

Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 152/No. 19/May 14, 1986

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

TBC Executive Board sets budget-goal

By Al Shackelford

The Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, during its midyear meeting last week, expressed opposition of a state lottery, approved a graduate program for Belmont College, and adopted guidelines for the 1986-87 TBC Cooperative Program budget-goal.

The board met May 6 at the Executive Board Building in Brentwood.

In other actions the board gave its approval to a proposed \$1-million goal for the Golden State Missions Offering; voted to accept a gift of a two-acre tract adjacent to the proposed "scientific corridor" in Oak Ridge; and approved purchase of property for the construction of a BSU center at Dyersburg State Community College.

The Executive Board unanimously passed a recommendation from its public affairs and Christian life committee "that the Executive Board go on record as being strongly opposed to a state lottery or to any change in the Constitution that would permit a state lottery. A proposal to amend the state Constitution to allow a state lottery is on the agenda for this Wednesday's session of both the state Senate and the House of Representatives.

The board took two actions concerning the 1986-87 Cooperative Program budget-goal. One action established a projected budget-goal of between \$22-million and

\$22.5-million to be used as a guideline in budget planning. The present goal is \$21-million.

At its Sept. 12 meeting, the board will approve its recommended Cooperative Program budget-goal for consideration by the 1986 state convention which will meet Nov. 11-13 at Freedom Hall in Johnson City.

Also, the Executive Board voted that the percentage of the budget-goal shared with the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program be increased by 0.25 percent — from the present 36.75 percent to 37 percent.

In other actions, the board voted to accept with appreciation the offer of property on Hardin Valley Road in Oak Ridge from Leamon and Anita Bridges. The two-acre tract, which is adjacent to the branch campus of Roane State Community College and State Tech, would be used for student ministry.

The property is being given by the Bridges as a memorial to Andrew Johnson and Rosa Ann Bryant, who owned this property for over 65 years.

The Executive Board approved the purchase of a BSU center site offered by Dyersburg State Community College. The board will provide two-thirds of the \$12,500 purchase price, with the remainder from Dyer Baptist Association.

During its May 6 meeting, the board approved the release of a lien it holds on

property at 2023 Jefferson Street in Nashville. The site was originally used for student ministry on predominantly black college and university campuses in Nashville, but is no longer being used. Proceeds from the sale will be used for ministry among black students.

Also, the board approved the creation of a part-time position of BSU director at Maryville College, Maryville.

The Executive Board voted to allow Belmont College to increase its debt limit to \$7-million (from its present \$3.2-mil-

lion) for the renovation and construction of student housing. The indebtedness will be retired from charges made to residents of facilities.

The board voted to hold its Nov. 10 meeting at University Parkway Baptist Church in Johnson City, which will be hosting the Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference that day. The time for the board meeting was not set.

The next scheduled meeting of the board will be Sept. 12 at the Executive Board Building in Brentwood.

TBCH gains exemption from filing Form 990

WASHINGTON — Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes Inc. and many other religious ministries will be exempt from filing Informational Return Form 990 with Internal Revenue Service, according to a May 6 IRS announcement.

The announcement concerns Revenue Procedure 86-23 which adds a new definition for "integrated auxiliary," generally including organizations which are internally supported affiliates of churches or conventions or associations of churches. Previously, the requirement was that such organizations' principal activity be "exclusively religious," which IRS interpreted as "limited only to the conduct of worship."

Under the new provision, an organization is exempt unless it "normally receives more than 50 percent of its support from a combination of governmental sources; public solicitation of contributions (such as through a community fund drive); and receipts from the sale of admissions, goods, performances of services, or furnishing of facilities in activities that are not unrelated trades or businesses."

The decision resulted from a dialogue

between the IRS and a broad based coalition of church groups. Frank Ingraham, TBCH attorney, participated in the coalition.

Considered to be a major factor in the new IRS ruling was the Children's Homes successful lawsuit against IRS for penalties levied for TBCH's refusal to file Form 990. That suit, which was tried in August 1984 by United States District Court for Middle Tennessee in Cookeville, resulted in a jury verdict that TBCH's principal activity is "exclusively religious" and is therefore exempt from filing Form 990.

That verdict and a Nov. 14, 1984, memorandum from Judge L. Clure Morton declared that TBCH is considered an "integrated auxiliary of Tennessee Baptist churches under the Tax Reform Act of 1969. The judge had instructed IRS to refund \$29,665.12 in penalties assessed against TBCH, plus interest, for failure to file Form 990.

IRS has appealed that decision, and a hearing was held Feb. 10 at the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Cincinnati. The appeals court has not rendered its decision at this time.

Winfred Moore announces agreement to nomination

By Dan Martin

AMARILLO, Texas (BP) — Saying he believes the primary responsibility of the president of the Southern Baptist Convention is reconciliation, Winfred Moore said he is willing to be nominated for the post when the SBC meets in Atlanta in June.

