

Baptists prepare for Saturn growth

By Charlie Warren

As General Motors executives, government officials, and developers try to sort out what the impact of the GM Saturn plant in Spring Hill will be, Southern Baptists are planning to make an impact of their own.

The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, with the encouragement and cooperation of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and several Tennessee Bap-

tist associations, sponsored a meeting Nov. 13 at the TBC Executive Board Building in Brentwood.

HMB personnel, TBC personnel and representatives from Alpha, Concord, Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Nashville Baptist associations met to explore ways to work together in preparing to respond in a timely and effective manner to rapid population growth in middle Tennessee.

"Thousands of people from a vast cul-

tural stream will flow into this area," said Gary Farley, associate director of the HMB's rural-urban missions department, who coordinated the meeting.

Three government planners who spoke at the meeting all emphasized that there is a lack of hard data about what Saturn's impact will be, but each offered to provide the information to Baptists as soon as it becomes available.

Phil Maples, regional director of the middle Tennessee planning office of the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, predicted that about 4,000 short-term construction workers will be needed to build the plant, provide the utilities, widen the roads, and build new homes in the area. He anticipated there will be 6,000 permanent employees once the plant is opened — 1,000 white collar and 5,000 blue collar workers.

In addition, "spin-off industries will provide great ministry opportunities," said Maples, a Southern Baptist layman. He noted that since General Motors will

not stockpile equipment and supplies, suppliers will try to locate close enough to offer quick delivery to the Saturn plant. These spin-off factories will bring additional newcomers as well as offering jobs to Tennesseans.

He said it is premature to try to evaluate the dispersment of employee housing, but he speculated that while many will want to settle in northern Maury County and southern Williamson County, others will be willing to commute from greater distances.

Maples said the early influx of construction workers will offer "a challenge" in terms of ministry. He noted that construction workers, knowing they will be temporary, will come from great distances, leaving their families behind, and will seek short-term housing while they are here.

Bob Whaley, principal planner for the middle Tennessee office of the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, added that
(Continued on page 2)

WMU Executive Board names two associates



Kelly



Maples

and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Previously she served on WMU staffs in Florida and Missouri.

Maples is training design group manager for WMU-SBC. A Texan, she is a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and Vanderbilt University, Nashville, and is a doctoral candidate at the University of Missouri, Columbia.

Before joining the staff of WMU-SBC, she was an associate for Missouri WMU.

Bryan said that the main function of the WMU associates is "to assist in the design, planning, and implementation of all our missions organizations in Tennessee."

At the WMU board meeting, it was announced that Pat Porter will become administrative assistant in the WMU office on Dec. 1. Presently she is administrative assistant in the administrative office of the TBC Executive Board.

The Tennessee WMU Executive Board met on Sunday afternoon prior to the Nov. 18 WMU Convention at Second Baptist Church, Memphis.

MEMPHIS — The Executive Board of Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union elected two associates to Executive Director Katharine Bryan during a Nov. 17 meeting.

The new associates, who were elected unanimously, are Carol Kelly and Donna Maples. Both are presently on the staff of Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention, Birmingham, Ala., and will begin their service to Tennessee WMU on Dec. 9.

Kelly is communications group manager for WMU-SBC. A native of Texas, she is a graduate of Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas.

State pastors, WMU elect officers

MEMPHIS — Hixson Pastor Ron Phillips was elected president of the Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference and Knoxville Judy Trivette was re-elected president of the Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union Nov. 18 in meetings held prior to the Tennessee Baptist Convention meeting in Memphis.

Phillips, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Hixson, was nominated by Wayne Allen, pastor of Briarcrest Baptist Church in Memphis. Also nominated was James Porch, pastor of First Baptist Church in Tullahoma, by Calvin Metcalf, pastor of Central Baptist Church of Fountain City, Knoxville.

Aubrey Hay, pastor of First Baptist Church in Erwin, was elected vice-president, while Larry Kirk, pastor of

Liberty Grove Baptist Church in Jackson, was elected secretary.

Women attending the WMU meeting adopted the report of their nominating committee, which recommended Trivette, a member of Knoxville's Central Baptist Church of Fountain City, be elected to her fourth and final term as state WMU president.

Also re-elected to her fourth and final term by adoption of the report was Recording Secretary Nancy Tilley, a member of West Jackson Baptist Church in Jackson.

The pastors' conference met at First Baptist Church, site of this week's TBC meeting, and the WMU held their annual meeting at Second Baptist Church.

Baptists send relief aid after volcanic eruption

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Portable power units purchased with Southern Baptist relief funds have been set up in locations where victims of the Nevado del Ruiz volcanic eruption are being treated and sheltered in west central Colombia.

One unit is at a health center in Lerida, a village eight miles from the city of Armero, destroyed by a wall of mud and water after the Nov. 13 eruption. Lerida has been an initial checkpoint for survivors of one of the worst natural disasters in Colombian history.

The death toll stands at more than 21,000 in the remote region of the Andes Mountains. About 2,500 people were seriously injured and about 20,000 are homeless.

None of the 80-plus Southern Baptist missionaries assigned to Colombia and no Colombian Baptist congregations are reported among the volcano's victims. The closest missionary to the disaster was Ellis Leagans, who has been living in Ibague, a city of a half-million people about 75 miles south of the disaster area. When the eruption occurred, Leagans and his family were in Bogota, about 125 miles to the east of the volcano.

Three of the portable power units are at the village of Libano where electricity has been off since the eruption and hospital personnel have treated numerous victims.

James Giles, Southern Baptist disaster relief coordinator in Colombia, and his wife, Mary Nell, delivered most of the 12 portable power units purchased by Southern Baptists. One unit was taken by helicopter to a remote mountain village.

Another missionary, Robert Edwards, a physician at the Baptist hospital in

Barranquilla, and a nurse arrived in the city of Ibague Nov. 16 and performed 20 operations in a hospital the following day.

An initial \$10,000 in Southern Baptist relief funds was allocated the day after the eruption and \$15,000 the following day.

The funds have been used to purchase the generators, 5,000 units of tetanus vaccine, 5,000 units of antibiotics vaccine, blankets, and other supplies.

"There will definitely be a good bit more (in relief expenditures)," said

(Continued on page 3)

Telephones set for TBC meeting

Two convention office telephones, a press room telephone, and a Baptist and Reflector telephone are in operation this week during the Tennessee Baptist Convention at First Baptist Church, Memphis.

The convention office telephones may be used by those needing to contact messengers and visitors attending the convention. The numbers are (901) 323-1373 and 323-1374.

Messages telephoned to these numbers will be relayed to convention attenders.

The press room number is (901) 323-1452.

The Baptist and Reflector number is (901) 323-1451.

Leaders organize coalition to fight legalized gambling

DALLAS (BP)— Anti-gambling leaders from 19 states created the National Coalition Against Legalized Gambling in an effort to add muscle to nationwide opposition to state-sponsored gambling.

The coalition will gather information, conduct research, and provide strategy assistance and resources for anti-gambling efforts at state and national levels.

The organization was approved during a two-day strategy meeting in Dallas, convened by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. While composed primarily of religious organizations, the coalition anticipates support from a variety of other groups, said the CLC's Larry Braidfoot, who was asked to coordinate the coalition's activities.

During the Dallas meeting, 40 representatives from several different denominations focused on strategy for defeating gambling initiatives, addressing issues related to morality, public policy, and economics.

Sociologist Henry Lesieur of St. Johns

University in New York described several studies of pathological gamblers, whose numbers have increased dramatically in the midst of America's "gambling explosion." Lesieur pointed out the American Psychological Association in 1980 officially recognized pathological gambling as a behavior disorder, joining alcoholism, drug addiction, and other disorders.

Lesieur developed research projects which studied gambling behavior by students in Atlantic City High School and three other New Jersey high schools. He also has spent several years studying gambling problems among prisoners.

Lesieur said there is "no doubt" about the connection between legalized gambling and pathological gambling, pointing out "it's a two-way street. If you pass a bill to legalize gambling, then the scientific evidence indicates you are risking increases in the number of pathological gamblers, the suicide rate, domestic violence, and crime," he said.

Baptists prepare

(Continued from page 1)

Saturn will rejuvenate several of the counties that surround Maury County, and will bring prosperity to the region.

Judy Langsdon, director of community development for Maury County, commended Baptists for their vision in trying to plan for the impact of the Saturn plant on middle Tennessee.

Agreeing with Maples' assessment of 4,000 construction workers and 6,000 permanent Saturn employees, Langsdon predicted there will be three spin-off jobs for every plant employee. She estimated there will be between 14,000 and 18,000 spin-off jobs in industries within a 250-mile radius of Spring Hill. This will bring "a cross-section of people with a cross-section of lifestyles, desires, and needs," she said.

Baptist church members will have to deal with fears, according to Langsdon — fear of the unknown, fear of new people, and fear of change.

Instead of reacting with fear, however, she urged Baptists to welcome newcomers.

"People moving into a new community need a sense of belonging," she suggested. "That's the challenge before all of the churches as the Saturn growth takes place — to reach out to people.

"The church has a responsibility and a wonderful opportunity to make them feel that here is a group of people that can reach out to me and help me assimilate into this community."

She pointed out that as people experience transition, a new job, and a new community, they "do a little soul searching, think seriously about their values and their relationship with the Lord."

Several Tennessee directors of missions shared ways their associations are preparing to meet the challenge. Two noted "miracles" that occurred even before General Motors announced its plans.

Carl Duck, executive director of the Nashville Baptist Association, reported that three years ago the association helped in the purchase of eight acres for a new work at Thompson Station, about four miles from the Saturn plant site.

Another 15-acre site was purchased at Peytonville Road, south of Franklin, and plans are already underway for that

young congregation's first building.

Elmer Crosby, director of missions for the Maury County Baptist Association, reported that First Baptist Church of Spring Hill decided several years ago to relocate from their overcrowded downtown building to a site north of town on U.S. Highway 31. The congregation dedicated its new building in May.

"It's in a key location for touching the lives of people who will come our way," Crosby noted.

Crosby also urged the Baptist leaders to help generate an attitude of acceptance among Baptists toward newcomers, "so they will feel comfortable with us and we will feel comfortable with them."

Home Mission Board employees at the Nov. 13 meeting offered the resources of the board in helping to reach people.

Jim Hill, associate in the HMB church starting department, noted that historically the best church starting in Southern Baptist life has been in areas of change and growth. He suggested that one of the first priorities will be to pinpoint areas where development will take place. He offered the resources of his department to help Tennesseans do that.

"I want you to think about the impact these new people will have on your churches," said Jack Smith, associate in the HMB evangelism section, "but also think about the impact your churches can have on their lives."

Smith urged Tennessee Baptists to develop strategies for reaching people who come from different cultural backgrounds from themselves.

"Find out what they need done for them and do it in the name of Christ," he said. "Then you will reach them."

Chan Garrett, associate in the board's black church relations department, suggested possible approaches for reaching black families that move into the area.

W. C. Dudley, associate in the HMB church loans division, offered HMB loans for obtaining church sites, building first unit buildings, and expanding existing property.

Participants agreed that the missions department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention should be responsible to take the initiative for follow-up meetings and in the coordination of the efforts between the TBC, the HMB, and the various associations.



WHERE ARE THE RAS? — RA counselors are learning how to teach boys to cook a meal using a reflector oven and coals at the adult campcraft workshop Oct. 18-20 at Camp Linden. It was led by Roland Creekmore, a member of Chestnut Grove Baptist Church, Portland, for the Brotherhood department, TBC. The workshop at Camp Carson Oct. 3-6 was led by Max Thomas, a member of Central Baptist Church, Chattanooga, and Charles Brooks, a member of Beech Grove Baptist Church, Louisville.

First woman in state completes RA campcraft instructor course

The first Tennessee woman became an instructor in the Royal Ambassador adult campcraft program at the adult campcraft workshops on Oct. 3-6 at Camp Carson, Newport, and Oct. 18-20 at Camp Linden.

Pam Souther, a member of Central Baptist Church, Chattanooga, is also co-director of RAs in her church, and Lad director for boys in grades 1-3 for the Hamilton County Baptist Association. The wife and mother of a six-year-old boy has been an RA worker for 10 years.

To complete the instructor level, Souther attended 60 hours of adult campcraft training, which is directed by the state Brotherhood departments in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission.

Earlier, she had earned the basic level which includes the skills needed to help RAs complete campcraft requirements on a one-meal cookout. She then com-

pleted the advanced level, which involves the skills to take boys on an overnight campout with three meals.

As an instructor she has completed the requirements to teach the basic and standard courses to adults. Souther said the courses include "building fires, making buddy burners, proper use of a knife, and other skills." Next year she plans to complete the advanced and the advanced instructor course.

"I sincerely believe that being an RA counselor, whether male or female, is a calling from God," testified Souther. Citing "lots of support from our association and RA state committee," who personally invited her to become an instructor, she wants to "get women the opportunity to study to achieve more."

Acknowledging that "women must struggle as far as being accepted," the soft-spoken Souther believes women have leadership abilities "especially with the younger boys that need that female influence. Woman just haven't gotten there yet."

She has received "many blessings and seen many boys grow, even non-Christians," and she has seen "troublemakers grow into missionaries. Missions is important to teach reaching out to others. It is important to have someone that is committed to the boys," Souther explained.

Noting the honor of receiving a certificate form an SBC agency, Souther declared, "If it wasn't right, I don't believe I could have come this far. I didn't do it for myself. I did it for God and for boys and for other women."

Judson association adds two churches

Two churches were added and officers were re-elected at the Judson Association of Missionary Baptists' annual meeting Oct. 4-5 at Old New Hope Baptist Church, Fairview.

The association voted First Baptist Church, White Bluff, and Parkers Creek Baptist Church, Dickson, into the fellowship. The pastors are Reece Cochran and Howard Wingo, respectively.

