The cuts are hurting millions of people. I don't think that is soft-headed or soft-hearted, just honest and objective."

Loving, a Southern Baptist minister, told the task force that during his travels throughout the United States and through participation in a Baptist Center soup kitchen, he has observed dramatic increases in requests for emergency food assistance.

"People who have never had to ask for assistance are coming, the so-called 'new poor,'" he explained. Loving noted in Atlanta, Techwood Baptist Center Director Terry Moncrief reported requests for emergency food assistance tripled during the past two years, from 40-60 a month to 180-200 a month. At least half of the requests came from people whose food stamps ran out.

That same center, Loving added, sponsors a soup kitchen during the last full week of the month. Recently, he explained, soup kitchen workers had to turn people away because they ran out of food.

"On Thursday, the last day of the month, we fed about 125 people," he continued. "On Friday, the first of the month, people got paychecks and government checks and we fed 45. Lesson: People don't come to our kitchen to get free food, they come because they

are hungry and don't have any other choice."

He also noted other Atlanta-city soup kitchens, which traditionally serve "street people," have begun to attract a different clientele: families and children. Loving added people coming to soup kitchens report food stamp benefits do not last through the month.

Citing a recently completed study by the Washington-based Food Research and Action Center of people who are turning to food pantries, Loving asserted current levels of food stamp benefits are not enough to insure that people will not go hungry.

He called on the task force to urge the president to forego further budget cuts for food assistance programs.

Following his testimony before the task force, Loving told Baptist Press last year's "Preventing Hunger At Home Resolution," initiated by Bread for the World and overwhelmingly passed by Congress, showed the legislature's support to end social services budget cuts.

But the resolution was legislatively non-binding, he added. This year, the Reagan administration is proposing more cuts in social services. Baptists should write their representatives and senators "and say, 'That's enough,'" Loving said. "People are suffering and cuts have gone too far. We need to find other places to cut the budget besides places which deal with food."

Sam Brooks accepts Candies Creek call

Candies Creek Baptist Church, Charleston, recently called Sam Brooks as its pastor.

Brooks came to the church from the pastorate of Washington Avenue Baptist Church, Cookeville. He was previously pastor of Big Spring Baptist Church, Cleveland; Rocky Valley Baptist Church, Lebanon; and Hurricane Baptist Church, also in Lebanon.

Brooks is a native of Paris.

Oak Hills joins Jefferson Co.

Oak Hills Baptist Church was elected as a member of Jefferson County Baptist Association at the association's annual meeting, Oct. 20-21.

The church, located near Jefferson City, was accepted by the association under watchcare in 1982, and final approval for membership was granted at the recent meeting. Gary Marshall is the pastor of the church.

In other business, Robert McCray, pastor of First Baptist Church in Dandridge, was elected moderator, and Jerry DeZearn, pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Piney, was elected vice-moderator. McCray succeeds Marshall Hargrove, a member of First Baptist Church in Jefferson City.

Re-elected to their posts were Treasurer Janet Witt, a member of Beaver Creek Baptist Church in Strawberry Plains; Clerk Kathleen Lockhart, a member of Flat Gap Baptist Church in New Market; Assistant Treasurer John W. Witt Jr., pastor of Beaver Creek Baptist Church; and Assistant Clerk Donna Brown, a member of Flat Gap Baptist Church.

First Baptist Church, Dandridge, and Talbott Baptist Church, Talbott, hosted the meeting. According to Jefferson County Director of Missions Carl Ogle, the 1984 meeting of the association will be held Oct. 18-19 at First Baptist Church, Jefferson City, and Central Heights Baptist Church, Dandridge.

Volunteers leave for Upper Volta

Four more Tennesseans left Nov. 26 to serve as volunteers with the hunger and relief project in Upper Volta. The Tennessee Baptist Convention is involved with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in a five-year pilot project to aid in water conservation, medical, literacy, and evangelism emphases in that western African nation.

Those leaving last Saturday were: —Shirley Farley, a member of Bear Cove Baptist Church, Sparta, serving as a literacy worker;

—Darlene Foster, a member of Rose-dale Baptist Church, Nashville, serving as a nurse;

—Nickey Norrod, a member of Allons Baptist Church, Allons, serving as a literacy worker; and

—Gerald Parham, a member of Jolley Springs Baptist Church, Dresden, serving as a maintenance worker.

Bledsoe association holds 69th meeting

Bledsoe Baptist Association held its 69th annual fall meeting Oct. 20 at Indian Hills Baptist Church in Gallatin.

Leading the meeting were officers elected during the association's annual spring session: Moderator Don Peek, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lafayette; Vice-moderator Richard Patton, pastor of First Baptist Church, Portland; and Treasurer Jack Goodwin, pastor of Indian Hills Baptist Church.

The next annual fall meeting of the association is scheduled for Oct. 18, 1984, at Dixon Creek Baptist Church, Dixon Springs.

J. C. Lewis is the director of missions for the Bledsoe association.



UPPER VOLTA BOOTH — The Hunger Committee of the Tennessee Baptist Convention sponsored a booth during the recent convention meeting showing the work and artifacts from the Upper Volta Hunger and Relief Project. The booth was staffed by volunteers to the project and their spouses including Nancy Ridge, wife of volunteer Larry Ridge and a member of Bayside Baptist Church in Chattanooga, and Baxter Trent, a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Kingsport.

Riverside re-elects Geren, Madewell

Terry Geren and Michael Madewell were re-elected to lead Riverside Baptist Association during its 96th annual meeting Oct. 20-21.

Geren, pastor of Allons Baptist Church in Allons, was elected to a new term as moderator, and Madewell, pastor of First Baptist Church in Byrdstown, was elected assistant moderator. Also re-elected to their posts were Treasurer T. L. Peterman, a member of Allons Baptist Church, and Assistant Treasurer Barbara Collins, a member of Fellowship Baptist Church in Allons.