Moore told his congregation at First Baptist Church of Amarillo, Texas, May 11 that he will allow his name to be presented for nomination as president of the 14.4-million-member denomination when it meets for its annual meeting, June 10-12 in the Georgia World Congress Center.

The announcement ended months of speculation as to whether Moore, currently first vice-president of the convention, would allow his name to be placed in nomination. Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church of Memphis, announced April 2 to his congregation that he will allow his nomination.

In 1985, Moore was the moderate-conservative candidate in a challenge to incumbent president Charles F. Stanley of Atlanta, a fundamental-conservative, and drew 19,795 votes, the most ever for a losing candidate. Stanley was elected with 55.3 percent (24,453 votes).

"For a long time now, I have been deeply disturbed about the direction of our convention," Moore told his congregation. "At the present we are headed in the direction of making doctrinal agreement a prerequisite for coopera-

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Board approves Belmont MBA program

A graduate program offering a master's degree in business administration by Belmont College of Nashville was approved by the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Executive Board at its meeting last week.

The board unanimously approved a recommendation from its education committee, noting that the college's proposal fulfilled the standards required by the state convention.

At last November's TBC, the messengers amended program statements of the three TBC colleges to allow "for professional service degrees at the master's level in education and business, subject to Executive Board approval of specific plans submitted by the institutions."

According to state convention vote, graduate programs will not be approved unless these degrees "meet appropriate standards of quality, financial support, and denominational service."

Belmont College presented an 18-page document to the Executive Board members on how the proposed graduate school would meet these criteria. The document was approved by the college trustees on March 27 and the board's education committee on April 1.

Wayne Brown, dean of the business school, said that a specific starting date for the graduate program had not been established, because there are many details to be worked out. He added that he hopes to begin this fall, but that decision will not be made until later this month.

The proposal noted that the curriculum will include specific courses designed to address moral and ethical issues in business. Every faculty member must profess Jesus Christ as personal Saviour and must demonstrate that Christ makes a difference in his/her personal life. Special courses will be offered for those who are called to church

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Oklahoma convention elects Bill Tanner

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)— William G. Tanner, president of the Home Mission Board since 1977 and former president of Oklahoma Baptist University, was elected executive director-treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma during a special called meeting of the board of directors May 5.

Tanner succeeds Joe L. Ingram who has held the post for 15 years but is stepping aside June 30 to direct the Baptist Health Care Corporation.

Tanner is expected to begin duties in

Oklahoma July 1. His election must be ratified by messengers at the state convention Nov. 10-12 in Bethany.

Questioned before the vote about his vision for Oklahoma, Tanner said he had learned much in the past 10 years of missions administration. "The day of playing games is over," he said. "If we don't get serious about leading people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, we're going to lose this country."

After considering about 30 men and interviewing a dozen, the search commit-

tee recommended Tanner because "he has the big picture like nobody else," said committee chairman, Warren Hultgren, pastor of First Baptist Church, Tulsa.

Hultgren said the committee took no preliminary ballot to narrow the field of twelve, but that Tanner was the unanimous choice on first ballot.

Tanner answered the lingering question of his "stepping down" from a national agency to lead a state convention before it was raised publicly. "There is

no stepping down in the Lord's work. I am stepping forward."

Tanner was born in Tulsa, Okla., and is a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Texas; the University of Houston (Texas); and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

He was pastor of churches in Texas and Mississippi from 1948 to 1967; president of Mary Hardin-Baylor College (now University of Mary Hardin-Baylor) 1967-71; and Oklahoma Baptist University president, 1971-76.

Home Mission Board accepts resignation with 'regrets'

ATLANTA (BP)— The executive committee of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board accepted "with regrets" the resignation of William G. Tanner as president effective June 15.

They also established a procedure for handling administrative decisions until a

new president is elected.

Tanner, president of the HMB for almost 10 years, was elected May 6 as executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, effective July 1.

While the board is without a president, each of the board's vice-presidents will

continue to operate according to the interim administrative process adopted by the board.

HMB Executive Vice-president Bob Banks will "fulfill the function and responsibilities of the president in his absence," as provided by his position description and board action.

The agency's bylaws state the officers of the board shall appoint a seven-member search committee to recommend a new president. HMB chairman Travis Wiginton said the officers would appoint the committee after the Southern Baptist Convention which meets in Atlanta, and after Tanner's resignation is effective.

HMB executive committee members gave Tanner a standing ovation, and voted to present to him as "tangible recognition and gratitude" the car the agency is now providing for his use.

Although the resignation of the president and process for selecting a successor dominated the board's executive committee meeting, board members also elected a new staff member as director of records management services, approved a change in interest rates for church loans, and appointed 45 new missionaries for service in 18 states, Puerto Rico, and Canada.