The re-elected officers are Thomas H. Sullivan, pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Fairview, moderator; John Tidwell, pastor of Liberty Baptist Church, McEwen, assistant moderator; Cletus Tidwell, a member of New Hope Baptist Church, Bon Aqua, treasurer; Edward C. Sullivan, a member of Old New Hope Baptist Church, clerk; and Patricia Davis, a member of the McEwen church, assistant clerk.

The next annual meeting will be Oct. 3-4 at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Erin.

Bennett Cook dies

ATLANTA (BP)— Bennett C. Cook, associate director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's church loans division, died after a long bout with cancer. He was 59 years old.

Cook had been a long-time staff member of the Northwest Baptist Convention in Oregon and Washington before joining the Home Mission Board staff 14 years ago.

Big Emory adopts statement against women's ordination

A "position statement" opposing the ordination of women was adopted by Big Emory Baptist Association at its annual meeting Oct. 17 at First Baptist Church in Kingston and South Harriman Baptist Church in Harriman.

According to J. W. Bargiol, director of

Big Hatchie meets in spite of robbery

Beaver Baptist Church, Brighton, was robbed the night before the annual meeting of the Big Hatchie Baptist Association Oct. 22, but the meeting was still held there despite the loss of the public address system and food for the meeting.

The association which also met Oct. 21 at Brighton Baptist Church, Brighton, took an offering to help replace the items. The ladies of Beaver Baptist Church prepared a meal anyway.

With an increased attendance of 30 percent, the association also gave an offering of \$335.40 for the Union University scholarship fund in memory of Jonas Stewart, who was the associational director of missions 1946-48.

Calvary Baptist Church, Covington, where Mike Jones is pastor, was voted into the fellowship. The association also made plans to support the "Good News, America" nationwide revivals.

Elected were moderator, Charles H. Skutt, pastor of Garland Baptist Church in Covington; assistant moderator, Ralph Boots, pastor of Ashport Baptist Church in Ripley; clerk, John Tinsley, pastor of Beaver Baptist Church; and assistant clerk, A. L. Slaughter, pastor of First Baptist Church in Mason. Re-elected were James Beard, pastor of Durhamville Baptist Church in Ripley, as treasurer; and Dewey Barber, a member of First Baptist Church in Covington, as assistant treasurer.

The 1986 meeting will be Oct. 20 at Liberty Baptist Church in Covington and Oct. 21 at Smyrna Baptist Church in Burlington.

Baptist relief...

(Continued from page 1)

John Cheyne, senior consultant for human needs at the Foreign Mission Board.

Missionaries in Colombia have begun investigating possible long-range relief efforts, said Betty Law, the board's associate director for mission efforts in western South America. On the scene is Van Williams, a physician on the FMB staff who serves as health care consultant.

Ibague will be the center of Baptist efforts, which are being closely coordinated with the Red Cross, according to Bryan Brasington, FMB director for western South America.

As of Nov. 18, the board also has sent one volunteer, Don Pearson, an orthopedic surgeon from Orlando, Fla.

Volcano Nevado del Ruiz had not erupted in 400 years, but had begun spewing steam and ash particles earlier this year. Still, scientists there expressed no worry over an immediate problem. When the 17,400-foot volcano erupted, glacial formations melted, and the water rushing down the mountain caused massive landslides, inundating the Magdalena River and several tributaries. One of those tributaries flooded Armero, a cotton-farming town of about 25,000 people. Mud and water were as deep as 20 feet there.

missions, the position statement is more than a resolution and is an "expression of the thinking of the messengers attending the associational meeting."

The statement affirms the autonomy of each local church, that ordination is a function of a local church, and that the Bible teaches that ordination is for men. Then it declares, "Any church practicing the ordination of women shall be subject to the possibility that messengers from such church may not be seated at the annual meeting of the association."

The position statement ends by stating, "The association urges all member churches to abide by accepted Bible teachings and refrain from the practice of ordaining women."

Bargiol said that no church of the association presently has women as ordained ministers or deacons, and he is not aware of any considering doing so.

The position statement was a recommendation from the association's Executive Committee. When it was presented, a motion to table was defeated, and the position statement was approved by a 125 to 25 vote, Bargiol said.

Re-elected as moderator was Jerry King, pastor of Trenton Street Baptist Church in Harriman. Other officers elected were assistant moderator, Jack Cross, pastor of Eureka Baptist Church, Eureka; treasurer, George Wadlington, minister of music at South Harriman Baptist Church; and clerk, Mark Scarborough, pastor of Deer Lodge Baptist Church, Deer Lodge.

The 1986 annual meeting will be held Oct. 16, with the locations to be chosen later.

Gibson County honors worker

The Gibson County Baptist Association dedicated its annual minutes to a worker at its annual meeting Oct. 22 at Antioch Baptist Church in Humboldt and Oct. 23 at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Bradford.

The memory of Clyde Page, a deacon at First Baptist Church in Trenton, executive board member for 53 years, assistant moderator and worker on several committees for the association, was honored by the dedication of the minutes.

Re-elected as moderator was John Farmer, pastor of West Side Baptist Church in Trenton, succeeding Gary Harner, pastor of First Baptist Church in Medina until August, 1985. Elected as assistant moderator was Jerry Legg, pastor of First Baptist Church in Dyer. Re-elected were J. D. Nowell, member of First Baptist Church in Trenton, as treasurer and Brenda Parsons, member of Salem Baptist Church in Trenton, as clerk.

The 1986 meeting will be Oct. 21 at First Baptist Church in Milan and Oct. 22 at Avondale Baptist Church in Humboldt.

Wilburn accepts Mercer pastorate

Maple Springs Baptist Church, Mercer, has called Harry Wilburn as pastor. He comes from Halls Westside Baptist Church in Halls.

Other Tennessee pastorates include Faith Baptist Church, Atoka; Olive Branch Baptist Church, Ripley; and Macedonia Baptist Church, Kenton.



HOSPITAL GROUND BREAKING — Trustees (from left) Ralph Lawler of Trenton and Robert Orr of Dyersburg join Joseph Powell (right), president of Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Memphis, in breaking ground for the new 70-bed Baptist Memorial Hospital-Huntingdon.

W.Va. floods affect Baptists

ST. ALBANY, W.Va. (BP)— Recent floods in West Virginia brought disaster to numerous towns such as Weston, Moorefield, Petersburg, Marlinton, Parsons, and Roanoke.

There are Southern Baptist churches or missions in or near all of these communities.

The Northfork Baptist Mission located near the Northfork River in Riverton, W.Va., has serious structural damage. All the brick was washed away from one side and the back wall of the building has a serious crack in it. There is three to four feet of mud and debris in the building and the furnishings have been washed away or destroyed. It is not known if the building can be repaired or if it will need to be completely rebuilt.

The house in which the Newstead family, mission service corps volunteers there since 1984 was living, was completely destroyed along with another church family's home. The congregation moved into their new building less than a year ago.

Southern Baptists throughout the state

and nation are responding to the emergency. The Home Mission Board has released \$10,000 for emergency flood supplies. The West Virginia convention designated \$3,000. A total of \$13,000 with the food supplies has already been sent to the devastated areas.

Southern Baptist Chapel at Roanoke, W.Va., was the only building of any size in the community not damaged and was being used as the National Guard headquarters. It also was being used as the central distribution center for emergency supplies including food, clothing, blankets, fuel, and other essential items.

The state convention has sent a large tent to the Roanoke church at the request of Pastor Olin Phillips to help store the materials and supplies to be distributed.

The Illinois Brotherhood disaster food unit was dispatched to Clarksburg, W.Va., to provide hot meals to flood victims and to those who are cleaning up the flood debris. State Missions Director Jim Franklin is coordinating flood relief activities of Southern Baptists.

Liberia endures attempted coup

MONROVIA, Liberia (BP)— Southern Baptist missionaries were reported safe Nov. 12 after an attempt to overthrow Liberian President Samuel K. Doe.

Gen. Thomas Quiwonkpa, who played a major role in the coup which brought Doe to power in 1980, reportedly had surrounded Monrovia, Liberia's capital, with soldiers early Nov. 12 and forced Doe to flee. However, later reports indicated Doe was heard broadcasting from the national radio station that his forces were in control.

Bradley Brown, executive director of the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in the West African nation, said he heard the national radio station begin broadcasting news of the coup about 5:30 or 6 a.m. He called the Foreign Mission Board immediately and called again several hours later to report all 48 missionaries were safe.

A dusk to dawn curfew was put into effect and airports and borders were closed.

Quiwonkpa was commanding general of the Liberian armed forces until he fled the country in 1983 because Doe accused him of involvement in an alleged coup plot.

Bledsoe association holds 71st meeting

The fifth mission of a member church unit was voted into the fellowship of Bledsoe Baptist Association at its 71st annual meeting Oct. 17 at College Heights Baptist Church in Gallatin.

Cragfont Baptist Church in Castalian Springs, a former mission of First Baptist Church in Gallatin, was voted into fellowship. Sam Creed is the pastor. Creed brought the annual sermon and the choir from Cragfont Baptist Church sang. Other special speakers included Carl Duck, executive director of the Nashville Baptist Association; Royce Pile of Bay Area Association in Michigan; and Gerald L. Stow of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes.

Re-elected were Richard Patton, pastor of First Baptist Church in Portland, as moderator; and Larry Gilmore, pastor of College Heights Baptist Church in Gallatin, as vice-moderator; Jack Goodwin, pastor of Indian Hills Baptist Church in Gallatin, as treasurer; and Phil Rogers, pastor of Twin Hills Baptist Church in Westmoreland, as clerk.

The 1986 meeting will be Oct. 16 at First Baptist Church in Hartsville.

EDITORIAL

False RM2493 petition resurfaces again

An inaccurate emotion-laden petition — based upon falsehoods — has resurfaced AGAIN in Tennessee. Even the part of the petition that is based on some truth is more than 10 years out of date!

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

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

Here are the facts about RM2493.

In December 1974 two California men, Jeremy D. Lansman and Lorenzo W. Milam, filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission. This petition was assigned the number RM (for rulemaking) 2493.

RM2493 would NOT have prohibited religious programs, but rather asked the FCC to freeze the issuing of licenses for additional educational television and FM radio stations to individuals or groups planning to air only religious or quasi-religious programs.

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

This petition was DENIED UNANIMOUSLY by the FCC commissioners on Aug. 1, 1975. RM2493 is a dead issue — and has been dead for more than 10 years!

Mrs. O'Hair did not request (as the false petition claims) nor was she granted a hearing before the FCC concerning RM2493.

Even if RM2493 had been approved — which it was not — it would have had no effect whatsoever on present radio and television stations nor on present or future radio or television programs.

Here is the official statement from the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C., concerning this matter:

The Lansman-Milam petition was DENIED by the commission on Aug. 1, 1975.

The commission explained then that it is required by the First Amendment "to observe a stance of neutrality toward religion, acting neither to promote nor to inhibit religion."

It also explained that it must treat religious and secular organizations alike in determining their eligibility for broadcasting channels.

Early in 1975, the FCC began to receive mail which indicated that in many parts of the country there were rumors claiming the petitioners of RM2493 had called for an end to religious broadcasting and that the commission was going to prohibit religious programs on radio and television. **SUCH RUMORS ARE FALSE!**

Additional mail and telephone calls came in from people who thought that Mrs. Madalyn Murray O'Hair, a well-known atheist, was a sponsor of RM2493, or had separately proposed that the FCC consider limiting or banning religious programming, and that she had been granted a federal hearing to discuss this matter. **THOSE RUMORS ARE ALSO FALSE!**

No federal law or regulation gives the FCC the authority to prohibit radio and television stations from presenting religious programs.

The Communications Act (the law that established the FCC and defines its authority) prohibits the commission from censoring broadcast material and from interfering with freedom of speech in broadcasting. The commission cannot direct any broadcaster to present, or refrain from presenting, announcements or programs on religion, and it cannot act as a judge of the wisdom or accuracy of such material. Broadcasters — not the FCC or any other governmental agency — are responsible for selecting the programming that is aired by their stations.

Even though this matter has been settled for more than 10 years, the inaccurate petition continues to resurface periodically in churches across our state. In recent days, it has been resurrected once again.

Since 1975 more than 15-million pieces of mail on this subject based on the false petition has been received by the FCC — the postage bill alone would be in excess of \$3-million!

Add to this the tremendous cost to the FCC in responding to these letters and the cost of handling and storing this volume of mail, and you realize the waste that is involved.

Mrs. O'Hair's son William, who is a Christian minister in Dallas, accuses his mother and her organization, American Atheist Center of Austin, Texas, as the ones who continue to circulate the inaccurate petition among church groups.

He believes the tactic is designed "to make Christians look foolish before the FCC which must approve applications for Christian radio and TV stations."

The circulation of the false petition also gives Mrs. O'Hair continued publicity.

William Murray offers further advice: never sign any petition which does not have the name and address of the individual or group who sponsors it.

So, PLEASE disregard the long-dead issue.

To write the FCC about RM2493 now is to reveal our ignorance of the facts — and to minimize our stands on other important, current issues.

With so many "live" critical issues facing our state and nation — such as pari-mutuel gambling, tuition tax credits for parochial school students, income tax deductions for charitable gifts, and churches having to file as "political action committees" — Christians must not waste their time, influence, and postage stamps on the long-dead RM2493.

Cicero's comment



By the editor

Cicero was visiting the Fiscal Baptist Church when the congregation was discussing its 1986 church budget.

Finance Committee chairman Bud Getz distributed the proposal and stated every need had been studied carefully.

"Things surely will cost more next year than they did this year — or last year," observed N. Faye Shunn.

Bud Getz agreed, blaming inflation.

"I know the church's expenses are going up — but so are mine!" exclaimed X. Penn Sezz. "If the church members need more of their income for living expenses, how can we give more to cover the church's expenses?"

A murmur arose as a number of members discussed X. Penn Sezz's comments among themselves. Finally, Bud got order and recognized Mort Gage. He noted that a lot of church expenses continue year after year — such as building payments.