Elected to first terms were Charles M. Goble, pastor of Round Mountain Baptist Church in Jamestown, as clerk; and Judson Hays, pastor of Jamestown's First Baptist Church, as assistant clerk.

The meeting was held at Fellowship Baptist Church and Round Mountain Baptist Church. According to Riverside Director of Missions Winburn Davis, the 97th meeting of the association will be held Oct. 18-19 at First Baptist Church, Byrdstown, and First Baptist Church, Livingston.

New Salem marks opening of office

New Salem Association of Baptists, meeting for its 96th annual session Oct. 23, celebrated the opening of its new associational office.

The office, located in Carthage, will provide a base of operations for the association and its director of missions, Michael L. Pearson. The messengers to the meeting also marked the beginning of a seminary extension center in the office building.

In officer elections, Jonas Taylor, pastor of Rome Baptist Church in Lebanon, was elected moderator, succeeding Jere Plunk, pastor of First Baptist Church, Carthage. Michael Christian, pastor of First Baptist Church in Gordonsville, was elected to assist Taylor as vice-moderator, while Terry Vantrease, pastor of Hickman Baptist Church in Hickman, was elected clerk.

Henry Smith, a member of First Baptist Church in Carthage, was re-elected to his post as treasurer.

Peyton's Creek Baptist Church, Monroeville, was the site of the meeting.

New Mexico sets \$4.6-million budget

LAS CRUCES, N.M. (BP) — Messengers to the 71st annual meeting of the Baptist Convention of New Mexico increased Cooperative Program gifts by one percent.

Adopting a total operating budget of \$4,604,152, the convention approved a state Cooperative Program budget of \$2,290,351. A one percent increase to worldwide causes through the national Cooperative Program brings the SBC portion to 30 percent.

Executive Director Chester O'Brien reported the Baptist building in Albuquerque has recently been renovated and the upstairs portion is now fully rented. The downstairs portion of the building is used for convention offices. Proceeds from the rental, O'Brien indicated, should amount to about \$25,000 annually and will be used to help pay costs of renovation.

Nine resolutions were presented and adopted without discussion. They ranged from expressing gratitude to the host church to communicating to "our governor and state legislators our desires for stricter laws and enforcement in regard to driving while intoxicated."

Tennessee Valley re-elects Jones

Billy Jones was re-elected to lead the Tennessee Valley Baptist Association during its annual meeting Oct. 27-28.

Jones, pastor of Wolf Creek Baptist Church in Spring City, was elected to a new term as the association's moderator. Others re-elected were Vice-moderator Danny Ruehling, pastor of New Union Baptist Church in Dayton; and Treasurer James M. Roberts Jr., and Clerk Alda Roberts, both members of First Baptist Church, Dayton.

Elected to a first term were Charles Robinson, pastor of Saint Clair Baptist Church in Spring City, as assistant treasurer; and Glenn Chattin, a member of Wolf Creek Baptist Church, as assistant clerk.

Also at the meeting, the association marked the 10th anniversary of its migrant missions ministry. Each summer since 1973, the TVBA has sponsored a missions Vacation Bible School and a migrant evangelistic thrust for migrant workers who come to harvest Rhea County's tomato crop (see the Aug. 17 issue of Baptist and Reflector).

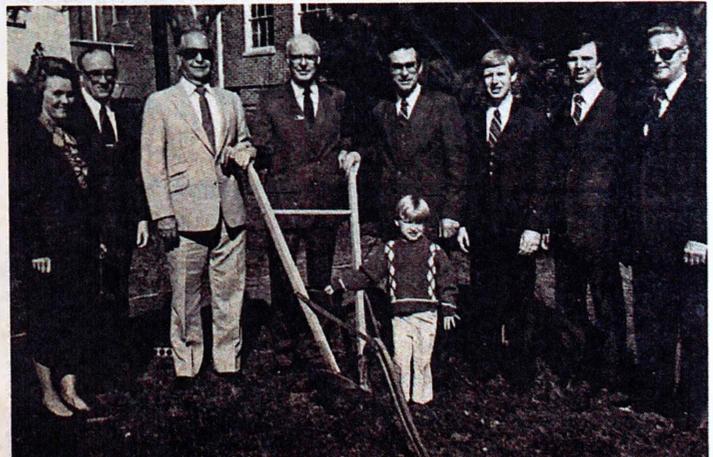
First Baptist Church, Sale Creek, and Grandview Baptist Church, Grandview, hosted the meeting. According to Tennessee Valley Director of Missions Ben Walker, the 1984 meeting of the association is set for Oct. 25-26 at Wolf Creek Baptist Church and Walden's Ridge Baptist Church, Dayton.

Union University honors Robertson

JACKSON — Fulton Robertson, director of missions for the Hardeman County Baptist Association, will be honored at Union University Dec. 2.

Robertson will be recognized as this year's Outstanding Director of Missions during the college's 10 a.m. chapel service by John Adams, vice-president for religious affairs. Robertson will be honored with a plaque on the basis of his service to God, the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and Union University.

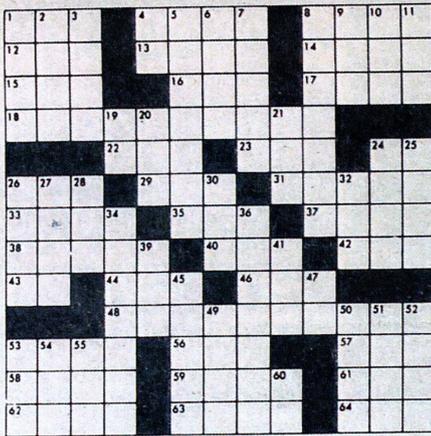
Nominated for the award by pastors across west Tennessee, Robertson was selected by a five-member committee. He has served the Hardeman County association since 1962.