Board members voted to reduce the rate of interest on church loans from 12.75 percent to 11.5 percent, plus two points on the first \$200,000 and one point on amounts above \$200,000, and offered

an opportunity for churches with existing church loans to refinance their mortgages at the lower rates.

Elected director of records management services was Hubert O. Gibson, a computer expert and manager of information services for USA Enterprises in Conyers, Ga. Gibson is a native of Dallas and graduate of Dallas Baptist University.

SBTS trustee group answers Peace Committee concerns

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)— A special committee formed by trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary to investigate concerns of the SBC Peace Committee has released its final report to that group, concluding "the faculty members cited in the concerns and the president have both taught and written" in accordance with the seminary's confessional statement.

"The Abstract of Principles and its historic emphasis on the authority of the Bible is the standard by which the teaching and writing of faculty members must be measured, in keeping with the seminary charter," explained Ben R. Murphy, chairman of the special committee and of the seminary board of trustees during the review process.

The Abstract of Principles is the 1859 statement of faith signed by every faculty member at Southern seminary since the school's founding.

The special committee noted some of the concerns filed with the Peace Committee "reflected legitimate differences of opinion" as well as "the genuine diversity that characterizes the Southern Baptist Convention" on a variety of theological issues.

The report added other concerns were based on misunderstanding of terminology, statements taken out of context or mistakenly attributed to an author, or lack of clarity in writing or lecture.

"In most cases, the concerns expressed about the faculty and president arose from a partial view of their writings or could be traced to differences of interpretation of Scripture. In some cases, the professor was at fault in failing to express clearly what was intended, whether in spoken or written word," the report says.

The trustee-appointed Committee on Denominational Concerns held its final meeting April 29. The panel originally met with a subcommittee of the SBC Peace Committee on Jan. 9-10, at which time it received several "concerns" about specific seminary faculty members. These were considered by the 11-member trustee academic personnel committee, and that group's report was approved by the full board of trustees in its April 8 meeting. That full report was

released to all Peace Committee members, along with the special committee's summary statement.

At its April 29 meeting, the special committee and the trustee officers also met with a Louisville trustee, John Michael, to consider criticisms he has leveled at the review process during the meeting of the full board of trustees. At the conclusion of the April 8 session, Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt asked the board officers and Michael to meet and assess the validity of Michael's concerns and determine if the president had discharged his duties properly.

After meeting with Michael, the committee and officers adopted a statement in which they "voted unanimously that we commend the president for the manner in which he has dealt with these matters and his fidelity to his duties of the office of president."

Stanley announces appointments of Credentials, Tellers committees

ATLANTA (BP)— The Credentials and Tellers Committees for the 1986 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention have been appointed by SBC President Charles F. Stanley of Atlanta.

Chairman of the 27-member Credentials Committee will be Charles Page, pastor of First Baptist Church of Nashville. No other Tennesseans were named to the committee.

Chairman of the 22-member Tellers Committee will be Jack Graham, pastor of First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, Fla. The only Tennessean named was John Lee Taylor, pastor of West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson.

According to the SBC bylaws, the Credentials Committee is appointed by the president, in consultation with the vice-presidents. The bylaws specify the committee will review and rule upon any question which may arise in registration concerning the credentials of messengers, and "any contention arising on the floor (of the convention) concerning seating of messengers."

The bylaws specify the Tellers Committee is appointed by the president "in

consultation with the registration secretary" and has the responsibility of tabulating any vote, under supervision of the registration secretary.

First vice-president of the convention is Winfred Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church of Amarillo, Texas, and second vice-president is Henry Huff, an attorney and member of Crescent Hill Baptist Church of Louisville, Ky. Registration secretary is Lee Porter of Nashville.

Stanley also shifted John W. Bryan from the SBC Committee on Committees, representing West Virginia, to membership on the Credentials Committee.

Bryan, a pathologist and member of First Baptist Church of Bluefield, Va., currently is a trustee of the Baptist Sunday School Board, as a representative from Virginia. The Virginia-West Virginia state line divides Bluefield, and Bryan's business address is in West Virginia.

Stanley named Robert Rice, pastor of Westmoreland Baptist Church in Huntington, W. Va., to replace Bryan on the 1986 Committee on Committees.

Clifton J. Allen dies of cancer

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (BP)— Clifton J. Allen, retired editorial secretary for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, and a former recording secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention, died in Winston-Salem, N.C., May 5 of cancer. He was 84 years old.

A native of South Carolina, Allen began work with the board in 1937 as associate editorial secretary and was elected editorial secretary in 1945. He was responsible for general editorial supervision of all books, tracts, and periodicals until his retirement in December 1968.

He was recording secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1966 to 1977.

For more than 25 years, beginning in 1945, Allen broadcast the International Sunday School Lesson for Nashville's WSM radio, and in later years taught a version of the lessons for distribution by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission to more than 100 radio stations.