"Right," agreed U. Tillie Tees, "and other expenses increase each year, like utilities, literature, and supplies."

Next to speak was Freddy Katt who wondered how the church might predict its possible income, so that it could determine if the proposed budget was realistic and attainable.

"I'm glad you asked," responded Bud Getz. "The finance committee is recommending that Ken Vass head a committee to get every church member to sign a pledge card."

As the words *pledge cards* settled on the congregation, the discussion immediately moved to that issue.

"I don't like pledge cards. What if I lose my job?" questioned N. Cumm.

"Yea," stormed Raines E. Daye. "I wouldn't want to sign, because I need to be careful, in case I have financial problems during the coming year."

Bud tried to explain that a pledge is not binding — but an intention of what a person intends to give.

Hans D. Kapp had another reason for not pledging. "Suppose some member gets a raise or a bonus. We would be handicapped because he couldn't give more!" Hans was assured that a person is permitted to give more than pledged.

"I prefer not to commit myself," declared Desi Nate. "The church might vote to share funds in the budget with a cause I don't like. I want the freedom to designate my gifts."

Lee Gaul Lyst brought up another problem. "I would like to sign up as a tither — but I'm not sure what to include as 'income.' Some say to pay on the net and other on the gross income."

A. Counts said that he had found an easy way to deal with that. "I used to lose a lot of the joy of giving, because I was so legalistic in figuring my tithing down to the last penny. So, I round off my gift to the next highest \$10."

Obie Jack Torr objected to the whole discussion. "We already hear too much about tithing. With pledge cards, there would be more and more said about it."

E. Levens answered that he once was tired of hearing about tithing, so he solved that years ago. "I decided to give 11 percent. Now it doesn't bother me when people talk about tithing!"

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 75,527

Alvin C. Shackelford, Editor

Charlie Warren
Associate Editor
Doris Elliott
Advertising

Baptist and Reflector

Connie Davis
Assistant Editor
Mono Collett
Church News Assistant

Betty Walker, Production Assistant

Established 1835
Post Office Box 728, 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: \$5.55 individual; clubs of ten or more, \$5.25; church budget, 9¢ 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 728, Brentwood, TN 37027.

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Ansell T. Baker, chairman; James M. Parch, vice-chairman; Raymond A. Boston, Bill Bruster, Paul Bryant, E. E. Carrier, William H. Coles Jr., Donald Dorris, Marshall Gupton, George Hill, Fred Isaacs, Jack May, James G. McCluskey, Calvin Metcalf, Jerry Oakley, Fred Steelman, Clarence K. Stewart, and Hoyt Wilson

Letters to the Editor

Letters on any religion-related subject are welcomed. Letters of over 300 words will not be used. Other letters may be shortened at the discretion of the editor. No unsigned letters will be printed, but writer's name will be withheld for sufficient reason. Letters must contain complete address and telephone number. Letters must not make personal attacks on the character or integrity of individuals.

Church autonomy threatened

Dear editor:

At the annual meeting of Big Emory Baptist Association on Oct. 17, the Executive Committee brought a proposal to ban or unseat churches that ordain women, an act they declared absolutely unbiblical.

A motion to table due to lack of notice and study was defeated.

Immediately the question was called for, and without further discussion the proposal became "law" by a large majority. The main objection to any such rule, re-

gardless of its content, is the precedent it sets, giving the association the authority to interpret the Scriptures for the member churches, when traditionally Baptists have looked to the Holy Spirit for their authority.

Truly, the death knell tolled on the right to complete autonomy for the members of Big Emory association. While sincerely believing they were voting against ordaining women, the messengers voted against the basic doctrine of the priesthood of the believer and local church autonomy.

Ordination of women is an issue about which reasonable Christians can differ without threatening the essential tenets of the denomination identified in the Baptist Faith and Message. Baptists are constantly facing such issues that, while they are important, they cannot be considered as a threat to salvation and should not threaten our ability to cooperate. By making rules for membership based upon minor issues, we either enslave ourselves to the whims of the faction carrying the most clout at a given time or we slowly destroy the association by severing churches that do not accept the majority position.

My point is this: if the messengers had taken adequate time to hear the issues, they might have recognized what I considered a wolf in sheep's clothing, regardless of the good intentions of those who proposed it.

Patricia Foster
Rt. 3
Rockwood, TN 37854

Credible human beings?

Dear editor:

The Oct. 23 issue contains an article

Weatherford to speak twice in Jefferson City

JEFFERSON CITY — Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, will speak at the Jefferson County Baptist Association "M" Night, Nov. 25 at 7:15 p.m. at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Jefferson City.

"M" night is an annual church training promotional effort throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

The following day, Nov. 26 at 9:30 a.m., Weatherford will speak in the chapel service at Carson-Newman College.

Indian Creek meets

Indian Creek Baptist Association added a church to its fellowship at its annual meeting Oct. 21-22 at Calvary Baptist Church in Savannah and First Baptist Church in Waynesboro.

Eastview Baptist Church in Waynesboro, of which Lavern Griggs is pastor, was voted into fellowship in the association. Grace Baptist Church in Collinwood, of which Ricky Nelso is pastor, was voted into the watchcare program to be considered for acceptance next year.

Re-elected as moderator was Zeno Lindsey, a member of First Baptist Church in Collinwood. Elected as vice-moderator was H. H. Hurst, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Waynesboro. Re-elected were Phillip Fisher, a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Waynesboro, as treasurer and Imogene Steiner, a member of Green River Baptist Church in Waynesboro, as clerk.

The 1986 meeting will be held Oct. 20-21 at Bethlehem Baptist Church in West Point and Philadelphia Baptist Church in Waynesboro.

about conservative Christians and the 1986 election. A group called American Coalition for Traditional Values sponsored the conference.

The chairman of ACTV was identified as Tim LaHaye, an ordained Southern Baptist minister. He was quoted as saying, "We were concerned that the president would be pressured by those do-gooders who want to treat them (the Soviets) as credible human beings rather than the vicious gangsters that they are."

When I read that statement, I was amazed. Is it not Biblical and Christian to see the Soviets as "credible human beings"? All persons are made in the image of God. Are we not told to love our enemies?

I believe such statements as that attributed to LaHaye reflect crossing a line where we are able to consider our enemies less than human.

When we cross that line, we stop reflecting Christian values and reflect

Personal Perspective

By Tom Madden

TBC Executive
Secretary-Treasurer



Like most of us, I became caught up in the sojourn of Humphrey the whale into the Sacramento River and all of the efforts to get him back into the Pacific Ocean.

There was speculation as to what caused Humphrey to make the wrong turn. Some thought there might have been a small parasite in his ear that confused his sense of direction and caused him to leave the security of the ocean. Others suspected that he was not Humphrey, but Wanda and was looking for a place to give birth to her young.

Regardless of what caused Humphrey to make the wrong turn, many efforts were exerted to lure him back to the ocean, including high volume whale sounds, minor explosions, and the beating on metal pipes. I was happy when he finally found his way to the safety of the ocean.

I could not help but think of the many people who make a wrong turn in life. Sin causes spiritual sickness and sometimes a loss in a sense of direction. Some have been lured into what they think is safety, but instead becomes inevitable death. They will die as Humphrey would have died had he remained as a wayfarer from his saltwater home. People lost in sin are not conscious of God and have no idea about the seriousness of their deteriorating spirit of condition.

I thought about how our churches are forever trying to get back into the center of God's will. We sing, we exhort, we preach, we witness, and as Paul said, we sometimes become a spectacle, trying to get people to turn from their waywardness. I thank God for our wonderful churches as they watch for those of us who stray from the path of God's will and direct us back.

I do not suppose there was a group waiting to meet Humphrey as he finally returned to the sea, however, there will be a great host waiting for those who strayed into a far country and returned. God still runs to meet the penitent sinner.

traditional values of the world

Don Dixon
808 West Hickory St.
Tullahoma, TN 37388

Barnabas and Jonas

Dear editor:

There is a remarkable parallel between the ministries of Jonas Stewart and Barnabas, the outstanding New Testament leader.

Barnabas was a liberal giver (Acts 4:36-37). Jonas liberally supported the local church and Baptist causes such as Union University.

Barnabas was a missionary (Acts 13:2-3); so was Jonas. He attend the 1938 Big Hatchie annual meeting the year he entered Union University. James Sullivan made a strong appeal for the body to employ a missionary, pointing out the benefits of such a ministry. Jonas told some of us that he said to himself, "Lord, prepare me to lead Big Hatchie in this work." So in 1946 Jonas Stewart became the missionary for Big Hatchie association. When he left this body, the people were definitely committed to associational missions.

The Bible speaks of Barnabas as "the son of consolation" (Acts 4:36) — helper, friend, encourager. He spoke a good word for Paul and John Mark. Preachers never had a more loyal friend than Jonas Stewart.

A few years past a young pastor was arrested for refusing to divulge confidential information. The matter reached the West Tennessee Pastors' Conference. Jonas made a strong, eloquent appeal in behalf of this man. Someone remarked, "Today, Jonas reminded me of Jesus driving the money-changers out of the temple; the zeal of a righteous cause had eaten him up."

Finally, it was said of Barnabas, "He was a good man" (Acts 11:24). Surely in the heavenly register there must be a note by Jonas Stewart's name, "He was a good man."

Teddy H. Evans
P. O. Box 277
Covington, TN 38019

Tennessee Baptist Foundation

By Earl Wilson
President



A memorable moment

On Wednesday, Oct. 31, at about 9 a.m., I experienced a memorable moment that filled my heart with joy, my eyes with tears, and placed another precious memory in my mind.

I presented Tom Madden, executive secretary-treasurer, a \$117,099.99 check for the Cooperative Program. The check represented six months of interest earned on trust funds designated for the Cooperative Program.

This check brought the foundation's 1985 gifts to the Cooperative Program to \$222,003.15. As you might guess, this was the best and biggest year in the 47-year history of the foundation. It was also the second year in a row that the foundation was honored to give over \$200,000 to missions through the Cooperative Program.

How do we feel? We feel grateful, happy, and thankful that God has been so good and blessed us so much. But to me, the \$222,003.15 given to the Cooperative Program was not a gift from the foundation — it was a gift for missions that came through the foundation. It came from the hearts of those Tennessee Baptists who before going home to heaven prepared a Christian will and left a portion of their estate to the Tennessee Baptist Foundation to support missions. It was their gifts that I presented, and even though some have been at home in heaven for many years, their financial support of missions will continue until Jesus comes.

The year ending Oct. 31 was the most productive year the foundation has ever experienced. The foundation's assets now exceed \$19-million. This is a growth of over \$7-million in the past 26 months.

Other good news shared at the combined meeting of the foundation's executive and finance committees was that income distributed to all Baptist causes was in the amount of \$1,761,432.80.

The foundation will be happy to help you prepare a Christian will. Contact the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027.

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 728
Brentwood, TN 37027

Name _____
Please Print

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Jefferson County adds one church

Jefferson County Baptist Association added a church at its annual meeting Oct. 24-25 at Piedmont Baptist Church in Dandridge and Mill Spring Baptist Church in Jefferson City.

Fellowship Baptist Church in Dandridge, of which Bob Galloway is pastor, was voted into fellowship in the association.

Elected as moderator was Jerry DeZearn, pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Piney, succeeding Robert D. McCray, pastor of First Baptist Church in Dandridge. Elected as vice-moderator was Kenneth Richey, pastor of First Baptist Church in White Pine. Re-elected were Janet Witt, a member of Beaver Creek Baptist Church in Strawberry Plains, as treasurer; Kathleen Lockhart, a member of Flat Gap Baptist Church in New Market, as clerk; Bill Witt, pastor of Beaver Creek Baptist Church, as assistant treasurer; and Donna Brown, a member of Flat Gap Baptist Church, as assistant clerk.

The 1986 meeting will be Oct. 23-24 at the White Pine church and Talbott Baptist Church in Talbott.

William Carey gathers, votes to add church

The William Carey Baptist Association gathered and voted Friendship Baptist Church, Fayetteville, into the fellowship. The annual meeting was held Oct. 28-29 at West End Baptist Church and First Baptist Church, both in Fayetteville.

The pastor of the newly added church is Stanley Penn.

Messengers also elected a new moderator, Dewey Cantrell, pastor of Lexie Cross Roads Baptist Church, Belvidere. The new assistant moderator is Mike Cass, pastor of Stewart's Chapel Baptist Church, Flintville. Re-elected were Frances Alexander, member of First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, as treasurer/clerk, and Evelyn Knois, member of First Baptist Church, Petersburg, as assistant treasurer/clerk.

The association scheduled its next meeting Oct. 27-28, 1986, at Community Baptist Church, Flintville, and First Baptist Church, Howell.

Fayette Baptists honor past moderator Stewart

The Fayette Baptist Association elected a new moderator to succeed the recently deceased Jonas L. Stewart, whom it also honored, at the annual meeting Oct. 24-25 at Liberty Baptist Church and First Baptist Church, both in Somerville.

Stewart was pastor of First Baptist Church and chairman of evangelism of the association when he died Oct. 6. The association's messengers dedicated the annual minutes to his memory.

The new moderator is Earl Dowdy, a member of Somerville's First Baptist Church. The association also elected Lynn Eagan, pastor of Morris Memorial Baptist Church, Moscow, as assistant moderator, and Mrs. Jesse Price, also a member of First Baptist Church, as treasurer/clerk.

The next meeting was planned for Oct. 23-24 at First Baptist Church, Hickory Withe, and First Baptist Church, Oakland.

Tennessee Baptist Convention Treasurer's Report

November 1, 1984 — October 31, 1985

RECEIPTS

Cooperative Program	\$ 19,555,062.57
Annie Armstrong Home Missions Offering	1,657,471.66
Lottie Moon Foreign Missions Offering	4,375,922.61
Golden State Missions Offering	697,153.41
Reported Gifts ¹	983,254.30
Other Gifts	1,443,324.16
Other Income ²	1,644,836.67
TOTAL	\$ 30,357,025.38

¹Reported by Belmont College, Carson-Newman College, Union University, Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes. These gifts sent directly to institutions.