BREAKING GROUND IN COOKEVILLE — First Baptist Church, Cookeville, held a ground-breaking ceremony Nov. 6 in anticipation of a construction and a renovation program. The construction will include an addition comprised of classrooms, offices, a music suite, and a kitchen; and a family life center. Behind the plow and Will Hutchinson are, from left, Mrs. and Mr. Charlie Guthrey, Wallace Goodwin, James Seay Brown, Pastor Gerald Stow, Charles Hutchinson, Mike Casey, and Byron Epps.

Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 10



DOWN

- 1 "— to come" (Eph. 2:7)
- 2 Arias
- 3 "great —" (Ezek. 30:16)
- 4 "— of good cheer" (Matt. 9:2)
- 5 "land of —" (2 Ki. 19:37)
- 6 Abel's brother (Gen. 4:8)
- 7 "— of the Lord" (Num. 22:31)
- 8 "earthly, —" (Jas. 3:15)
- 9 "his city was —" (1 Ch. 1:50)
- 10 "— his son" (1 Ki. 15:8)
- 11 Cape
- 19 "— up to Jerusalem" (Matt. 20:18)
- 20 Nilotic Negro
- 21 "received the —" (John 13:30)
- 24 Gamble
- 25 Son of Judah (1 Ch. 2:3)
- 26 Headwear, pl. (Dan. 3:21)
- 27 "call me —" (Hos. 2:16)
- 28 Blue grass (genus)
- 30 "— in wait" (Deut. 19:11)
- 32 "even unto —" (1 Ki. 12:30)
- 34 "— you holy" (Col. 1:22)
- 36 Biblical "Salt Sea": two words
- 39 "— things" (Luke 2:39)
- 41 Female deer
- 45 Merari's son (Ex. 6:19)
- 47 Rural Route: abbr.
- 49 Dravidian
- 50 Jacob's brother (Gen. 25:26)
- 51 "no man —" (Jas. 3:8)
- 52 "—, Master" (Matt. 26:49)
- 53 "made in the —" (1 Ch. 9:31)
- 54 Core
- 55 Article: Fr.
- 60 Preacher's degree

ACROSS

- 1 Viper (Isa. 11:8)
- 4 "valley of —" (Psa. 84:6)
- 8 "children of a —" (Lam. 2:20)
- 12 Gazelle, black-tailed
- 13 "Shuthelah: of —" (Num. 26:36)
- 14 "at —" (Job 12:5)
- 15 "house of —" (1 Ki. 2:27)
- 16 Alley
- 17 Island, west of Sumatra
- 18 "— of heart" (Col. 3:22)
- 22 "his — will" (Dan. 11:16)
- 23 Man's name
- 24 "— a mile" (Matt. 5:41)
- 26 "— and thigh" (Judg. 15:8)
- 29 "— smoother than —" (Prov. 5:3)
- 31 "I came from —" (Gen. 48:7)
- 33 "give —" (John 13:26)
- 35 To help
- 37 "Eli, —" (Matt. 27:46)
- 38 Abraham's father (Luke 3:34)
- 40 Moslem Easter
- 42 "honourable —" (Isa. 5:13)
- 43 Yes: Span.
- 44 "poplars and —" (Hos. 4:13)
- 46 Aorist: abbr.
- 48 "— his neighbour" (Psa. 101:5)
- 53 "a — horse" (Rev. 6:8)
- 56 Pres. of have
- 57 Measure, old Arab
- 58 "saith the —" (Rev. 3:14)
- 59 "thou hast —" (Isa. 57:11)
- 61 Friend: Fr.
- 62 "— in a rock" (Num. 24:21)
- 63 Enoch's son (Gen. 4:18)
- 64 Son of Bani (Ezra 10:34)

CRYPTOVERSE

PSI PHCI HW GDAGHAAIB NMB
 PSI FHMZBJC JG ZJB HW NP
 SNMB YITIMP XI Today's Cryptoverse clue: H equals I

Arizona Baptists reject attempt to alter membership requirements

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP)— Arizona Southern Baptists declined to require churches to be members of local associations in order to belong to the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention.

The change in membership require-

ments was included in a proposed new Constitution for the ASBC. Instead, with no discussion, messengers approved an amendment which continued the present membership requirements based on a church's following "New Testament standards of principle and policy" and being "loyal to the full program of the body by gifts and service."

The new Constitution was then approved after a few other minor changes for clarity.

Hunger funds aid Filipino families

MINDANAO, Philippines — More than 10,300 Filipino families, many of whom have been forced to eat their livestock and seed during an extended drought, have received 5,672 bags of rice from Southern Baptists this year.

Baptist missionaries and Filipinos on the island of Mindanao received \$80,000 in World Hunger Funds to provide fruit trees, fertilizer, portions of seed corn for planting, and two weeks' worth of rations. All were for areas where no other organization was responding.

About 4,000 families in the area will receive enough seed corn to plant one hectare (about 2.5 acres) each.

Union City Baptists call Adams as pastor

First Baptist Church, Union City, called Mike Adams as pastor, a ministry he began Nov. 21.

Adams came to the church from the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Fulton, Ky., and was previously pastor of First Baptist Church, Grand Junction, and Spring Hill Baptist Church, Trenton.

Active in associational and denominational work, Adams has served as moderator of the Hardeman County Baptist Association and Kentucky's Fulton County Baptist Association, as president of the Hardeman County Pastors' Conference, as chairman of the missions and finance committees of the Hardeman County association, as a member of the religious advisory board for Union University in Jackson, and as a member of the Committee on Arrangements for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Adams is a graduate of Union University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.



COLLECTION — James McKinney, dean of church music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, holds a collection of the works of E. M. Bartlett, writer of "Victory in Jesus." The complete collection was presented to Southwestern by Bartlett's sons, Gene (seated) and Charles.

Messengers approved a \$3.8-million 1984 convention budget, an 8.99 percent increase over 1983. The budget includes a 0.25 percent increase, to 26 percent, in Cooperative Program funds sent to the worldwide mission and education programs of the Southern Baptist Convention.

All resolutions presented by the resolutions committee were unanimously approved with no amendments and almost no discussion.