Allen was a member of the committee on the uniform series, International Sunday School Lessons, from 1942 until his retirement. He was secretary of the commission on Christian teaching and training for the Baptist World Alliance from 1957 to 1965, and, at the time of his retirement, was chairman of that commission.

Allen was the author of 22 volumes of Points of Emphasis, a commentary on the International Sunday School Lesson, and, following his retirement, was general editor of The Broadman Bible Commentary.

He was a graduate of Furman University, Greenville, S.C., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Allen was married to the former Hattie Bell McCracken from 1930 until her death in 1981. They had three children, Rosalind Barker, Robert, and Judson, the latter of whom died in 1985. In 1982, he married Rosalind Street, widow of James Street, for many years pastor of First Baptist Church of Conway, Ark.

He is survived by his wife and children, a brother, and seven grandchildren.



RECOGNIZED — Receiving service pins May 6 for service as employees of the Executive Board were (front row, from left) Jim Alexander, Orvind Dangeau, Fred Witty, Nelle Elder, (back row) David McDonald, Tommy Strong, Betty Walker, Dianna Hughes, Charles Nored, and Don Mauldin.

Board honors employees on service anniversaries

Ten employees of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention — with a total of 120 years of service — were recognized for their service to the board during its May 6 meeting in Brentwood.

The employees were honored on their work anniversaries and were presented service pins by Tom Madden, TBC executive secretary-treasurer.

Two of the 10 employees were recognized for 30 years of service.

Nelle Elder, who retired April 30, served as secretarial assistant in the church training department. Previously, she worked in the evangelism department.

Fred Witty has served for 30 years as Baptist Student Union director at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City.

Recognized for 10 years were:

—James Alexander, BSU director at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville. Before assuming this position, he held a similar post at Columbia State

Community College, Columbia;

—Orvind Dangeau, director of the TBC Cooperative Program and stewardship department;

—Don Mauldin, director of adult work in the church training department;

—David McDonald, data processing specialist in the accounting office.

Receiving service pins for five years of service were:

—Dianna Hughes, secretary in the Brotherhood department;

—Charles Nored, BSU director at Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, after serving at Walters State Community College, Morristown;

—Tommy Strong, manager of Camp Linden for the TBC business office;

—Betty Walker, production assistant in the Baptist and Reflector, after serving as secretary in the Sunday School department.

Executive Board employees are presented service pins at five-year intervals of Executive Board employment.

Tennessee Board of Equalization ponders exemption for parsonages

NASHVILLE — A hearing was held May 8 by the state Board of Equalization on whether tax exemption should be denied for church parsonages in Davidson County.

Last month Jim Ed Clary, county tax assessor, had stated that he intends to place parsonages owned by churches and other groups on the tax rolls, because such buildings are not used for "purely religious purposes."

At last Thursday's hearing, attorneys representing 10 religious groups asked Keisie Jones, the equalization's board executive secretary, and the board to rule that the issue is a legal matter which should be settled in Chancery Court, rather than by the Board of Equalization. The attorneys noted that the 1984 General Assembly approved a law specifically granting tax exemption for parsonages.

Metro government attorneys argued that the General Assembly "exceeded its Constitutional authority" by enacting such exemptions.

Jones said he will rule within the next two weeks on the churches' contention

that the matter should be handled by Chancery Court. If he determines that it is a matter for the equalization board, he will then rule on the parsonage tax-exemption question, probably in June.

If the issue is referred to Chancery Court and then appealed to the Tennessee Supreme Court, it is expected that the question would not be settled for at least a year.

On April 16, the church groups lost an attempt to have Chancery Court place an injunction on Metro's plan to tax parsonages until the matter is settled in court.

James Farrell, representing nine Protestant church groups, told the hearing that providing a house for a full-time minister is an important part of a church's affairs. He also stated that the attempt to remove tax exemption violates the law enacted by the 1984 General Assembly.

Involved are 150 parsonages in Davidson County, which would provide about \$130,000 per year in taxes if the exemptions are removed.

Judge rules for SBC in Crowder lawsuit

By Dan Martin

ATLANTA (BP)— Saying the First Amendment of the United States Constitution prevents the intrusion of secular courts into internal church matters, U.S. District Judge Robert Hall on May 5 decided a federal lawsuit in favor of the Southern Baptist Convention and its Executive Committee.

However, an appeal has been filed in a U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The suit was filed Dec. 5 in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia by Robert S. Crowder and his wife, Julia, of Birmingham, Ala., and Henry C. Cooper of Windsor, Mo., who asked the federal court to interpret SBC Bylaws, to enjoin the convention into compliance with the court's interpretation, and to vacate the 1986 Committee on Boards, Commissions, and Standing Committees.