²Income from Annuity Board, Home Mission Board, Baptist Sunday School Board, Baptist and Reflector, Car-ops, earned interest on daily deposits, and refunds.

DISTRIBUTION

	Cooperative Program	Designated	Total
SBC GIFTS:			
Foreign Missions	\$ 3,568,798.92	\$ 4,623,553.30	\$ 8,192,352.22
Home Missions	1,407,964.51	1,709,936.42	3,117,900.93
World Hunger		383,587.14	383,587.14
Six Southern Baptist Seminaries	1,466,629.69		1,466,629.69
Radio & TV Commission	299,192.46	10.00	299,202.46
All Other SBC Gifts	395,012.25	4,342.17	399,354.42
TOTAL SBC GIFTS:	\$ 7,137,597.83	\$ 6,721,429.03	\$ 13,859,026.86
WORLDWIDE SPECIAL MISSIONS:			
		\$ 42,308.33	\$ 42,308.33
TBC GIFTS:			
Belmont College	1,362,303.43	164,198.70	1,526,502.13
Carson-Newman College	1,961,822.55	318,625.19	2,280,447.74
Union University	1,362,303.43	277,552.49	1,639,855.92
Harrison Chilhowee Academy	408,759.48	63,288.51	472,047.99
Audits for Schools	37,701.17		37,701.17
CRV Scholarships	79,569.55		79,569.55
Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes	921,708.33	895,967.62	1,817,675.95
Hospitals		578.34	578.34
Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes	109,195.46	364.49	109,559.95
Audits for TBCH, Hospitals, Adult Homes	34,417.91		34,417.91
General Convention Services	1,429,377.29	7,500.00	1,436,877.29
Executive Board Reserve	24,913.15		24,913.15
Executive Offices	180,317.23		180,317.23
Agencies (B&R, Foundation)	427,942.99		427,942.99
Convention Ministries Departments	1,207,759.78		1,207,759.78
Conv. Ministries - Annuity Programs	1,084,308.67		1,084,308.67
Conv. Ministries - Mission Programs	733,764.61	338,700.00	1,072,464.61
Conv. Ministries - Student Campus Work	717,240.58	49,000.00	766,240.58
Woman's Missionary Union	334,059.13	47,250.00	381,309.13
All Other TBC Gifts		230,363.44	230,363.44
TOTAL TBC GIFTS	\$ 12,417,464.74	\$ 2,393,388.78	\$ 14,810,853.52
TOTAL GIFTS	\$ 19,555,062.57	\$ 9,157,126.14	\$ 28,712,188.71
OTHER INCOME:		\$ 1,644,836.67	\$ 1,644,836.67
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 19,555,062.57	\$ 10,801,962.81	\$ 30,357,025.38

DISTRIBUTED GIFTS

SBC	48.42 percent
TBC	51.58 percent
	100.00 percent

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

VAN WINKLE CHURCH FURNISHINGS & PEW UPHOLSTERY

Box 501, Fulton, MS 38843
In MS TOLL FREE 1-800-624-9627
Outside MS TOLL FREE 1-800-821-7263

ADD-A-PAD PEW UPHOLSTERING & REVERSIBLE CUSHIONS

Our installers have upholstered over 125,000 linear feet of pews 15 year wear warranty. We can upholster your pews or steeple less than 1000 cushions! Call us for a FREE estimate.

TOLL FREE 800-334-8130

Church Interiors Inc.

2023 N. Centennial Street
P.O. Box 5145 • High Point, NC 27262-5146

Welcome Aboard!



1-65 South & Harding Place
In Nashville

On The Convenient Side of Town

Call 615 / 834-5000

The decor combines the romance and nostalgia of the elegant railroad era with the warm Cobblestone lobby and huge fireplace

Custom furnishings and hand printed fabrics in each room with bedside controlled color TV



Dixieland dining
Buffet Luncheons

Golfing privileges for our guests
at Nashville Golf & Athletic Club

800-325-3535

CHURCH VAN FOR SALE

1978 Dodge, 15-passenger, low mileage, like new, automatic, power, air, cruise, tinted glass. Regular gas.

Call Clarence Kirk
(615) 762-2729 or (615) 852-4313



Sheraton-Nashville Hotel

SHERATON HOTELS & INNS, WORLDWIDE
920 BROADWAY, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 615/244-0150

TENNESSEE EVANGELISM CONFERENCE January 20-21, 1986

Reservation request should be received no later than:

January 17, 1986

RATES

Please circle rate and accommodation preferred.

One Person Two Persons

\$36 \$43 Double/Double (Two Double Beds)

\$40 \$47 Executive King (Oversize room with convertible sofa, game table, sitting area).

\$75 \$75 Suite (Large bedroom and connecting parlor with dry bar, convertible sofa, game table, console color T.V.).

ARRIVAL:

DEPARTURE:

DAY _____ DATE _____ DAY _____ DATE _____

NAME: _____

SHARING WITH: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

NAME OF COMPANY: _____

Reservations will be held until 4 p.m. unless guaranteed by \$30.00 deposit or prior written credit arrangements.

Reservation deposits are refundable only upon notification of cancellation 7 days prior to arrival date. Please note that the suggested arrival time is after 3 p.m. Check out is 12 noon.

All quoted rates are subject to state and metro taxes.

Brotherhood trustees, staff share renewal weekend

MEMPHIS (BP) — For the first time, trustees and employees of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, state Brotherhood leaders, and their spouses

participated in a lay renewal weekend conducted especially for them.

The two-day event concluded a combined meeting of commission trustees, staff, and state Brotherhood leaders Oct. 23-26 in Memphis, home of the Brotherhood Commission.

The agency's president, James H. Smith, said many trustees and some state leaders had never participated in a lay renewal event, even though it is a program of the Brotherhood Commission.

"We believed a lay renewal experience would not only provide exposure to the program for those who had never participated, it also would draw all members of the Brotherhood Commission family into a closer relationship," Smith said.

Lay renewal is an emphasis of the Brotherhood Commission, designed as a local church event in which a congregation considers its relationship to God corporately and individually. The emphasis has two phases: a Lay Renewal Weekend in which a person's awareness of God is emphasized and a Ministry/Evangelism

Weekend in which the church's mission is discussed.

One commission employee said, "I have seen some of these people at meetings for years, but they were never more than names and faces before our small group meetings. I thank God for really letting me get to know them."

To get greater participation of couples, the Brotherhood Commission paid transportation costs for wives of trustees and state leaders if the couple would agree to stay over the weekend, enabling the commission to purchase supersaver airfares.

By doing this, both the man and his wife were able to attend at a cost equal to only two-thirds of one full fare. The results were participation by 189 trustees, staff, state Brotherhood workers, and their spouses.

Douglas Beggs, director of the adult department at the Brotherhood Commission and a staff person responsible for lay renewal, said he realized the same results could not be expected from the renewal experience of such a diverse group compared to the local church.

"However," Beggs said, "we did feel a closeness in small groups and began to understand one another's circles and what each one is trying to do with his life."

"Many who had no concept of the renewal program began to feel comfortable with the transcultural intergenerational aspect of the program and how it cuts across all kinds of lines. I believe there was a definite bonding of the three groups which was one of the things I was hoping would come out of this," Beggs concluded.

Grainger County adds one church

Grainger County Association of Baptists accepted a new church into its fellowship at its Oct. 17-18 annual meeting at Washburn Baptist Church in Washburn and Central Point Baptist Church in Rutledge.

Panther Park Baptist Church in Hamblen, whose pastor is Barnett Vaughn, was voted into fellowship.

Elected as moderator was Mike Clower, pastor of Oakland Baptist Church in Rutledge, succeeding David Shedd, pastor of Buffalo Baptist Church in Rutledge. Also elected were Mark Williams, pastor of Blue Springs Baptist Church in Rutledge, as vice-moderator, and Tina S. Morrow, a member of Central Point Baptist Church in Rutledge, as clerk. Re-elected were Guy Moore as treasurer, Diane Greenlee as assistant treasurer, and Terry Greenlee as assistant clerk, all members of New Blackwell Baptist Church in Rutledge.

The 1986 meeting will be Oct. 16-17 at New Corinth Baptist Church and Oakland Baptist Church in Rutledge.

Call for Free BROCHURE

BAPTISTRIES HEATERS, PUMPS FACTORY DIRECT

TOLL FREE 1-800-251-0679
TN CALL COLLECT 615-875-0679
FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRY CO
3511 HDXSON PIKE • CHATTANOOGA, TN 37345

CHURCH FURNITURE

At a price Any Church Can Afford
Write or call

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



INSPIRATIONAL TOURS 1985-1986

Personally escorted by Rev. John Adkerson and other experienced Hosts

NO. 1 HOLIDAYS IN THE HOLY LAND. Also going to Egypt and Jordan. 11 Days. Optional extension to Austria. Departs Dec. 26. Dr. Roy Fish, Bible Teacher on this tour.

NO. 2 HOLY LAND/JORDAN/EGYPT. 10 days. Optional extension to Europe — Austria, Switzerland, Germany, and Holland. Departs June 16.

NO. 3 CHRISTIAN HERITAGE TOUR. London/Paris/Switzerland/Austria/Liechtenstein/Germany/Holland. 15 days. Departs July 17.

NO. 4 ORIENT/CHINA/HONG KONG/KOREA. 14 days. Our 5th Orient tour. Sept. 2



Hosted 48 hours worldwide to 61 countries Go With Experience

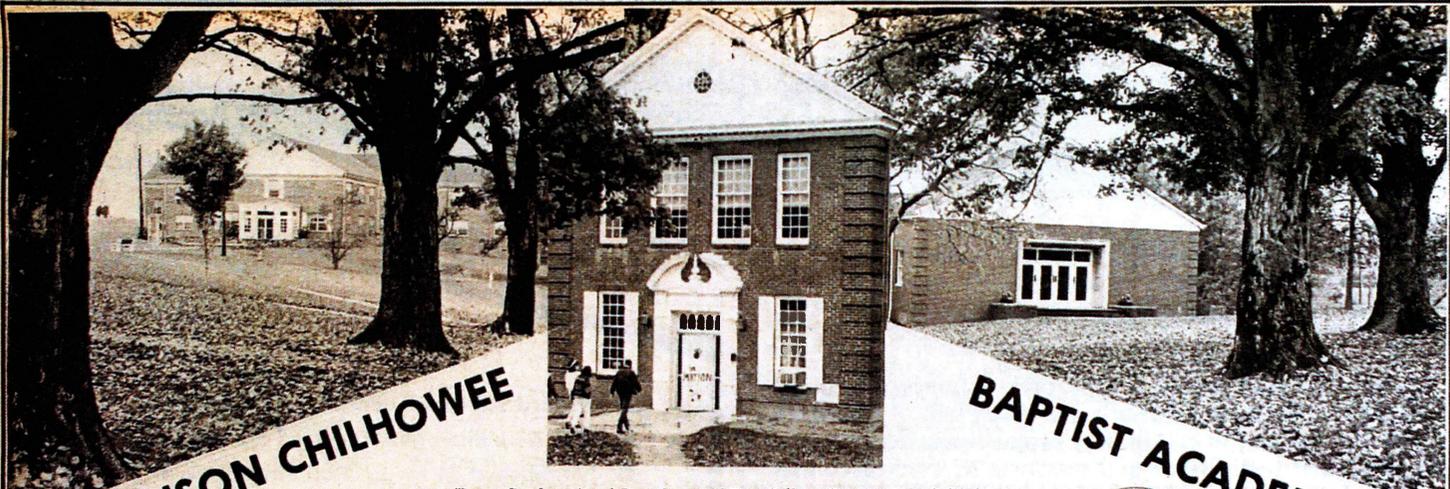
Roy Fish
Author, Preacher
Seminary Professor

CONTACT: Rev. John Adkerson, Evangelist
P.O. Box 29171, Atlanta Ga. 30329
Phone 404/934-1613 or 447-6382

Please send free color brochure and details on Tour no. _____

I am interested in serving as pastor host for Tour No. _____

Name _____
Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____



HARRISON CHILHOWEE

BAPTIST ACADEMY

Type: Coeducational Boarding and Day College Preparatory School
Grades: 8-12
Administrative Head: Dr. William L. Palmer, President
Admissions Director: Mr. Russell Bridges



An Educational Institution of the Tennessee Baptist Convention

Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy is a private, coeducational, residential and day school which accepts students in grades 8 through 12.

The academy occupies 67 acres of Smoky Mountain Foothills country in the Seymour Community near the junction of U.S. Highways 411 and 441 — only 12 miles from downtown Knoxville, Tennessee. The 1985-86 session of school marks the academy's One Hundred Sixth year. It is the second oldest educational institution in Tennessee's Sevier County.

Harrison Chilhowee campus life revolves around the concept that Christ is Lord of all. Obedience to Him is the key to "abundant living" — a concept that reaches into every area of campus life.

Students have opportunity to grow spiritually through personal, dormitory, and classroom devotional experiences, Bible classes, spiritual emphasis weeks, participation and personal growth. Church attendance is expected. Daily scheduled activities allow times for social hours, intermural sports, study opportunities, and personal leisure activities.

Clubs and organizations are numerous: Key Club; Beta Club; Baptist Student Union; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Science Club; Drama Club; High Adventure; 4-H; Pep Club — and others.

ACCREDITATION AND MEMBERSHIPS

Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and approved by the Tennessee Department of Education. The Academy is a member of the Mid South Association of Independent Schools, the Tennessee Association of Independent Schools, the Association of Christian Schools International, the Southern Baptist Association of Christian Schools and the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association.

We are interested in receiving further information about Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy's ministry to youth. Please send an application for admission to:

Mr./Mrs. _____ Phone: _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If information is being requested for a prospective student, please provide the following information.