Three resolutions opposed the use of alcoholic drinks as a beverage, expressed support for raising the legal drinking age to 21, and voiced appreciation to Governor Bruce Babbitt, the state legislature, and Department of Public Safety for passage and enforcement of the new drunk driving law.

Others denounced gambling and pornography, asked churches and the state convention to "provide material on humanism and how we can counteract the materialistic, atheistic philosophy that is becoming so prevalent in our society today" and expressed concern for the institution of the family.

A resolution on religious liberty expressed concern about "the suppression of religious liberty either by the establishment of religion or by the denial of free exercise" and recognized the United States Constitution and First Amendment as adequate and sufficient guarantees to protect religious freedom.

Maryland budget tops \$3-million

SILVER SPRING, Md. (BP)— The Baptist Convention of Maryland approved the 1984 budget of \$3,275,000 at a busy, but calm, session at Colesville Baptist Church, Nov. 14-16.

The Cooperative Program operating budget of \$2,217,000 will be distributed 40 percent to the Southern Baptist Convention, and 60 percent to the Baptist Convention of Maryland. The SBC share reflects a one-half percent increase.

The 559 messengers also approved the first step for a convention name change. If a favorable vote is taken in 1984, the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware will become the official name for the body. Delaware is one of 12 associations in the convention.

The messengers heard a report concerning the possibility of developing a partnership with the African nation of Burundi, at the request of the Foreign Mission Board.

There was some discussion on a resolution to oppose national legislation which would authorize an ambassador to the Vatican. The resolution passed, along with an amendment to notify President Ronald Reagan and U.S. senators and representatives from Maryland and Delaware.

Another resolution resolved to support unemployed persons with prayer and efforts to influence "the political and economic systems in developing jobs."

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 _____

Kansas-Nebraska sets budget, elects layman

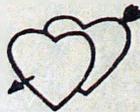
TOPEKA, Kan. (BP)— Messengers to the 38th annual meeting of the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists Nov. 15-17 elected their first layman as convention president and approved a \$2.69-million budget.

About 325 messengers registered for the Topeka, Kan., meeting. Mahlon Morley, a banker from Belle Plaine, Kan., was elected president.

The 1984 budget of \$2,689,444 is a 9.7 percent increase over the 1983 budget and increases KNCS's Cooperative Program giving to national and worldwide Southern Baptist Convention programs by one percent to 26 percent for 1984.

PEW CUSHIONS

Master Crafted



With Loving Care

Call or write for specifications and price list.

NASHVILLE UPHOLSTERING CO.

2301 12th Ave. So., Nashville, Tn. 37204
 Phone 615-269-9628

also—pews upholstered or reupholstered

(Advertisement)

TENNESSEE BAPTIST
Children's Homes
 P. O. Box 347
 BRENTWOOD
 37027
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/TREASURER
 EVANS B. BOWEN



The picture above was one of several brought to the Franklin Campus reunion this year in which alumni shared past memories. This picture was taken in June of 1932. The boys were the residents of Barton Dorm. Mrs. J. G. Estes of Nashville was the matron at this time.

The picture was loaned to us by one of the young men in the photo, Mr. Jack Kite. He was at the Franklin Home from 1924-1932. Mr. Kite is a retired business man who now resides in Strawberry Plains. He is a member of Burlington Methodist Church of Knoxville.

1983 has been a good year in so many ways for the ministry of TBCH. There were 39 children who came to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. This alone would be cause for great rejoicing.



There is more to be told, however. We ministered to more than 525 children and hundreds of families. The needs are varied and many. We are grateful to be able to meet these needs in the name of Jesus.

TBCH received invitations to more than 55 of Tennessee Baptist Annual Associational Meetings. We were able to inform those who make the ministry possible concerning the program at TBCH. The reports were received graciously. Many compliments have been passed on the staff members who made reports at the Associational Meetings. Everyone who commented to me said the reports were good and presented in a fine manner. For all of this, we are thankful.

1983 has also been the best year ever for our Annual Mother's Day Offering. You may remember that Tennessee Baptists gave \$577,000.00 to this offering — the largest ever received. This is no doubt indicative of your concern and support for the Child Care Ministry.

Speaking of 1983 and good things, Thanksgiving 1983 was again a time to rejoice just knowing that many neglected children enjoyed plenty of food, a warm bed, a beautiful cottage in which to live, and a lot of love expressed through the staff. All of this is because Tennessee Baptists care.

The announcement of retirement by Dr. Bowen leaves a big vacancy in the Central Office. We wish for him the very best while requesting your prayers for the remaining staff and the Board of Trustees.

I was hungry ... I was thirsty ... I was sick ... and you came unto me. Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least ... you have done it unto me.

A LASTING CONTRIBUTION

Many ask, "What can I do to help the children?" One significant contribution to child care at TBCH which will live forever is a gift through your properly prepared Will. Everyone is a potential donor. We all have something and one way to use it after we are gone is to properly designate our possessions to our favorite ministry.

Here are some important questions and answers about a Will which can make it easy to draft your Will:

Q. Is a will the only way to distribute property at death?

A. No, there are a variety of ways to distribute property including joint ownership, trusts, life insurance, or contracts. Even if you have made these type of arrangements, you still need a will for other reasons, such as naming a guardian for minor children or determining your own executor.

Q. Are handwritten wills legal?
 A. A handwritten or holographic will is legal in twenty-seven states. Unfortunately a will written without the help of an attorney is usually not as effective and can cause more problems than it solves. An attorney can help you save unnecessary estate taxes and legal expenses.

Q. What is the fee for having a will written?

A. Most attorneys are willing to quote fees in advance. It is recommended that you discuss your plans with an attorney and get a quote before beginning the drafting of your will. The attorney's fee is usually a good investment because he or she may be able to help save you unnecessary expense later.

Q. When is the best time to write a will?

A. As soon as you can. The majority of people in this country die without a will. This is primarily because they put off making their will until they're "older" or "retired" or are financially "well off." And, they just never get around to doing it. Every adult needs a will, regardless of his or her age or how much property is owned.