In issuing his ruling, Hall wrote: "Defendants contend that this court lacks jurisdiction over this action because it involves the resolution of an ecclesiastical controversy in violation of the First Amendment's requirement of separation of church and state. This court agrees with defendants.

"It has long been a fundamental proposition of Constitutional law that civil tribunals have no power to resolve disputes which are ecclesiastical in nature."

It is uncertain what effect Hall's ruling will have on a parallel suit filed in Fulton County Superior Court in Atlanta by five laypersons from five states, but attorneys for the SBC feel the federal court decision sets a "powerful precedent" which probably will result in a similar decision by the state court.

In his decision, Hall noted the Crowders and Cooper were "three of some 45,000 Baptist messengers who convened in Dallas ... June 11-13, 1985, for the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"Plaintiffs contend that certain by-laws were misinterpreted and that certain parliamentary errors occurred during the process of electing the 1985 nominating committee (Committee on Boards)," Hall wrote.

The dispute revolves around the report of the 1985 Committee on Committees, which had been appointed by SBC President Charles F. Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta, and the subsequent election of its slate of nominations to the Committee on Boards.

When the Committee on Committees report was made, nominating the Committee on Boards, messenger James Slatton, pastor of River Road Baptist Church in Richmond, Va., attempted to amend the report by proposing a new slate of nominees.

Hall noted Stanley ruled Slatton's motion out of order. The decision was appealed and messengers rejected Stanley's ruling. After the vote, the morning session concluded without resolution of the issue.

"When the evening session convened," Hall wrote, Stanley "ruled Dr. Slatton's motion out of order, this time on the ground that nominations from the floor ... in any form ... were prohibited by the bylaws." He added the Crowders and Cooper "contend that they attempted to appeal this ruling, but that they were not recognized by the chair. The slate of candidates nominated by the Committee on

Committees was elected by a majority of the messengers ..."

Following the convention, the Crowders appealed to the September meeting of the SBC Executive Committee, which, rather than overruling the convention action, voted instead to affirm the election of the 1986 Committee on Boards.

The Crowders and Cooper — who were later joined by Allen McCartney of Vero Beach, Fla., as a plaintiff — filed the federal suit.

In his decision, Hall writes: "What is actually at issue in this case is a question of church governance. Whether Reverend Dr. Stanley's rulings were correct or patently incorrect is irrelevant because a decision as to validity of his rulings would involve this court in the internal affairs of the Southern Baptist Convention, a position the court cannot assume.

"The fact that a civil court must not become involved in disputes of this type has been made abundantly clear by the Supreme Court."

Crowder said the four plaintiffs have conferred and "believe we should appeal" the case to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit in Atlanta.

"Mr. Emmett J. Bondurant, Miss Jane H. Vehko, and Mr. John H. Floyd of the firm of Bondurant, Mixson, and Elmore are filing the appeal in the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ... today (May 7)," Crowder said in a prepared statement he read to Baptist Press.

In the statement, Crowder cited four reasons the plaintiffs are appealing the decision:

"One, the decision confuses Baptist congregational church government with hierarchical church government, for the cases relied on by the court deal mainly with hierarchical churches;

"Two, the decision may be interpreted by the officers of the Southern Baptist Convention and other religious groups and by other courts to permit any presiding officer to ignore or violate any church Constitutional or bylaw provision with impunity and deny the rights of those who finally support the church organization in the expectation that the organization will observe its own policies and procedures;

"Three, the decision does not address the fact that not only is the SBC a corporation, but it sought and obtained corporate status from the Georgia legislature and as such is subject to civil law; and

"Four, the plaintiffs do not agree with the court's application of the precedents interpreting the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States."

In his statement, Crowder added: "We do not expect this appeal to be resolved before the convention meets in Atlanta in June of 1986. We hope and pray that the convention leaders will not interpret the district court's decision as an encouragement to engage in arbitrary action, but rather will set before the world an example of Christian statesmanship and fairness in the conduct of the business of the convention."

Crowder was asked what relief will be sought in the appeal, since the case was on a "fast track" in the federal court because the solutions it sought concerned the 1986 annual meeting of the convention, scheduled June 10-12 in the Georgia World Congress Center.

"You will have to ask the lawyers about the specifics of that," he said.

EDITORIAL

TBCH's efforts support religious liberty

Tennessee Baptists can be justly proud of our efforts in preserving religious liberty and separation of church and state which directly resulted in a new ruling by Internal Revenue Service.

On Tuesday of last week, IRS announced an additional classification of "integrated auxiliaries" of churches and conventions or associations of churches. That new procedure will exempt Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes Inc. — and many other religious organizations — from having to file Informational Return Form 990 with IRS.