Student's name _____ Grade Level _____

Church _____

Association _____

HARRISON CHILHOWEE BAPTIST ACADEMY
Admissions Office
Seymour, TN 37865

Telephone: (615)573-8321

Convention Sermon

The church and the denomination that

Editor's Note: This is the manuscript of the Convention Sermon for this week's Tennessee Baptist Convention in Memphis. The sermon was scheduled to be preached Nov. 19 by Charles Sullivan, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lenoir City.

By Charles Sullivan

Text: Matthew 5:13, 14-16; 20:26-28

Three texts, three images, a trilogy of truths suggest the strategy of the church and the denomination that penetrates.

The first is Matthew 5:13: "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing but to be cast out, and to be trodden under the foot of men."

Whenever I read the last part of that text, I always think of the good man who is so heavenly minded he is no earthly good. If the salt is no longer salty, it is good for nothing. Salt dissolves and disappears when it is serving its purpose. It is useless as long as it retains its identity in the saltshaker. Salt is expendable. You are the salt of the earth.

The second image is from Matthew 5:14, 16: "Ye are the light of the world ... Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

It would be profitable to ask ourselves, "How many of our good works cause men to glorify God and how many of our good works cause men to say, 'There is a good man?'"

What is the matter with good works

that call attention to the good worker instead of glorifying God? Light is not for its own sake but to illuminate something else. One is most conscious of light when it is poor. When it illuminates properly, one is least aware of it. You are the light of the world.

The third image is from Matthew 20:26-28: "... but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant; Even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many."

A pastor must never forget that he is called to serve Christ and equip and lead the people he serves to serve Christ. A church must never forget that it exists to serve Christ. A denomination must never forget that it exists to serve Christ.

But there is a terrible tendency to try to make the gospel serve us. You are not somewhere by accident. You have been placed there by Christ. You are His missionary, His evangelist, His witness, to be the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and the servant of Jesus Christ.

If we are to be the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and the servants of Jesus Christ who penetrate this world, there must be first ...

I. Some vital recognitions

A. The church's relationship with the world will always be a battle.

Whether we like it or not, light is involved in a battle with darkness. Love is involved in a battle with hate. The servants of Christ are involved in a battle with the servants of Satan. You cannot amount to much in God's kingdom without being attacked by God's enemy. If heaven honors you, do not be surprised if earth dishonors you. When we recognize that this world rejected and crucified Jesus, why should we think that it would be different for us? The devil will send his agents and ambassadors to mock us, ridicule us, and reproach us.

B. The power of the church grows out of commitment to Jesus Christ.

It is a tragic mistake to believe that any program can produce power. Power is in the Person of Jesus Christ. The impact of the church's message has always depended upon absolute commitment to Jesus Christ.

Just as the church's power does not come out of programs, the church's power does not come out of methodology. Improved methods do not issue in spiritual success. Any method however advanced, any promotion however attractive will fail if it becomes an end in itself. Our power comes from the person of Jesus.

When we are being directly attacked by the archenemy of God and His people, the chief target of attack on the part of the enemy is our commitment to Jesus Christ. To unsettle us here, to create doubt in our minds, to stir up uncertainty in our hearts is his main concern. A doubting believer on the battlefield is a defeated believer. We may maintain our programs and improve our methodolo-

gy, but we will be victims on the battlefield if we give in to unbelief. Our power grows out of commitment to Jesus Christ.

C. The power of the church increases when it magnifies, "Thus saith the Lord."

Deterioration of the church starts with a neglect of the Word of God and prayer. The church today has more fashion than passion, is more pathetic than prophetic, is more superficial than supernatural because it is neglecting the eternal verities of God's infallible Word.

The Apostle Paul thunders through the pages of time this vital command, "Preach the Word!" The apostle reminds us "that the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (1 Corinthians 1:10). If we are going to be the salt of the earth, the light of the world, the servants of Jesus Christ, we must be subservient to our primary call to "preach the gospel" (Mark 16:15).

It does not say, "Preach Kierkegaard, or Kant, or Tillich, or Barth." It is our obligation to preach Jesus. Paul said, "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel" (1 Corinthians 9:16). The preacher who is not able to say, "Thus saith the Lord," will never be more than a paper tiger in the pulpit.

D. The real thrust of the church has always been in evangelism.

Evangelism finds its imperative in the absolute lostness of man without God. Evangelism is not meeting the material needs of people in the name of Jesus. Evangelism is not the westernizing of a society. If a man is lost, then I owe him the gospel!

Evangelism is essential because God

TENNESSEE BAPTIST FOUNDATION



"trust agency of the Tennessee Baptist Convention"

offers its services
to

institutions, agencies, churches, associations
of the

Tennessee Baptist Convention

and to

individuals who would extend their witness for Christ beyond death by preparing a Christian will. A Christian will enables you to continue to support your church, our educational institutions and missions in Tennessee and around the world until Jesus comes.

Since 1956
\$9,948,363.46

has been distributed from interest earned on trust accounts, established by Christian stewards, to support Christian causes in Tennessee and mission work around the world.

For information about preparing a Christian will that continues your personal witness for ages to come, write:



Tennessee Baptist Foundation
P. O. Box 728
Brentwood, Tennessee 37027



Earl H. Wilson

President-Treasurer

1985 Highlights

- Record fall enrollment of 1,511 students
- Two \$1-million gifts received for endowment
- Established \$1 for \$2 Matching Church Scholarship program
- Dedicated Robert G. Lee Memorial Library
- Installed new pipe organ in G.M. Savage Memorial Chapel
- A total of 829 decisions for Christ recorded

Tennessee
Baptists

Union
University



Partners in Christian Higher Education

penetrates

is a communicating God. Unless God takes the initiative, man is utterly lost. The incredible disclosure of the gospel is that God rescues sinners. God is not the object of our search. Man is the subject of God's search. God sees man's departure, man's depravity, and man's destiny.

There are those who subconsciously or consciously believe that evangelism is a product of ignorance. Others believe that the well educated must be anti-evangelistic or anti-spiritual. There seems to be a growing tendency to divide ourselves at the point of being for or against telling others about Jesus.

Our Lord never intended evangelism to be a haven for mediocrity. He was the greatest of all evangelists and at the same time He possessed all knowledge. He was the greatest intellect Who has ever lived in the history of our world and yet He had the greatest soul that was aflame for the hearts of men.

The church and the denomination that will penetrate this world must ever be evangelistic. If we reduce our emphasis on evangelism, we will be writing "Ichabod" over our churches and denomination.

The church and the denomination that penetrates also must have:

II. Some vital characteristics

Salt has some vital characteristics. Salt preserves and prevents rotteness. Salt adds taste or adds savour.

Light has some vital characteristics. Light reveals. It illuminates the darkness.

Servants have some vital characteristics. They serve their master. They obey their master. They magnify their master.

If we are to be the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and the servants of Jesus Christ who penetrate this world of ours, we must have some vital characteristics.

A. A church and denomination that penetrates is surrendered to the lordship of Jesus.

Have you given Him the reins of your life? All men are prisoners of something. Either God or the devil has the reins of your life. Jesus Christ must be the leader of the body. We are not going to penetrate until we find the right master.

We are not just to interpret Jesus but to obey Him! The church that penetrates must be surrendered to the lordship of Jesus every day.

B. A church and denomination that penetrates must say the same thing that Jesus says.

Do not tell me what your committee thinks — tell me what Jesus says. Do not tell me what a group of preachers or de-

acons think. Tell me what Jesus says. The Master plan for the universe came from His hands. Christ is the answer is as much as He is the Source of all life, the Creator of the universe, the Architect of the ages.

Do not tell me what some professor says. Tell me what Jesus says. Absolute truth comes from Jesus. He is the truth, the standard by which all ideas are to be tested, the touchstone for all philosophies and theologies, the hallmark of the eternally valid and valuable.

Do not tell me the opinion of a judge or the decision of the Supreme Court, tell me the opinion of Jesus. He is the one Mediator between God and man. He is the only High Priest Whose atonement and advocacy will avail.

When we have the mind of Christ and say the same thing that Jesus says, we

will penetrate this sin-sick world. We will have the answer to our doctrinal problems, to our moral problems, to our social problems, to our family problems, to our industrial problems, and to our personal problems. Christ is the answer!

C. A church and denomination that penetrates must touch all people.

"Ye are the salt of the earth." "Ye are the light of the world." "Whosoever will may come."

Our Saviour sent His disciples into the highways and the hedges for all men. He prepared a great banquet and invited both good and bad. We cannot be the denomination for the upper middle-class white and penetrate this world.

There is no room to question the purpose of Jesus. "For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which is lost."

If anyone doubts that His love was for all men, take a look at that early church. Thomas was an avowed skeptic; Mary Magdalene had been demon possessed; Peter was a cursing, self-assertive fisherman; Zacchaeus was a dishonest

tax-collector; Saul who became Paul had a heart filled with hatred for Christ and was willing to murder His followers. The list could go on and on. These all turned to Christ for forgiveness and experienced the transforming power of His love. These became the pillars of His church. The church that penetrates must touch all people.

In my humble opinion the biggest sin for Christians is the sin of doing nothing while souls are walking blindly down the road to hell.

It is a sad situation when we neglect being the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and the servants of Jesus Christ. God has entrusted to each of us the pardon of lost souls. He has commanded us to tell the lost about their pardon. If we do nothing while the lost about us die in their sins, our hands will drip with their blood.

God help us to be the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and the servants of Jesus Christ who penetrate this world for Him. May it be so in your church, in my church, in our denomination!

YES

Thousands of ministers and church employees are taking advantage of the Church Insurance Program.

This year, the Southern Baptist life and medical plan is better than ever before. So if you thought about enrolling in the past and didn't, now is the time. Or if you've ever been denied coverage, now you can get full life and medical benefits, no questions asked, except for health conditions diagnosed or treated within six months prior to your date of coverage.

To make it as easy as possible for you and your family to sign up for this excellent protection plan, we're having a special enrollment period from October 1-November 30.

You'll find that life rates have been reduced up to 30% for some age groups. Also, if you're enrolled in the plan from January to November next year, you won't be billed for your December medical premium—which means you get 1 month's medical insurance absolutely free!

The Church Insurance Program. The insurance protection you need at a price you can afford during our special 2-month Open Enrollment Period ending November 30. Call your Annuity Board at 1-800-262-0511, or call or visit your state annuity representative.



"Serving those who serve the Lord."

Underwritten by Aetna Life Insurance Company, 151 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06156

Lee Jaggars' Autobiography

This historical, humorous autobiography includes Mr. Jaggars' poems and 375 photos he took of family, friends, church and school groups, and visits to Ridgecrest Conference Center. Jaggars, an 80-year-old former school teacher and merchant, wrote his life story after being told that without dialysis he had only three to six months to live.

To obtain the hardback book, send \$27 plus \$2 for postage and handling to:

144 West Court Ave.
Selmer, TN 38375

President's Address

Call of the commission

Editor's Note: This outline of the President's Address for the Tennessee Baptist Convention was supplied by Jack May, TBC president and pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church, Memphis. The address was scheduled for delivery on Nov. 19.

By Jack May

Text: Acts 1:1-8

Recently Erlene and I were looking for the street on which one of our church members lived. After we found the street, we had to determine exactly where we were on that street. We discovered that before you can get from one place to another on a map, you have to know where you are.

There is a spiritual application to this truth. Before we can discover where we are going ... we must know where we are. Let's apply this to the call of the

commission on each of our lives.

Exactly where are we going in the mission enterprise? We must determine where we are before we can determine where we are going. In order to do this I want you to look at what the Scriptures have to say about:

I. The places we are to go

A. For this, let's look at Acts 1:8.

B. The word "both" is interesting. It suggests that attention must be given to the entire text and not one segment thereof. Close examination of this verse indicates that we are to minister locally:

Jerusalem, regionally: Judea and Samaria, and internationally: the uttermost part of the earth.

C. We are not ready to go internationally until and unless we are going first of all locally and then regionally — to do so becomes a mockery of the commission.

II. The people we are to reach

A. Recently one of our deacons told of a 56-year-old man in our community who said he had never been shown the complete plan of salvation. Imagine, in the shadow of Broadmoor Baptist Church.

B. For our Scriptural orders, let's turn to Mark 16:15: "... To every creature ... !"

This means we are to preach to the lost who need salvation, the lonely who need succor, and the listless who need strength.

C. We can never be content while there are yet people, creatures of our Lord Jesus, in this world who have never yet heard the good news of His love!

I am not worried about the cry of the liberals, the curse of the communist, or the claims of the atheist, but I confess I am deeply concerned about the curse of convenient Christianity!

We are to reach "every creature" because the Lord commanded it.

III. The power we are to claim

A. For this Scripture let's turn to Matthew 28:18ff: "And Jesus came unto them saying, all power is given unto Me in heaven and earth ..."

B. The word here translated "power" really means authority! This means that

we have authority as Christians in the mission enterprise. We have authority to release divine power, restrict satanic power, and reveal angelic power.

C. We are not helpless! Nothing Satan can throw at us surprises God. He knows all about it and has already given us the power to rebuke it.

IV. The plan we are to share

A. For this Scripture let's turn to Acts 2:22-24!

B. The plan of God for the redemption of all man for all times is revealed in these verses. Note the simplicity of the plan:

1. The incarnation of Jesus!
2. The crucifixion of Jesus!
3. The resurrection of Jesus!
4. The return of Jesus!

C. When we substitute denominational dogma for this simple plan, we violate the trust God has given us as the church. The plan has not changed. We must share Jesus as the blessed hope for the whole world.

Conclusion

The song, "My House is Full," is a haunting indictment to any and all who are content and satisfied to sit in our stained-glass prisons while millions die without Jesus. "Who of us will go and work for the Lord today?"