Q. Does a wife need a will if her husband has one?

A. Yes. And for all the same reason that he needs one. Her estate needs the protection of a will to avoid extra costs and delays just as his does.

Q. What is the difference between an administrator, and executor or an executrix?

A. If a person dies without a will, the courts appoint an administrator to manage the distribution of the estate. When you write your will you can name your own administrator who is called an

LIFE AT TBCH MEANS



A PLACE CALLED HOME



CHILDREN PLAYING



CHILDREN FOLLOWING CHRIST



CHILDREN WORKING



CHILDREN STUDYING



CHILDREN SMILING

executor, if a man, or executrix, if a woman.

Q. How many witnesses should sign my will?

A. Most states require two, some require three. You must sign your will in the presence of your witnesses and they must sign in your presence and in the presence of each other.

Q. Do the witnesses read the will?

A. No. You must inform them that this is your last will and testament. However, they do not need to know the contents when they sign.

Q. Where can I find more information about writing a will?

A. Contact our office in Brentwood, TN, P.O. Box 347 phone 615-373-5707 or Tennessee Baptist Foundation, P.O. Box 347.

HONOR AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

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

Date _____
 Name of Deceased _____
 Name of Honored _____
 Letter of Acknowledgement to go to: _____
 Full Name _____
 Street _____
 City and State _____
 Donor is: _____
 Name _____
 Street _____
 City and State _____

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

"Let Us Not Be Weary In Well Doing."
 Gal. 6:9

BIBLE BOOK SERIES
Lesson for Dec. 4

Working together

By Cordell Maddox, president
Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City

Basic Passage: Philippians 1:27 to 2:30
Focal Passage: Philippians 1:27 to 2:9, 12-13

The Cooperative Program has helped Southern Baptists get about the business of missions in our world. I believe it is the greatest means for carrying out a mission endeavor the world has ever known.

Its benefits do not need defending. But it is necessary to stop now and then and remind ourselves that "program" is not as important as the word "cooperative." This word is built on the word "cooperate." If Christians are to work successfully for the gospel, we must cooperate with each other.



Maddox

Living worthy of the gospel
If we are to work together for the gospel, each one of us must live worthy of the gospel (1:27-30). How can we do that? The text mentions three ways.

First, we must "stand firm in one spirit" (1:27). This means that we must be unified in our mission efforts. We cannot accomplish very much for Jesus when we work against each other, or separate from one another, or in spite of each other. Whatever our differences, we must maintain unity which only the Holy Spirit can create.

Also, we must "strive together for the faith of the gospel" if we live worthy of the gospel (1:27). This means we must hold tightly to the content of the gospel. We must be true to the teachings of the Christian faith. Notice that we are to strive "together." Working for the gospel is not an individual matter. It is a corporate enterprise!

Finally, to live worthy of the gospel, we must be courageous (1:29-30). We are to face whatever opposition we have

bravely. We are to be true to Christ no matter how difficult the struggle.

Having the mind of Christ

If we cooperate in working for the gospel, each of us must develop the "mind of Christ" (2:1-11). This basically involves caring for one another. Notice how Paul describes this. It means practicing, kindness, support, affection, compassion, unity, and love (2:1-2). Our mission in the world is weakened when we become selfish, proud, and insensitive (2:3-4).

What is the mind or attitude of Christ? Paul gives an example of what he means by describing Jesus' behavior (2:5-11).

Jesus had the right to seek His own interests by holding on to His position with God. Yet He chose to give up His rights to do what was best for mankind. He put our needs above His own interests. That was His attitude. He always put human needs above His own.

He still does. You and I have His "mind" when we behave the same way. Working together means we put each other's needs above our own wants. This is a necessary ingredient in cooperation.

Maturing in the faith

If we are to work together for the gospel, we must mature in the faith. The Christian warfare is not for the weak and immature! Maturity comes when we complete, or develop the salvation God has given us (2:12). This development takes place when we maintain right attitudes (2:14); behave properly in the world (2:15); and hold tightly to the words of life (2:16).

In today's world of conflicting ideologies, humanistic teachings, and a strong emphasis on personal rights, a Christian finds himself wavering in commitment, loyalty, and enthusiasm. The church fellowship is often interrupted by such individuals who have major responsibility in the fellowship without the maturity to handle conflict. Churches must learn to maintain a strong fellowship of love in order to promote personal growth among all members and add stability to the fellowship.

A final look

This text encourages us to evaluate how we work for the gospel. We can work independently of one another, but when we do, we touch only part of the world where we happen to be at any given time. When we cooperate with each other in the gospel mission, we can touch the whole world at the same time.

Gospel work is something we need to do together!

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES
Lesson for Dec. 4

A new day for God's people

By Buck Donaldson, boys' dormitory dean
Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour

Basic Passages: Isaiah 2:1-5; 62; 65:17-25
Focal Passages: Isaiah 2:2-4; 62:1-3

The reigns of two kings, Jeroboam II (786-746 B.C.) in Israel, and Uzziah (783-742 B.C.) in Judah, ushered these nations into an era of prosperity second only to the "Golden Age" of Solomon's kingdom. For a brief time the two divisions of God's people concentrated on kingdom building, not on an internal struggle for supremacy. God blessed both of them.

But prosperity is a nebulous commodity. Its outreach is strong, but its vision is dim. Israel and Judah grasped for wealth and power and succeeded. But they both lost sight of their source of strength - Jehovah God. When God is not at the helm of any national endeavor, it loses meaning.



Donaldson

Isaiah, whose name means "God is Salvation," and whose father, Amoz, was probably a member of Judah's aristocratic society, began "speaking out" for God at a time when the Judean sun of wealth and power was moving into an eclipse with the judgment of God on this sinful nation (740 B.C.).

Isaiah prophesied - spoke out in God's strength - not so much about what would happen as about what had to happen because of Judah's sins, and because of the nature of God. Isaiah's message was a "word which he saw" concerning judgment and concerning hope!