Under Revenue Procedure 86-23, which was announced by IRS on May 6, a new classification has been created by adding an "internal support requirement" section to previous requirements for exemption to filing Form 990. This section states:

"An organization is internally supported within the meaning of the section unless it both:

1. Offers admissions, goods, services, or facilities for sale, other than on an incidental basis, to the general public (except goods, services, or facilities sold at a nominal charge or substantially less than cost), and
2. normally receives more than 50 percent of its support from a combination of governmental sources; public solicitation of contributions (such as through a community fund drive); and receipts from the sale of admissions, goods, performances of services, or furnishing of facilities in activities that are not unrelated trades or businesses."

The issue was whether or not Internal Revenue Service has the right to examine internal financial data of a religious organization — if that organization is indeed engaged in religious (rather than commercial) activities. But problems arose because the government did not know how to deal with violators of tax exempt status, without working a hardship on those performing a religious ministry.

The basis of the confrontation grew out of the Tax Reform Act of 1969 which declared that religious organizations which were "integrated auxiliaries" of churches or groups of churches were exempt from fil-

ing Informational Return Form 990. TBCH was considered at that time to be an "integrated auxiliary," as were most religious organizations.

However, in 1977, IRS ruled that an organization must meet three new criteria to be so classified. TBCH met the first two — it is a tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code and it is affiliated with churches. IRS declared that TBCH did not meet the third requirement — that TBCH's principal activity is exclusively religious.

Evans B. Bowen, then TBCH executive director-treasurer, and the TBCH Board of Trustees are to be commended for their refusal to file Form 990. This struggle has been carried on by Bowen's successor, Gerald Stow, and the current trustees.

IRS responded to levying penalties against TBCH — which were paid under protest during the 1977-82 period. These penalties totaled \$29,665.12.

TBCH trustees, with financial assistance from the TBC Executive Board, decided to take the matter to court and filed a lawsuit against IRS.

The suit was tried in August 1984 in the United States District Court for Middle Tennessee, Cookeville. After three days of testimony, the six-person jury rendered its verdict that TBCH was an organization whose principal activity is exclusively religious.

During the trial, attorneys for the Justice Department contended that TBCH was not "exclusively religious," since it provides for the children such non-religious services as food, shelter, medical expenses, and education. Since these services would be provided by a non-religious child care ministry, the government attorneys declared that TBCH is not exclusively religious.

That verdict and a Nov. 14, 1984, memorandum from Judge L. Clure Morton declared that TBCH is considered an integrated auxiliary of Tennessee Baptist churches under the Tax Reform Act of 1969. The judge instructed IRS to refund the assessed penalties plus interest.

However, the judge denied two other parts of the TBCH's lawsuit: that IRS pay all attorney's fees and court costs, and that the federal regulation which required TBCH to file Form 990 is unconstitutional.

Internal Revenue Service appealed the district court's decision, and that appeal was heard Feb. 10 by the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Cincinnati, Ohio.

At the hearing, a Justice Department attorney declared that "religious activity is limited only to the conduct of worship." He contended that the court erred in allowing a jury trial on what he called "a matter of law, adding that the jury confused "motivation" with "activity."

The government attorney admitted that TBCH was providing Christian homes for children, but "their religious motivation is not relevant."

To date, the appeals court has not announced its decision on the case.

Doubtless, there will be pressure on TBCH to join in a joint motion with IRS to have the appeal dismissed, now that TBCH and other religious institutions are exempted from the 1977 IRS ruling which caused the problem.

Regardless of the outcome of the appeal, Tennessee Baptists and all religious ministries have won a great victory. Government intrusion into religious activities has faced an obstacle.

All advocates of religious liberty can rejoice in the announcement of Revenue Procedure 86-23.

Cicero's comment



By the editor

"Cicero, I'm calling you on one of my eight telephones to let you know that I have discovered my spiritual gift," announced my caller who identified herself as Barb Tung.

Between the time that I said "hello" and six minutes later when Barb paused to take a breath, Cicero learned that my caller had been troubled for years about what was her "gift."

"All my life I heard pastors preach about talents — you know: five, two, and one become 10, four, and none. I have been admonished time and time again to discover and to develop my God-given talent," she continued. "But I did not know what my talent was, UNTIL..."

She paused, overcome by emotion, giving me an opportunity to ask, "Until?"

She resumed our one-sided dialogue, "Until last Sunday when our pastor, Frank Lee Blount, preached about a church being the body of Christ. Using 1 Corinthians 12, our pastor noted that we are members of a church, just like there were members or parts of a body."

I tried to interrupt to note that I was familiar with that passage, but Barb blazed on.

"Right there in the service, it dawned on me that the part of a body that is my best talent is my tongue."

"You're the tongue of the body of Christ?" Cicero inquired.

"Why not?" Barb Tung asked. And not waiting for my answer, she prattled on, "I don't mind telling anyone off — in fact, I enjoy it! I will gladly tell everything I know — and even some things I have only heard about — and even a few things I just imagine."

Hearing of this commitment to tell all, Cicero was afraid to say anything but "Oh."