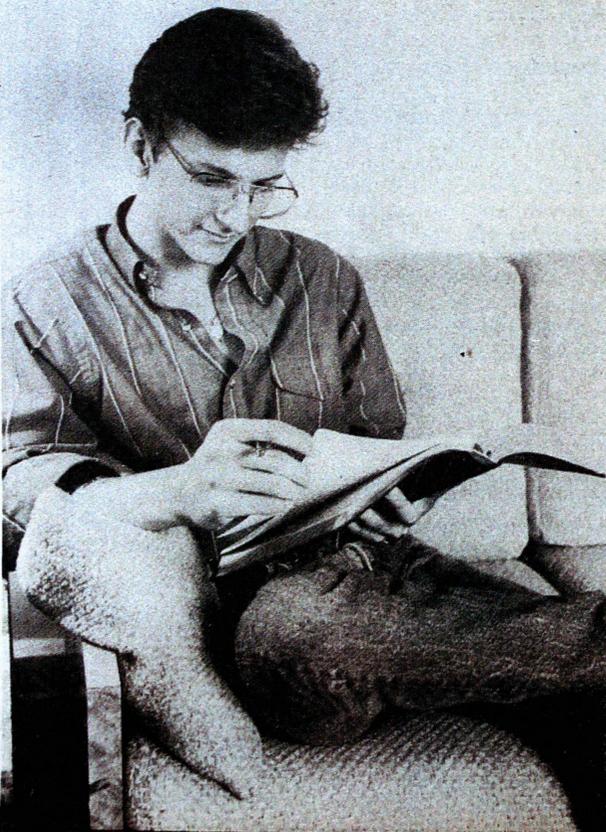
Remember the places we are to go, the people we are to reach, the power we are to claim, and the plan we are to share.

Let's see where we are and look at the call of the commission upon all of us and the place it demands we go!

THE HOLY LAND IN ITS GLORY and The Romantic Road of Germany

\$1995 April 28 - May 10 13 Great Days

Arranged and escorted by
Dr. Earl C. Davis, Pastor
First Baptist, Memphis
For Information and Brochure
Call (901) 452-9872
Group limited to 34



Belmont College:

A Christian college preparing people for leadership

James Autry is in his junior year at Belmont College in Nashville, and he is confident that he is being prepared to be a Christian leader in the world of business.

The Georgia native is president of the Baptist Student Union and is majoring in business administration.

"Belmont is God's chosen vessel to equip me for the great work He has called His body of believers to perform," said Autry.

James Autry is one of the more than 2,200 students enrolled in the Baptist school this year.

The focus of the Tennessee Baptist college is simple: a Christian college preparing people for leadership.



Belmont College
1900 Belmont Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37203

It started in Memphis . . . and continues around the world



60th ANNIVERSARY of the COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

"The objective will appear in detail on the face of our constitution and the proceedings which accompany this address. They are distributed at present between two acting Boards for Foreign and Domestic Missions. We sympathize with the Macedonian cry from every part of the heathen world — the four million of half-stifled Redmen, our neighbors; with the sons of Ethiopia among us; to Burma; to China."

(Quote from the first President of the Southern Baptist Convention speaking to the 273 messengers in Augusta, Georgia, May 12, 1845.)



SOUTH DAKOTA: Missionary Henry Childs counsels with a pastor

Southern Baptists in 1845 took the first step in what proved to be a long journey toward unity and effectiveness in mission support. This first step was to establish a convention with a corporate identity — one entity composed of many parts. Two other difficult steps remained for future years — to establish a financial method that would work and a representation method that would foster unity. It took 86 years to achieve these three major steps.

In 1919, Convention President J. B. Gambrell spoke these words, *"Let us adopt a program of work that is commensurate with reasonable demands upon us."*

Though these words sound mild, his challenge certainly was not. Baptists responded and undertook the Seventy-Five Million Campaign — their first attempt at cooperation in raising funds.

The 1925 Southern Baptist Convention, meeting in Memphis, saw the original idea for the convention brought much closer to realization when the messengers adopted an extensive report of the Future Program Commission calling for the establishment of the "Co-Operative Program." The first goal was \$5,000,000.

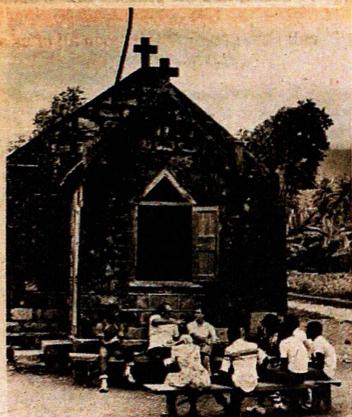
In 1926 the churches averaged giving 10.86% of their income. This rose to 11.02% in 1927. This is 2.5% more than the 1984 average and stands as a challenge for a renewed spirit of cooperation today.

"Join heartily in the Co-Operative Program for missions. It represents the combined thoughts of Southern Baptists, not my thoughts, not your thoughts, not that of any one man but the combined thoughts of many. Here is where I take my stand — appeals for special objects I cannot heed, for I am going my limit for the Co-Operative Program."

(Quote from the 1925 Convention President George W. McDaniel.)



AFRICA: Medical missions to the "whole man"



ST. VINCENT: Missionary Orvell Bryant teaches a Bible class



LOS ANGELES: Pastor Don Kim visits with Korean families



HOW SHALL THEY HEAR, UNLESS . . . ?

"The Cooperative Program is a financial channel of cooperation between the State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention which makes it possible for all persons making undesignated gifts through their church to support missionary, education, and benevolent work in their state convention and also the work of the Southern Baptist Convention."

Tennessee

PEOPLE...

First Baptist Church in Clinton honored the pastor, Hayward Highfill, for his 50th year in the gospel ministry on Nov. 10. Highfill is a native of Paris. He graduated from Union University, Jackson, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. Previous Tennessee pastorates include Seventh Street Baptist Church, Memphis; First Baptist Church, Humboldt; and Eastland Baptist Church, Nashville.

James Marshall was ordained as a deacon at First Baptist Church in Atwood. Allan Kazee is the pastor.

Ray Crowell was ordained as a deacon on Oct. 20 by Hodges Chapel Baptist Church in Palmersville, where Ben Pollock is pastor.

Liston Matthews was ordained as a deacon at First Baptist Church in Jacksboro Oct. 20. Larry Alan Reeves is the pastor.

First Baptist Church, Dresden, ordained Gerry Melton as a deacon on Oct. 20. James Gaines, pastor of the church, delivered the message.

On Oct. 13, Mac Depriest, Wendell

Stewart, and Leonard Nabors were ordained as deacons at Edgefield Baptist Church in Nashville.

A reception and special program was held at the Rocky Branch Missionary Baptist Church, Walland, on Oct. 12 to honor Mr. and Mrs. Earl Millsaps on their 50th wedding anniversary. James McCulla Jr. is pastor of the church where they have been members for 40 years.

Philip B. Wilson was recently ordained into the ministry at Monte Vista Baptist Church, Maryville, where Howard G. Olive is pastor. Wilson is a graduate of East Tennessee State University, Johnson City. He is presently a senior at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. He is also serving as minister of youth at First Baptist Church, Greenville, Texas, where Herb Garrett is pastor. Participating in the ordination service were Glenn Grubb and Earl Taylor.

LEADERSHIP...

First Baptist Church in Somerville has extended a call to Robert Orr to serve as interim pastor.

Aubrey Parks resigned as minister of education at Meridian Baptist Church,

Knoxville, effective Nov. 10. He will be joining the staff of North Trenholm Baptist Church in Columbia, S.C. Joel Fisher is pastor of Meridian Baptist Church.

Scottsboro Baptist Church in Nashville called two new staff members on Oct. 9. H. D. Estes was called as minister of senior adults and Buck Hazelwood was called as minister of outreach. James White is the interim pastor.

Russwood Chapel in Springville recently called Charles T. Sikler as pastor. The chapel is an extension of Temple Baptist Church in Paris, where Otis Hinton is pastor. Sikler was ordained into the gospel ministry by West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson, on Oct. 6.

Tony Jones, a sophomore at Union University in Jackson, has accepted the call of Rock Hill Baptist Church in Lexington to join the staff as associate for youth, music, and outreach. He is a native of Olive Branch, Miss. David Cooper is pastor of the Lexington church.

CHURCHES...

Spring Creek Baptist Church, Chattanooga, recently celebrated their 125th anniversary. Elmer J. Foust, a former pastor, delivered the message on Nov. 10 during services commemorating the founding of the church. Other former pastors and members participated in the celebration. Henry C. Preston is the current pastor.

A dedication service was held at Point Pleasant Baptist Church, Buchanan, on Oct. 6. An addition to the church, including classrooms, a pastor's study, and a nursery, was dedicated at the service. Earl Wilson, president of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, was special guest speaker. Jimmy Allison is the pastor.

First Baptist Church, Estill Springs, is the first church in Duck River Association of Baptists to receive Baptist Tel-Net. Equipment was donated by David Parrish, a member of the church. The system was put into operation Oct. 28 at the church where John Segree is pastor.

First Baptist Church, Greenfield, observed its 100th anniversary during the week of Oct. 20-27. Highlights included revival services with former pastors preaching each night. The church also burned notes on Oct. 27, making the church debt-free. The pastor of the church is Dan G. Farmer.

Broadway Baptist Church, Knoxville, is celebrating its 100th anniversary throughout November. Special speakers include Lewis E. Rhodes, pastor of the Broadway church, 1960-1975, on Nov. 3; Elmer F. Bailey, minister of education at the church 1948-60 and interim pastor in 1960, on Nov. 10; and Tom Madden, executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, on Nov. 17. Special services will also be held on Nov. 24. Paul D. Brewer is interim pastor of the church.

REVIVALS...

West Haven Baptist Church, Knoxville, conducted revival services Nov. 3-7. Keith Fordham from Forest Park, Ga., served as evangelist for the week. There were four baptisms and four other additions to the church. Jackie Carver is pastor.

Tim Meadows led in a revival meeting at Shady Grove Baptist Church, Somerville, on Nov. 3. Other members of the team from Union University, Jackson, include Brett Howell, Julie Schrecker, Toby Robinson, and Lanetta Littlefield. Fred Clift is pastor of the Somerville church.

Moran Baptist Church of Clinton had a "Lay Witnessing" weekend revival Nov. 1-3. The team was led by Paul Pratt of Clinton. There was one profession of faith and six additions to the church where Kenneth Seeber is pastor.

FULL COLOR POSTCARDS!
\$228⁰⁰ FOR 5000 — 4.5¢ EACH!
Buy 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 cards direct from manufacturer. Send 35mm color slide and copy for back. Low price possible only when check is sent with order. Satisfaction guaranteed. Shipped prepaid U.P.S. within 15 days.
POSTAL GRAPHICS 901-458-1455
3529 Summer Ave. Suite 7. Memphis, TN 38122

RAINSVILLE CHURCH PEW COMPANY
220 Rainbow Avenue, South West
Rainsville, Alabama 35886
Phone (205) 638-2467 or 638-1910, collect
We offer new pews or we can upholster, reupholster, and refinish your existing pews.

TENNESSEE BAPTIST FOUNDATION

"trust agency of the Tennessee Baptist Convention"

THANK YOU, TENNESSEE BAPTISTS "TEAMWORK DID IT AGAIN"

The trustees and staff of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation express to Tennessee Baptists and the institutions we are privileged to serve our sincere appreciation for making 1985 the most productive year in the Foundation's 47-year history. It will be remembered as the year that teamwork built. Your continued support and prayers are essential to our future progress.

Howard B. Cockrum, Trustee Chairman
Earl H. Wilson, President/Treasurer

TRUSTEES

STANLEY R. BRUMFIELD	JOHN O. ELLIS
PAUL B. CLARK	MARSHALL GUPTON
BERNIE W. COBB	RUDY B. NEWBY
HOWARD B. COCKRUM	O. C. NUGENT
WILLIAM H. COLES, JR.	HALLIE K. RINER
E. EARL DEUSNER	JOE R. SWAIN
DONALD L. EARLY	HOYT WILSON
M. W. EGERTON	

1985 RECORD ACHIEVEMENTS

NEW ASSETS	\$4,531,732.11
INCOME DISTRIBUTED	\$1,761,432.80
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM	\$ 222,003.15

"To God Be the Glory - Great Things He Hath Done"

Tennessee Baptist Foundation

Don't Miss This Boat!



SEVENTH NATIONAL ROYAL AMBASSADOR PIONEER CONGRESS

MEMPHIS • AUGUST 4-7, 1986

Pioneers in grades 7-12 will be rolling on the river during the Seventh National Pioneer Royal Ambassador Congress August 4-7, 1986 in Memphis, Tennessee.

Memphis, noted for its location on the mighty Mississippi River, will provide many options in mission action, education, and information. Besides music and testimonies by Christian personalities, the Congress will provide an in-depth look at Southern Baptist missions from firsthand mission testimonies, projects, and games.

Don't miss the excitement on the river. Roll into Memphis August 4-7, 1986.

For registration information, contact your state Brotherhood office or write: National Congress Office, Brotherhood Commission, SBC, 1548 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104-0240.



**CHATTANOOGA
FRANKLIN
MEMPHIS
JOHNSON CITY
GREENEVILLE**

**Tennessee Baptist
Children's Homes**

Central Office
205 Franklin Road
Brentwood, TN 37027

Gerald L. Stow
Executive Director-Treasurer

Ministry of the
Tennessee Baptist Convention

**Thank You,
Tennessee Baptists**

"In everything give thanks:" 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

These are truly days of thanksgiving. We thank our Lord for His gracious care and provision for us this past year through His people.



We praise Him for saving 51 of our children. This is our greatest blessing.

We give additional praise for the opportunity and privilege of working with so many families and seeing Him put families together again. We praise Him for the financial provisions to meet the needs of our children.

We rejoice in the new ministries and the additional lives that are touched by these ministries. To all our friends who pray, give and help us in any way, at this thanksgiving season, all our TBCH family says, "THANK YOU."