Judah and Israel would fall because of their sins. But God had a plan for a new day. He "looked beyond their sins and saw their need" - a Saviour. Isaiah's word of hope to a nation destined for destruction was the "word" which echoes all the way to the final testimony of the New Testament: "The kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our God and of His Son!"

In this study of chapters 2, 62, and 65, Isaiah's God-enlightened vision leaps from the scene of Judah's imminent self-destruction to the glorious but distant scene of God's patient molding of the kingdom to reach His divine goals.

In Isaiah's time, nations would fall to the sword of other nations, but God would sustain His remnant - His ideal kingdom - for eternity. Jerusalem, the beautiful city, was destined for physical destruction, but the true Jerusalem - the faithful city - would one day become the ideal capital of God's making.

Even the world scene, marked by greed for power and the destruction of endless wars, would not be left desolate. God will - in His time - "create new heavens and a new earth... My holy mountain."

The mountain of the Lord's house (2:1-5)

That name, "mountain of the Lord's house," is a dramatic designation for the ideal Jewish nation - God's work of divine patience. When that nation becomes truly a "name" and a "praise" for the God of her salvation, she shall stand in her rightful place, exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to

her. The glory of the true nation of God's people will call forth desire in the nations of the earth to be so blessed - to know God's ways, His laws, and His judgments. Brotherhood will be true brotherhood. This is the light of the Lord.

Zion - called by a new name (62:1-3)
Zion, that beautiful city, Jerusalem, with such potential for leadership and such tenor for destruction, would not always waver. This "City of David" with its glorious Temple was not meant for eternal destruction but for eternal witness to the righteousness of God. God will not "rest" until the ideal is reached. The remnant of His people shall see God transform this holy hill to match the pattern of her destiny: "A royal diadem in the hand of thy God." And she will have a new name!

A new world order (65:17-25)

"For behold I create..." God completes the world - the ideal nation with her royal new city in a new heaven and a new earth. No word here concerns rewards for service or man's achievements, just the nature of God to provide hope for His people.

God created with a plan. God sustains by His grace. God's will will be done "on earth as it is in heaven."

Isaiah sees on the horizon an ideal world order: "The wolf and the lamb shall graze together... in all My holy mountain," says the Lord! Isaiah saw a word beyond destruction, revealing things that must happen because of the nature of God!

Louisiana approves crusades in Korea

BOSSIER CITY, La. (BP) - Louisiana Baptists voiced opposition to gambling, tuition tax credits, and appointing an ambassador to the Vatican at their 136th annual session Nov. 14-16.

Raymond T. Boswell of Shreveport was the second layman in 23 years to be elected president.

Business actions included adopting a \$15,750,000 budget, an increase of only \$250,000; and accepting the invitation of Korean Baptists to conduct evangelistic crusades through Sunday Schools in 20 South Korean churches in April of 1985.

National and worldwide Southern Baptist Convention programs will receive 34 percent, the same as 1983.

Two of the 10 resolutions adopted were on the subject of gambling. The resolution on raffles, lotteries, and games of chance was passed as amended by Richard Luebbert of New Orleans to "make it stronger." The resolution concluded by stating "we call attention to the fact that raffles, lotteries, and games of chance are forms of gambling and we oppose these as well as all other forms of gambling."

The other gambling resolution called for the governor and legislature to discourage any action which "would further legalize gambling in our state."

The resolution on tuition tax credits was prepared during convention sessions as the result of information from the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, that the Senate was in a filibuster on the subject. The Senate subsequently voted down the measure.

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.
CHURCH FURNITURE & STAINED GLASS
2029 N. Cantennial Street
P. O. Box 5346 • High Point, NC 27262-5346

1984 TAX LAW CHANGE
Housing Allowance/Social Security Tax
Tape + Worksheets
by L. Curtis Calihan, C.F.P.
Send \$5 postage paid to
WWGM Radio
Box 12040, Nashville, TN 37212

CHURCHES ARE SAVING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS
and solving the problem of unsightly pews.
by refinishing, restoring and/or upholstering their existing pews instead of buying new.
P. O. Box 291
St. Bethlehem, TN 37155
(615) 552-6520
"making existing church pews look new"
Church Furniture Refinishers

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

ASP	BACA	SPAN		
GOA	ERAN	EASE		
ELI	MIG	NIAS		
S	SING	LENESS		
	OWN	LOU	GO	
HIP	OIL	PADAN		
ASOP	AID	LAMA		
THARA	EED	MEN		
SI	ELM	AOR		
	SLANDER	ETH		
PALE	HAS	SAA		
AMEN	LIED	AMI		
NEST	TRAD	UEL		

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye" (Mark 1:15).

CORNERSTONE BAPTISTRY CO.
Fiberglass Baptisries Heaters, Pumps
CALL COLLECT for FREE Catalog and Prices
(404) 524-8666
6065 Roswell Rd., N.E., Suite 1212 Atlanta, GA 30328

LIFE AND WORK SERIES
Lesson for Dec. 4

Sinfulness

By David Irby, chairman of religion/philosophy department
Union University, Jackson

Basic Passages: 2 Samuel 11 to 12:14; Psalm 51
Focal Passages: 2 Samuel 12:1-5, 7a, 9, 13-14

The lesson for this week deals with the story of David and Bathsheba, a story that is well known to students of the Bible. It is a sordid account of David's double sin of adultery and murder, of confession and forgiveness, but also of judgment.

It may appear strange to some that the Biblical writers would include such a story as this about David, who generally is pictured as a good man, a "man after God's own heart."



Irby

Obviously, the purpose is to show that even the king lives under the moral laws of God and that he is judged by his actions like everyone else. Another purpose in telling this story might be to remind us that even good people are subject to the severest kinds of temptations and that one should be on guard at all times against such temptations as David faced. The Apostle Paul stated it this way in Galatians 6:2, "Look to yourselves, lest you too be tempted and be overcome."