Barb hurriedly added that as a lifelong Baptist, she felt the use of her talent fulfilled one of the tenets of Baptists, "I am very strong on the Baptist principle that the people have a right to know," she avowed.

With no encouragement and a short pause for breath, she rattled on. "My talent was apparent very early in my life. At the age of six months when most children are merely saying 'DaDa,' I was saying 'DADA, isn't that lipstick on your collar?'"

She noted that in elementary school she always got an "F" in deportment, under the section "talks incessantly." As a high school senior, she was voted "most talkative" by her classmates.

Barb said that in order to make the best use of her talent, she has put a telephone in every room of the house — including both bathrooms and the hall closet. "I understand that Christians are to use the talents at all times. Why, I even talk in my sleep!"

"But," Cicero interrupted, "aren't spiritual gifts supposed to help other people! How will your 'gift of gab' aid others!"

Barb Tung seemed somewhat disturbed at my question. I will be performing a great spiritual service by relieving the rest of the congregation from the temptation to gossip — since I will be doing it first and best!"

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 75,179

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Baptist and Reflector (USPS 041-780) is published weekly except New Year's week by the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention at Brentwood, Tennessee 37027. Subscription prices: \$6.55 individual; clubs of ten or more, \$6.25; church budget, 10.9¢ 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 offices.

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
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Letters to the Editor

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

Like Moore's four points

Dear editor:

I feel it is my responsibility as a layman to express myself concerning the politization of the Southern Baptist Convention. I have tried to keep informed of the issues that are facing us today and am becoming increasingly concerned that our priorities and goals have gotten way off track. It seems that Bold Mission Thrust, cooperative evangelism, missions, and Christian education have been pushed aside to make room for "fundamentalism," "liberalism," "my side," "your side," or "Whose side are you on?"

In the April 23 edition of *Baptist and Reflector*, I read an article that seems to

make a great deal of sense to me. I am referring to "Winfred Moore's four-point Southern Baptist peace plan." If we could all agree on these points, I see no reason why we could not have peace in our denomination.

I also agree with Moore's philosophy of a "shared ministry" within our churches between pastors, church staff, and laity. The Apostle Paul said the pastor was given to the church "for the equipping of the saints for the work of service" (Ephesians 4:12) and it is our responsibility as laymen to become equipped and share in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

I am praying that our convention will elect someone like Winfred Moore who is interested in a "fair and peaceful" approach to solving our denomination's problems — someone who is interested in all Southern Baptists, and who holds firmly to the historical doctrine concerning the priesthood of EVERY believer.

It's time for us as Southern Baptists to get back to cooperative missions and reaching this world for Jesus Christ. After all, this is our mission.

Scott L. Holder
107 Willow Street
Sweetwater, TN 37874

Thanks from seminary student

Dear editor:

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank *Baptist and Reflector* for keeping Tennessee seminary students in touch with events and information happening in our home state of Tennessee. All seminary students are given free subscriptions to their state Baptist paper.

It lifts my spirit to see Tennessee Baptists ministering in many different ways. Receiving the *Baptist and Reflector* weekly keeps me in touch with home.

I am proud to be connected with Tennessee Baptists and appreciate all the hard work put into the *Baptist and Reflector*. Thank you for taking the opportunity to minister to students in this particular way.

Debbie Harned
2118 Wayside Ct.
Fort Worth, TX 76115

Clarifications update story

Two clarifications need to be made concerning nominations by the Southern Baptist Convention's Committee on Boards which was printed in the April 30 issue of the *Baptist and Reflector*, according to Editor Al Shackelford.

It was reported that Ronald Earl, nominated for re-election to the Annuity Board, is a member of Central Baptist Church, Hixson. Earl is presently a member of First Baptist Church, Chattanooga.

The report also stated that Jack May, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church of Memphis, was being nominated to fill the unexpired term of Bill Bruster, who moved from the state, as a trustee for Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. The report did not note that Calvin Metcalf, pastor of Fountain City's Central Baptist Church, Knoxville, had been elected by SEBTS trustees to fill Bruster's term as an "interim appointment" until the next SBC session. This procedure is permitted under SBC Bylaw 17.

Canadian Southern Baptists hold second annual meeting

VICTORIA, B.C. (BP) — In its second annual meeting, the Canadian Convention of Southern Baptists seated 130 messengers from local church congregations scattered across the nation, heard the final reading and adoption of its Constitution and bylaws, elected Allen Schmidt executive director-treasurer, and adopted a record convention operations budget of \$1,150,000 (Canadian) for 1987.

Schmidt, a native Canadian who for five years has been coordinator of Canadian Southern Baptist work, is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif. He was a pastor in California before returning to Southern Baptist churches in British Columbia.

Development of a national denominational structure to serve the mission needs of Canadian Southern Baptist churches has been highly accelerated since 1984, when approval was given by the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City for "rendering all possible assistance to Canadian churches related to Baptist state conventions... including the development of a Canadian Southern Baptist entity."