Memorial & Honor Gifts

Gifts in memory of deceased relatives or friends will be acknowledged, to the next-of-kin or to any person you designate. Honor gifts are a nice way to remember birthdays, graduations, anniversaries, or any special occasion, and we will send an appropriate acknowledgement to the person you are honoring.

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 728
Brentwood, Tennessee 37027

TBCH Provides Multiple Services

Over the past year TBCH has greatly expanded its services. The board of trustees has sensed the need for change and expansion in the child care ministry and has encouraged the staff to pursue new areas of service. This has given rise to three new ministries in 1985: a respite care program at the Franklin campus for developmentally handicapped children; an alternative home for mothers with problem pregnancies at Greeneville, Tennessee; and the Jennings Ministry to older teenage girls at the Memphis campus.

TBCH services now include:

- Group Care
- Foster Care
- Adoptive Care
- Aid to Expectant Mothers
- Alternative Home Care
- Toll-Free Number 1-800-624-8591
- Mother's Aid
- Counseling
- Spiritual Guidance
- Social Work Services
- Respite Care



Group care on each of our campuses is designed to care for children first through twelfth grades.

FOOD SHOWER

During October and November each year the churches of Shelby Baptist Association, through the sponsorship of the W.M.U., have provided an abundance of food, and money for food, for the West Tennessee Home. The 1985 Food Shower is now filling the campus store and the pantries of the cottages with an overflow of good things. Thanksgiving is expressed to all the churches for their bountiful provision. Especially to be commended for their leadership are Mrs. Freddie Lou Bolton and Mrs. Myrtle Downing, who are respectively, the Shelby Baptist

Association W.M.U. Director and the Children's Home Representative.

In addition, many individuals have also brought gifts to the West Tennessee Home. Recently a business man from Pickwick closed his grocery store and brought several thousand dollars worth of groceries and supplies to the Memphis Home. The Children's Home appreciates the prayers and continuing support of so many across the great state of Tennessee. You are indeed "Good Samaritans" to the children in our care. God bless you all.

RESPITE CARE PROGRAM

The TBCH has begun a respite care program on the Franklin campus. The program is intended to provide temporary, home-like care for developmentally disabled and handicapped children.

Respite care is both a legitimate service and a vital ministry to families whenever contingencies arise that render regular home care impractical, or when a child's presence may cause him or her undue physical or emotional stress. Some circumstances for which parents may seek respite care for their child might include the illness or death of a family member, other emergencies, travel needs, in order to keep important appointments, or just to have a brief interval of rest from the constant care of a special child.



The respite care experience would be, for the child, as enjoyable and reassuring as a stay with a favorite relative. The comfort, security, dignity and well-being of each child is the motivating concern of the respite staff.

One of the Franklin campus cottages is being used for the program. It is a beautiful, seven bedroom, ranch-style house, and is ready to receive children.

The respite care staff consists of two cottage workers and a director, Mrs. Susan Gray. Mrs. Gray graduated from Tennessee Technological University with a degree in education. She has excellent experience working with children. About the respite care program, Mrs. Gray says, "The staff is not only ready, but anxious to begin caring for these special children. We know the Lord has led us to this place and into this ministry and we look forward to each child the Lord intends to bless us with."



SPIRITUAL AWARENESS

The spiritual life of children and staff is important. In addition to full and faithful church participation, family and personal devotions are held in each cottage. The daily cottage devotions are conducted by the houseparents with a new view to Christian witness, spiritual nurture, and family fellowship. At meal times, a prayer of thanksgiving is offered to God for His bountiful blessings. Children also are encouraged to participate.

At times spontaneous and humorous incidents occur. Recently, during the Sunday evening meal in one of the cottages, a young girl was asked to lead in prayer. She prayed, "Dear Lord, thank you for the food and for our church, and please help our pastor to understand what he is trying to tell us." "Out of the mouths of babes."



**Groundbreaking for
Christian Life Center**

Rev. Burl McMillan, Dr. Howard Olive and Dr. Gerald L. Stow turn the first shovels of dirt to mark the beginning of the new Christian Life Center at the East Tennessee Baptist Children's Home at Chattanooga. Rev. McMillan, the superintendent of the home, said, "This facility is greatly needed for the therapeutic value to our children and staff." Rev. McMillan is assisted in the groundbreaking service by Dr. Olive, who is chairman of the East Tennessee Advisory Committee and Dr. Stow, executive director-treasurer of TBCH.

The building will cost \$463,762 and will be constructed by Varnell Construction Company of Chattanooga. The architectural service will be provided by Orr-Houk Architects of Nashville. The project will be completed in 1986 and consists of a gym, small game room, ceramics and craft room and offices. The multipurpose building will serve the campus in hosting off-campus groups who visit the campus, planned recreation and activities for the children and for a fellowship area for on-campus visitation.

BIBLE BOOK SERIES

Lesson for Nov. 24

God's people restored

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

Basic Passage: Ezekiel 37:1 to 48:35
Focal Passages: Ezekiel 37:1, 11-14, 26-28; 43:5-7

This lesson seeks to wrap up the remaining messages by Ezekiel on the restoration of Israel to her homeland.

Chapter 37, our major focus, deals with the resurrection of the nation and its re-unification into one kingdom. Chapters 38 and 39 deal with an attack upon her after she has been living for some time back on her native soil. Chapters 40-48 contain a vision of the future Temple.



Wood

This lesson shows God's great love and tremendous power to bring to life a people who were almost dead so He can use them to further His redemptive program for the world, the reason he had chosen Abraham centuries earlier.

The vision (37:1)

God's hand comes upon us in many ways, and we should not spend time debating how God made the truths in the vision known to the prophet. Since he was a sensitive person, Ezekiel had probably brooded for a long time over Israel's future. He, no doubt, experienced intense mental anxiety because of the nation's complete disintegration. The people felt themselves to be dead. They were dragging out an existence which was aimless and without hope.

While Israel was alive, she had joyfully identified with her great heritage and brilliant potential for the future. Now, however, she had perished! Living had lost its significance. Only a selfish and even sordid struggle remained for mere existence.

Ezekiel needed a message for himself and the nation. God led him to this valley for instruction and encouragement.

The message (37:11-14)

Verses 2-10 tell how God showed Ezekiel dead bones in the valley, caused them to stand erect with bodies, and then put breath into them. Verses 11-14 give the spiritual application.

Israel was like the dry bones. Ezekiel was ordered by God to tell the people they also will be resurrected as a nation and brought back to their own land. We should not understand this passage to be a resurrection of individual Israelite bodies. Nor is Ezekiel inconsistent when he speaks in 37:2 of bones lying on the battlefield and 37:12 where he says he will "open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves."

We are dealing with symbolism and analogy. In such cases, we should always refrain from pressing details beyond the main truth intended. Also, the nation is dead, but a plurality of graves existed because the remnant had been scattered in various lands. Of course, we who know

Jesus as Saviour cannot help but think immediately of the New Testament teaching of the resurrection when we read this passage, but the purpose of Ezekiel's message was a word to the discouraged and defeated nation about its own future as a corporate body. Later revelation would speak clearly of a bodily resurrection.

Also, we have the matter of the New Testament teaching of the Holy Spirit in the words, "I will put My spirit in you, and you shall live" (37:14). Here, however, we have a clear anticipation of a truth that would be realized in a fuller way as later revelation came.

Theologian A. B. Davidson says, "The Spirit of God is, so to speak, the constant accompaniment of God, the reflection of God. The Spirit of Jehovah is Jehovah Himself — the source of life of all kinds . . . The ideas, God and Spirit of God, are parallel and cover one another. Hence whatever development we may trace in the Old Testament in the doctrine of God, there will be a corresponding development in that of the Spirit of God."

Theologian A. W. Blackwood Jr., says, "What can it mean but the Holy Spirit? Israel's restoration lies beyond human power, but not beyond the power of God."

The covenant (37:26-28)

The "peace" of which Ezekiel spoke was more than freedom from harassment by unfriendly neighbors. It would be mental health, personal development, emotionally sound minds and spirits that that would produce abundant lives.

This covenant, like Jeremiah's new covenant, was not fully realized until Jesus Christ came into the world. The everlasting covenant ultimately was to be with those who accepted its spiritual truths rather than being merely with a national or racial group. Jesus stressed that true religion is spiritual not institutional.

The glory (43:5-7)

Chapters 40-49 deal with the restored Temple and various features of it as God's glory re-enters His House. God will live there and rule His people forever.

When Ezekiel saw the glory of God leave the Temple earlier, he must have felt it meant the death of Israel, but now he sees a new Israel, one that shall live forever.

We who know Jesus see the ultimate fulfillment of this passage. Christians are the true "Israel of God" (Galatians 6:16), and those in Jesus Christ compose the kingdom of God that shall live forever.

Praise God for having used national Israel, limited and erratic as she was, to bring Jesus into the world. Praise Him even more for spiritual Israel, those who are in Christ, in Whom there is no "Jew or Gentile" for all are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28).

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

Lesson for Nov. 24

One in Christ Jesus

By David J. Irby, chairman
department of religion and philosophy
Union University, Jackson

Basic Passages: Philemon; Galatians 3:23-29; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13
Focal Passages: Philemon 1-3, 8-20

This lesson marks the end of the unit on Paul's letters and comes primarily from the letter to Philemon.

Philemon is regarded as one of Paul's prison letters, along with Philippians, Ephesians, and Colossians. It was probably written from Rome, where Paul was in custody for two years awaiting trial before the emperor (see Acts 28:16, 30-31). It is the shortest of Paul's letters. Like 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus, it was written to an individual. Yet it is different from those letters in that it deals with one personal matter, that of slavery within a Christian household.

Slavery was widespread in the Roman world, and many of the early Christians were slaves. It was regarded as a legitimate and necessary segment of the social order. Severe laws punished those who interfered with the rights of slave owners.

Neither the letters of Paul nor Peter openly advocated the abolition of slavery as an institution of the social order. They both recognized (not approved) its existence and their letters contain instructions on the Christian duties of slaves to their masters and masters to their slaves. (See Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:22 to 4:1; 1 Peter 2:18-21.)

At the same time, Paul's emphasis on the brotherhood of all believers in his letter to Philemon was destined to abolish slavery within Christian households.

What Paul requested (Philemon 12, 15-17)

The letter was written to Philemon, a slave owner, regarding his runaway slave, Onesimus.

While a fugitive from his master, the slave apparently had become a Christian, perhaps under Paul's influence. Faced with the question of what to do about his status as a slave, Onesimus apparently had decided to return to his master, and Paul wrote his letter to Philemon asking him to receive Onesimus, not as a slave but as a Christian brother.

Some believe that Paul was asking Philemon not only to "receive" him as a brother but also to "receipt" him, that is, give him his freedom papers and send him back to Paul as his helper in the ministry. Obviously, that is what Paul preferred (v.13), and there is a possibility that this is what happened. A tradition indicates that there was a bishop (pastor) in the church at Ephesus around the end of the first century by the name of Onesimus! Could he be the same person as the one in Philemon?

How he requested it
(Philemon 8-11, 14, 18-21)

Paul realized that it was no small request he was making of Philemon, the slave owner. If he received Onesimus back as a Christian brother, how would

that affect his relationship to his other slaves? If Paul was asking that Onesimus be returned to him as his helper in ministry, that would represent, no doubt, a sizeable financial loss to Philemon.

Therefore, Paul appealed to Philemon on the basis of Christian brotherhood. Although he was bold enough to command him to do what was right, he preferred to appeal to him on the basis of brotherhood and love (vv.8, 9, 5). He desired that Philemon's decision be not of compulsion but of his own free will (v.14). Further, Paul offered to stand good for any outstanding debts that Onesimus owned his master, and gave his personal IOU that he would repay them (vv.18, 19).

Paul was so sure that Christian brotherhood and love would prevail in the matter that he expressed confidence that Philemon would do what he requested — even more (v.21)!

This message of this letter, then, is that slavery is impossible where all are "one in Christ Jesus."

Canadians plan new seminary

CALGARY, Canada (BP) — The trustees of a new seminary for Canadian Southern Baptists are seeking a president for their institution while taking other steps toward opening the school.

A contract has been signed to buy about 150 acres near Calgary for the seminary campus, with major funding of \$130,000 coming from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Site preparation is scheduled to begin next year and building construction in 1987.

Initial operating funds for the seminary will come from student tuition and fees, Canadian Southern Baptist denominational gifts, contributions from the Foreign Mission Board, and a fund-raising campaign among supporters of Canadian Southern Baptist work.

The Canadian Convention of Southern Baptists voted in May to establish a seminary, with classes scheduled to begin in the fall of 1987. Plans for the seminary have been progressing on schedule, according to trustee committee reports, but final plans await the election of a president.

The trustees hope to elect a president before the Canadian convention meets next spring in Victoria, British Columbia.

The 80 Southern Baptist congregations in western Canada see the new seminary as an important step in the evangelization of the nation, according to Southern Baptist Representative James Teel, a member of the search committee. "The desire of the trustees . . . and the Southern Baptist people in Canada is that the seminary be a place where students study the Bible and learn to start churches, to reach out to people where they hurt, and to have a burning desire to share Jesus Christ and know how to do it," he said.

JOIN MY
16th Holy Land Tour
12 Days
Vienna - Cairo - Amsterdam
(Option of Lucerne)
MARCH 10-21, 1986
For Brochure and Full Details
Write: Ansell T. Baker
First Baptist Church
Athens, Tenn. 37303



CHURCH FURNITURE
by
LINDSEY

DIRECT FROM THE
FACTORY—PEWS, PULPIT
TABLES, CHAIRS, FIBRE-
GLASS BAPTISTRIES AND
CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT

Lindsey's

PHONE 615-762-2249

BOX 429

LAWRENCEBURG, TENN. 38464



BAPTISTRIES
WATER HEATERS
STEEPLES

FACTORY DIRECT SALES—
ECONOMICAL—OUR 25th YEAR
ECONOGLAS INDUSTRIES
BOX 1321, ROSWELL, GA. 30077

1-800-221-4153

For Sale: 9-station AT&T Comkey
416 phone system, including special
features applicable to church
offices. Call First Baptist Church,
Tulahoma, (615) 455-5461 for more
information.