According to the lesson title, David's crisis was sinfulness. This calls for some clarification. We should not conclude from the title that David was sinful in the sense of being a hardened, habitual sinner. He was not a habitual adulterer and murderer.

Even though David's sin was terrible and had far-reaching effects, it was, according to the Bible, a one-time act. David's crisis, then, was found not in his sinfulness but in his temptation to sin. The crisis for David related to the manner in which he dealt with temptation. The same is true for all of us today.

Hawaii convention draws 500 people

KAILUA-KONA, Hawaii (BP) — The largest assembly of messengers to attend an annual Hawaii Baptist Convention met Nov. 10-13 in the coastal town of Kailua-Kona on the island of Hawaii where the first Christian missionaries to Hawaii landed in 1820.

About 500 Hawaii Baptists, including 340 messengers from 42 of the 43 churches in the HBC, attended the sessions.

Messengers adopted a budget of \$1,347,262, an increase of \$184,959 over 1983. The Cooperative Program contribution to the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program remained at 27 percent. A committee to study state Cooperative Program strategy for the next 10 years was approved and Joe Sanders, pastor of Nuuanu Baptist Church, was appointed chairman.

A resolution to oppose an unrestricted sexual orientation bill now before the state legislature which would allow self-disclosed homosexuals to teach in public schools was adopted after some discussion.

Other adopted resolutions favored a bill to raise the legal drinking age from 18 to 21, resisted all gambling legislation, and favored the exemption of the four percent general excise tax on basic foods and medicine.

Factors involved in David's sin

David did not handle his temptation regarding Bathsheba well, and no explanation can remove his responsibility for his actions. Yet some factors may have been involved in his actions that might help us to understand them better and help us in our struggles with temptations. Possible factors in David's actions were:

(1) The king's prerogative — A popular idea throughout history has been the idea that people in places of authority and power can have whatever they desire regardless of the cost involved. If

this was a factor in David's forcibly taking Bathsheba to be his wife, he was soon to learn that it was a terrible misconception.

God's judgments for David's sin fell on him as they did later upon King Ahab (see 1 Kings 21) and as they fall on all who willfully violate God's moral laws.

(2) The misuse of leisure time — David's sin occurred "in the spring of the year when kings go forth to battle" (2 Samuel 11:1). But on this occasion David remained at home. Was his sin related to this failure to use his leisure time well, as some have suggested? Why was he arising from his couch late in the afternoon (11:2), had he been sleeping all day?

Whatever interpretation we may give to this factor in the sin of David, we are at least reminded that many sins in American life are related to the misuse of leisure time. Think of all the good (not evil) that might be done by Tennessee

Baptists if we all used our leisure time wisely and well for the benefit of others.

(3) The unexpected nature of temptation — David's temptation apparently came to him unexpectedly. He did not plan for it to happen and it caught him off guard. Some sins have become so habitual with people that they do not require an overt temptation in order to be committed; all that is needed is an opportunity! Other sins, as in David's case, occur as a result of a sudden, severe temptation that comes unexpectedly and catches a person off guard.

In the series of lessons on crises in the life of David, this is the only one that shows David to be a failure.

He yielded to the temptation, committed the sin, and suffered the consequences.

If this terrible thing could happen to a good man like David, it should cause us all to maintain a constant alert and defense against such temptations.

*Give your Christmas gift
51 times next year . . .*

Give a
Baptist and Reflector
gift subscription

— Ideal for . . .

- members of your congregation who do not receive it
- college students
- church members who have moved from Tennessee
- church staff members who have moved from Tennessee
- church, school, and public libraries
- family members



Your gift of a *Baptist and Reflector* subscription, for only \$5.85 per year, will bring news of God's work through Tennessee Baptists and the Southern Baptist Convention for 51 weeks in 1984. Up-to-the-minute news articles, personality features, editorials, letters to the editor, Sunday School lesson commentaries, *TenneScene*, and Bible puzzles are all part of the

"B&R" package that will be delivered to the recipient's home week after week.

To show your thoughtfulness, a card telling of your gift will be mailed to the recipient. You may order a gift subscription at any time, but your request must be received by December 16 to have the card delivered by Christmas.

Clip and mail to: *Baptist and Reflector*, P. O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027
(For additional subscriptions, please use a separate sheet of paper.)

Name of Recipient _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Your name _____

Name of Recipient _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Your name _____

Project 'colors' agency's view of missions

By Mike Davis

MEMPHIS (BP)— If there were an award for missions involvement by employees of a Southern Baptist Convention agency, the graphics services department of the Brotherhood Commission would be a top contender.

Herschel Wells, who is an associational Royal Ambassador director and a short-term missions volunteer to Upper Volta, can be credited with sparking the department's mission interest.

Art Director Wells' contact with missions volunteers in Upper Volta led to a request for coloring books to help in the literacy program for Voltaic children. Wells is a member of Second Baptist Church, Memphis.

Literacy volunteers had been using secular coloring books to help teach Voltaic children to read; but Mickey Mouse, Spiderman and Jumbo Jets are not part of the Upper Volta culture. It is hard to teach a child to read when he has never seen what you want him to read about.

Getting an artist to draw some pictures a child can color is simple enough, but producing a 26-page coloring book with a two-color cover is not that easy. Wells is convinced that God had a hand in it.

He asked members of his department to volunteer time for the illustrations. All six were enthusiastic.

The next question was, where do you find money to print 1,000 coloring books? Wells had worked with Richard Anderson, a Baptist layman and part-owner of a printing company in Memphis and decided to ask if Richard's company could help with the project. But before



CREATIVE MISSION PROJECT — SBC Brotherhood Commission art department staff prepares to ship coloring books they designed to Upper Volta for use in literacy work. Kneeling are David Nester (left) and Herschel Wells, director of the department. Standing (left to right) are Roy White, Jeanie Knecht, Richard Anderson (a local printer and Baptist layman), Sharon Goodwin, Mary Moore, and Jim Hornsby.