LIFE AND WORK SERIES: Lesson for Nov. 24

God's discipline

By Paul Woodford, pastor
First Baptist Church, Lewisburg

Basic Passage: 1 Kings 9:1 to 11:43
Focal Passages: 1 Kings 11:1-4, 9-11, 13

This week, we conclude the unit entitled "God's People in a New Environment." This week's lesson makes it clear that no echelon of society is free from the pressures that new environments bring. In fact the implication is that the greater the privilege, the greater the responsibility.



Woodford

In the preceding chapters of 1 Kings, the writer has praised the glory of Solomon's reign, but now he presents another side to the story of Solomon's reign, a far less rosy side of the story.

The veracity and the honesty of God's Holy Word, the Bible, is amplified by the honest reporting of Solomon's faults. Solomon was truly one of the great kings of Israel as men judge greatness. Yet even Solomon does not escape the discipline of God. In his story, all can be helped in understanding how God disciplines His people when they fail to live within the limits and according to the plan He sets for them.

The delusion of dalliance (11:1-4)

The writer of Kings tells us that "king Solomon loved many strange women . . ." and that "his wives turned away his heart after other gods; and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God." In those two related statements of verses one and four of our focal passage are to be found the danger of dalliance, that tendency to trifle with or to toy with precepts and principles of great weight and importance.

God had not warned against intermarriage (Deuteronomy 7:3-4; 17:7; Joshua 23:7f) out of peevishness and pettiness but for the protection of His plan for the blessing of all mankind through His chosen people. Dallying with God's graceful limits to our freedom leads to delusion, thus a straying from the truth in which we find real freedom.

Apparently the wise Solomon in his quest for world power and pre-eminence felt that the end justified the means. This delusion kept him from seeing the insidious influence against worship of the one true God brought about by his misguided tolerance of the construction of pagan shrines in the midst of God's people. No doubt that Solomon was wise in many things, but he showed himself foolish in this area of his life.

Someone has observed that good traits of character are in personality somewhat as the grain is in wood, giving beauty. Yet at the same time it is along the grain that the wise woodman sets his ax

to split the wood. Even so along the grain of good traits is where a man's character is most easily cracked open. Real wisdom is to have a heart perfect toward the Lord. When a person is not wholehearted, there is a looseness of grip. Any and all dalliance from that truth deludes us.

Departure demands discipline (11:9-11)

Although the writer's reporting in these verses might lead the reader to think that Solomon's departure was only in his old age, a more careful study will indicate that the direction set in his youth merely comes to full fruition in his later years. Also, verse 12 makes it clear that any lapse of time between the sin and the calamity to follow is due to the forbearance of God. The forbearance

is predicated on the faithfulness of David, not Solomon (v.13).

From the beginning of Solomon's rule, there were mistakes in his policy as well as in his personal character. Two examples are his obvious love of luxury and his seeking of personal glory. More to the point under discussion was his failure to understand and promote the true distinctives of the religion of Israel, the worship of the one true God. Even though he was a worshipper, he apparently saw nothing wrong with allowing his wives to worship their own pagan gods in shrines he constructed for that purpose. His broadminded tolerance had disastrous consequences upon his loyalty to God.

As with all key leaders, his influence had disastrous consequences upon multitudes of others. God simply says this cannot be and that discipline is sure to follow. His kingdom will be taken away (v.11).

Discipline is an act of grace by God. God's forbearance with Solomon is evident by the fact that "the Lord God of

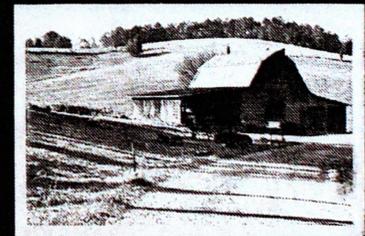
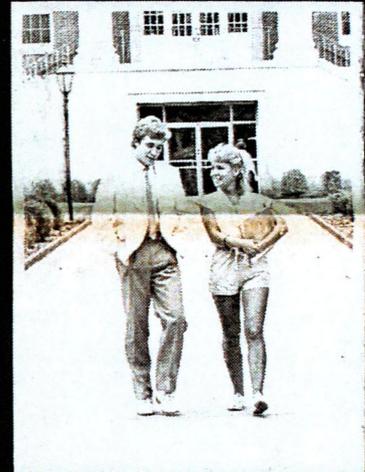
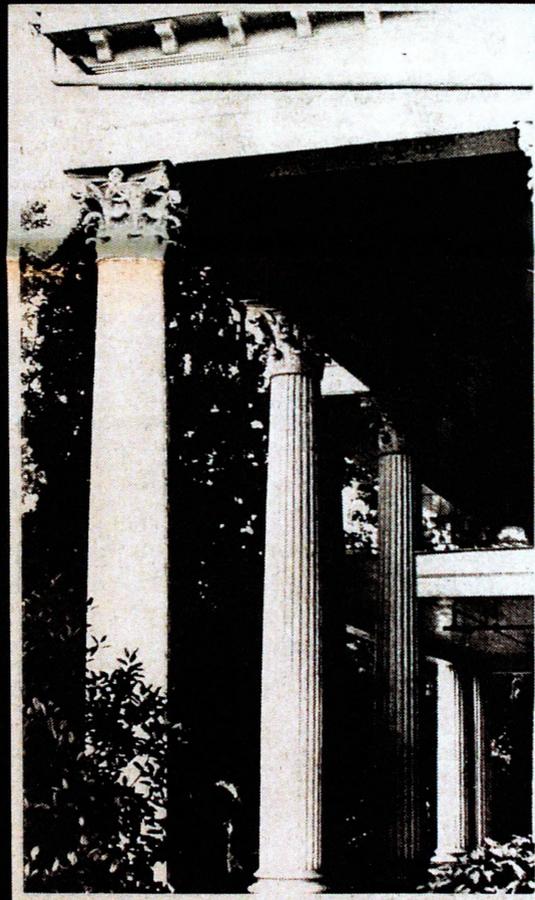
Israel . . . had appeared unto him twice" and that God mixes His punishment with grace by delaying the taking away of the kingdom until after his earthly life is over. This is seen as more of a gesture toward the faithfulness of his father David than any merit on the part of Solomon. Surely early training from Solomon's parents prepared Solomon to ask of God the best things, but equally obvious is the fact that at some point Solomon put aside parental advice and the urgings of the Lord to follow his own will and way.

Nevertheless, God is not through with His plan for the sons of David as He says in verse 13: "Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen."

Man may momentarily interfere with the immediate plans of God but he never thwarts God's ultimate will. God disciplines His followers with grace toward them. We need to learn from God's discipline that whom the Lord loves, He chastens.

● TOWN AND COUNTRY ● TRADITION AND INNOVATION ●

STRUCTURE AND INDEPENDENCE ● PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND SERVICE TO MANKIND



COMMUNITY AND INDEPENDENCE ● MIND AND SPIRIT ● WORK AND PLAY ● BOOKS AND PEOPLE

Carson-Newman College

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Contact: Jack Shannon • Director of Admissions • CNC • Phone (615) 475-9061 Ext. 223

● TIMELESS VALUES AND PERTINENT KNOWLEDGE ● PAST AND FUTURE ●

CHURCH STEEPLES

- BAPTISTRIES
- WALL CROSSES
- BAPTISTRY WATER HEATERS

COLONIAL, CONTEMPORARY, AND MODERN DESIGNS
ERECTOR WITH COMPANY
GAMES AND CREWS AVAILABLE.
WRITE OR CALL FOR COLOR
LITERATURE AND PROPOSALS.

TOLL FREE
800-241-3152
IN GEORGIA CALL
404-993-9960

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

Manufacturing
Fine Church Products
for 20 YEARS

Peter, Barbara Jenkins appear on ACTS show

FORT WORTH, TEXAS — Peter and Barbara Jenkins, who rediscovered America and captured the nation's heart when they wrote about its decency in their best-

selling books, *A Walk Across America* and *The Walk West*, have written a new 'Walk' book. *The Road Unseen* details God's in-

tervention in their lives, and His protection, on the couple's famous walk across the country. It tells, as radio commentator Paul Harvey would call it, "the rest of the story."

Peter and Barbara, members of First Baptist Church, Spring Hill, talked about this newest book, which they describe as "a full-blown Christian book," when they visited the Radio and Television Commission recently to be interviewed on "MasterControl" and "Life Lines." "MasterControl" is a half-hour radio program heard weekly on more than 840 radio stations. "Life Lines" is a production of the ACTS network.

"We chose the title because we wanted to show that, even if we were known principally for our walk across America, the road unseen is the Christian walk, following God, with Jesus as our guide," said Jenkins.

"When we wrote the 'Walk' books we purposely held back and subdued our Christian voices," said Mrs. Jenkins. "Although the story was moral and ethical, we believed God wanted our voices to be heard first in the secular marketplace, by people who really were not interested in spiritual things. We call those books the 'seed-planting' books."

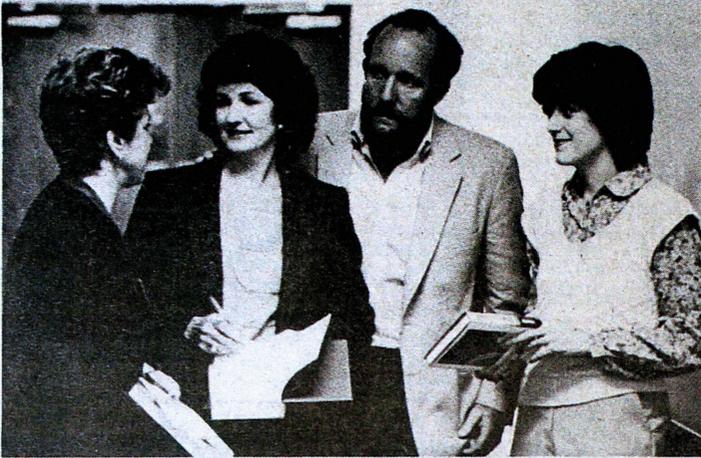
"For the Christian reader we recog-

nized the subtleties and undertones, the Christian message was there," said Jenkins. "But for the non-Christian there was no turn-off that these were spiritual books."

"The Road Unseen is not a rehash of our 'Walk' books," Mrs. Jenkins said. "There were numerous stories from the walk that were never told. The stories in *The Road Unseen* reveal God's intervention in our lives. They range all the way from Peter's experiences on his recent trip to China, to things that happened on the walk, to what's happening to us now."

What the book has done, the Jenkineses say, is to allow them to "make a public claim of how God has guided us and what role He has played in our lives."

"So many people read the 'Walk' books, and think we're still in gym shorts, walking across the country, said Mrs. Jenkins. "What we're doing now is living in a Victorian house on a 200-acre farm in middle Tennessee, raising 100 head of cattle, rearing three children (Rebecca, 6; Jedidiah, 3; and Luke, 1) and writing."



AUTOGRAPHS — Authors Barbara and Peter Jenkins (center) autographed their newest book, *The Road Unseen*, for Lawanna McIver (left) before she interviewed them on "Life Lines," an ACTS program. Donna Boatwright of the ACTS staff obtained an autograph for an earlier Jenkins book, *The Walk West*.

Lisbon members give for church

LISBON, Portugal (BP) — Christmas bonuses were among the sacrifices members of Lisbon's Third Baptist Church made during a yearlong campaign to finance a permanent church home.

The church is in the process of buying the five-story apartment building where it has rented space throughout its 27-year history. Worship services have been in a bottom floor (originally a garage). The congregation also has been renting two first-floor apartments.

A one-year campaign to raise \$112,500 of the \$327,000 purchase price concluded in October. The church's 365 members have been giving out of personal incomes which are a tenth of those in the United States, according to Betty Tennison, a Southern Baptist missionary in Portugal and a member of the church.

"The way people have given sacrificially has been inspiring," she reports. For some of those giving Christmas bonuses, the amount equaled a month's income.

One newlywed, with her husband's consent, gave her wedding ring. Only the building committee chairman knew of the gift and he told the congregation in a worship service without mentioning the woman's name. The same day, two members gave a blank check to redeem the ring.

In a subsequent service, the woman was given her ring, told what had happened and asked to lead in prayer. "It was a very thrilling and emotional testimony she gave," Tennison said.

With additional space, the church plans to enlarge its Sunday School, currently averaging 190 adults and children in 10 classes each week, and develop a multifaceted social ministry, including a medical clinic, a preschool program, activities for the "third age" (a Portuguese term for senior citizens), and housing for university students from outside Lisbon.

During its fund-raising campaign, the church has supported two missions and two home Bible studies and, in cooperation with a sister church, opened a third mission, now with about 30 people attending. The church also has given to special needs in two other churches and hiked its support of Portuguese Baptist cooperative causes.

Baptist and Reflector

60 DAYS FREE TRIAL

1. Under this plan, a **FREE** subscription to the **Baptist and Reflector** will be sent to the home of each resident family in your church for 60 days.

2. During that time your church is requested to vote in business meeting whether or not to continue the **Every Family Plan** at the cost of 9 cents per family per week.

3. If your church decides to continue the subscriptions, **Baptist and Reflector** will bill the church on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis — whichever the church prefers.

4. Unless our office is notified to stop the **Baptist and Reflector** subscriptions at the end of the trial period, your church will be billed at the end of the next month.

INTERESTED?

Baptist and Reflector

P.O. Box 728
Brentwood, TN 37027
Telephone: (615)373-2255

Serving Tennessee Baptists since 1835

For more information, phone us or fill out the form below and mail it today. This offer is available to ALL Tennessee Baptist churches, regardless of the number of members.

CHURCH NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Pastor's Name _____

Mail to: Baptist and Reflector, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027