Wells could call Anderson, Anderson called Wells. Anderson needed some art done for a book his company was printing. Wells agreed to do the art and Anderson agreed to print the coloring book and provide the paper free.

The last hurdle was the delivery of the books to Upper Volta. Wells had volunteered to spend a month in Upper Volta during November and had planned to

personally deliver the books. Three days before his departure, Wells' father was taken to the hospital.

First reports suggested that Wells should stay in the States because his father might be seriously ill. The day before departure, doctors decided Wells' father was not seriously ill. Wells made the trip, books and all.

A little amazed at what had happened, Wells summed up the project before he left. "The book became reality on the 20th day of October after its conception in early September," he said.

"No funds changed hands, but God's Spirit did move as it flowed from one Christian to another all the way to west Africa."

C-N dinner honors Torchbearer group

JEFFERSON CITY — A capacity crowd of 300 was honored recently at Carson-Newman Torchbearers' Appreciation Dinner.

C-N President Cordell Maddox told the group, "We are optimistic because of people like you. During this past year Carson-Newman experienced a 35 percent increase in donors and a 48 percent increase in cash gifts."

Al Shackelford, editor of the Baptist and Reflector, addressed the group following dinner, comparing Carson-Newman to a growing tree.

He said Carson-Newman's "root system" is its strong religious and academic heritage.

"Further, a good tree must be a good healthy plant — with a strong trunk, limbs, and branches," he continued, referring to the institution's exceptional facilities.

The fruit of the tree, Shackelford said, is represented by the students.

"The thousands of individuals who have studied on this campus are indeed the fruit of Carson-Newman. These young people come here to ripen, to mature," Shackelford stated.

In conclusion, Shackelford pointed out that the school's supporters, Torchbearers, provide the nourishment for it to grow.

Citizen's Corner

By Jerry Self

Public Affairs and
Christian Life
Consultant



President Ronald Reagan has formed a task force on food assistance. He intends that the task force examine programs which give food assistance to needy people. He wants the task force to come up with recommendations on how such programs can be improved.

The task force needs information and experiences from people familiar with food stamp programs, the women, infants, and children (WIC) program, and any other governmental or private programs that attempt to feed people.

Written statements describing your experience with food programs or suggestions may be sent to the task force executive director, John Raisian. The address is: Task Force on Food Assistance, Room 2020, New Executive Office Building, 725 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20503.

If you have information to share with the task force, it is important to do so immediately. The task force plans to release a preliminary report sometime in January 1984.

Togolese respond to gospel message

MORETAN, Togo (BP)— Tears — rare in Togo — slipped down the cheeks of a Togolese soldier as he watched a film on the life of Jesus.

Most of the 5,700 who saw the film had never heard the name of Jesus before. But as 446 people made professions of faith in Christ within a week, Southern Baptist Missionary Mike Key called the experience a "dream come true."

The film was shown during three weeks of evangelistic services in preparation for a North Carolina-Togo partnership missions project in the Ogoou region of the west African nation.

Key and Jacob Agbeletti, Togolese Baptists' evangelism director, led a team of 24 Togolese in witnessing and leading worship services in five villages.

Baptists targeted the area for evangelism and the partnership missions project after Key visited there and reported the entire region was unchurched. He learned a Christian group witnessed in one of the villages 30 years earlier, but left after a dispute with village leaders.

One Christian woman was especially glad Baptists had come. She and her husband had been traveling 35 kilometers to the nearest church. "It will make me so happy if you establish a church here; we will come," she said. The next Sunday, 145 people met under a grove of trees to organize the first Baptist church in Moretan.

The team members held services in Kamina, where the Ife tribe's traditional religion originated. No Christians had ever witnessed in the village. The first night, the village chief and a su chief were among the 85 who became Christians.

Interpretations

True or false shepherd

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep" (John 10:1-2).

This is a continuation of Jesus' condemnation of the Pharisees (see 9:39-41). In John, the words "verily, verily" never introduced a new topic of conversation (8:34, 51, 58; 10:7). Jesus compares Himself to the Pharisees, using the familiar figure of the shepherd. They were supposed to be the spiritual shepherds of the Jews. But the Jews were a shepherdless people (Mark 6:34).

A true shepherd enters the sheepfold through the door (10:3a). But Jesus likens the Pharisees to thieves and robbers who climb over the fence to prey on the sheep for their own selfish benefit.

Then as now many flocks were kept in one fold at night. In the morning when a shepherd left the fold, he made a certain call to which only his sheep responded. They would not follow a strange voice (vv.3-5). Sheep are not the most intelligent of animals. Surely we should be wiser than sheep and not follow strange or false shepherds.

Then Jesus changed the figure from shepherd to the door of the fold (v.7, 9). He is the only "door" (emphatic "I") in contrast to false shepherds. Only through Him can we enter God's fold and find nurture. "Thieves and robbers" (v.8) does not include true Old Testa-

ment prophets, but false prophets and teachers such as the Pharisees.

Note the progression in verse 10. The thief comes to steal. If necessary he will kill to do it. His purpose is to destroy, not build (v.10).

Jesus as the true shepherd comes to give abundant life. "Abundantly" means overflowing all the edges around, like a bucket full to overflowing. "I" in verses 10-11 is emphatic. "I alone am the good (kalos, good, beautiful) shepherd" who gives his life "for" (huper, as a substitute) his sheep (v.11).

Seeing a wolf coming, the "hireling" or one working for wages forsakes the sheep to save his own skin. The true shepherd gives his life to save the sheep (vv.12-15). The "other sheep" (v.16) refers to believers other than Jews.

Jesus' death is a voluntary atoning one (vv.17-18). He has never lost one of His sheep to the devil. We should be careful which shepherd we follow.

Eudora church calls Harvell as pastor

Eudora Baptist Church, Memphis, called Calvin T. Harvell as pastor, a ministry he began Oct. 2.

Harvell came to the church from the pastorate of Grace Baptist Church, Evansville, Ind.

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