All Southern Baptist agencies, especially the Home Mission Board, the Foreign Mission Board, and the Baptist Sunday School Board, were given the opportunity by this 1984 action to work "as appropriate" with Canadian Southern Baptist churches.

Taken after lengthy consideration, this SBC action averted a move sought for many years by Canadian churches and their supporters in the Northwest Baptist Convention to have Canadian messengers seated at SBC annual meetings.

The first national meeting of the Canadian Convention of Southern Baptists was a Constitutional convention held May 7-9, 1985, in Kelowna, B.C. Initial approval was given at that meeting for the legal structures and program design of the new Southern Baptist entity in Canada.

Other actions by the April 29 through May 1 convention include approval of:

— Procedures for the appointment of Canadian Southern Baptist foreign missionaries in cooperation with the Foreign Mission Board, SBC.

— A statement of faith and practice based on the Baptist Faith and Message for the new Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary set to open in September 1987.

— A request to the SBC Foreign Mis-

sion Board, Home Mission Board, and Sunday School Board for the funding of professors for the new theological institution.

— Plans for establishing a Baptist Foundation to serve the needs of the churches of the Canadian Convention of Southern Baptists.

— A special Canadian missions offering known as the Harvest Missions Offering to be received and coordinated each October with a special week of prayer for missions in Canada.

Six messengers from French-speaking churches in Quebec were seated at the meeting.

The six pastors, who crossed the continent from their homes and churches in and around Montreal, were recognized for having travelled the greatest distance to attend the meeting in far Western Canada.

The six also serve French-speaking Southern Baptist congregations, a rarity anywhere in the world.

The story of the French-speaking Southern Baptists in Canada started in 1969 when the Canadian government began a resettlement program for refugees from the political and economic maelstrom of Duvalier's Haiti. Through 1984, when the program stopped, more than 50,000 Haitians were relocated from their tropical homeland to a new life in the heart of French-speaking Canada.

Jean Baptiste Sauveur, the senior Baptist pastor in the group attending the sessions on Vancouver Island, had been attending a Bible training school in Haiti when his opportunity came for immigration to Canada. In 1969, soon after arriving in Montreal and getting a job, he again took up his studies for the ministry in a Canadian school of theology.

Sauveur's first Baptist congregation was gathered in 1979 from fellow Haitian refugees living in central Montreal. The young pastor continued his secular trade — as he continues to do — and preached to his fellow countrymen.

In 1976, Sauveur left the growing congregation and started a new flock in another section of Montreal. In 1981, he formed the third congregation — New Jerusalem Baptist Church — where he continues to serve.

In addition to recognizing the six French-speaking pastors and seating them as messengers (voting members) of the convention, the other messengers also elected Sauveur to a vacant seat on the Executive Board of the new convention.

Colorado hires staff members

DENVER (BP) — The Executive Board of the Colorado Baptist General Convention has elected Donald L. Barr as director of Sunday School, church administration, and family ministries; Bob Worley as director of church training, church music, and campus ministries; and Joe R. Chambers as manager of Ponderosa Assembly and director of recreation.

Barr is a graduate of Westminster College in Salt Lake City, and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif. He has been a consultant in youth Sunday School at the Baptist Sunday School Board for five years.

Worley is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

He joined the Colorado convention from Mississippi Avenue Baptist Church in Aurora, Colo., where he has been minister of education for two years.

Chambers has succeeded Joe Cherry, who is retiring this spring after more than 17 years of service at Ponderosa Assembly, located between Denver and Colorado Springs. Chambers came to Ponderosa from First Southern Baptist Church of Colorado Springs, where he had been minister of education since 1980.

He is a graduate of Texas A&M University in College Station, and has completed all class work for a second degree from Texas A&M.

Allen Buhler retires

After serving in the pastoral ministry for 41 years, Allen Buhler is retiring. He has been serving as pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Lebanon for the past six years.

The Wilson County native is a graduate of Carson-Newman College. His pastorates include Montvue Baptist Church in Morristown, Fairview Baptist Church in Lebanon, and Shelby Avenue Baptist Church in Nashville.

Buhler will continue to be available for interim pastorates, revivals, and pulpit supply.



CUMBERLAND PLATEAU BREAKS GROUND — Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association held ground-breaking services April 6, for a new office building. Roy Davis, director of missions for the association, and Leslie Baumgartner, director of the missions department for the Tennessee Baptist Convention were among those participating in the service.

Huff says committee 'not representative'

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)— Charles Stanley's appointment of a 54-member Committee on Committees to serve during the 1986 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention is "not representative of Southern Baptists" and includes only two of the 198 names suggested by the two SBC vice-presidents, according to Henry Huff, SBC second vice-president.

Huff, a Louisville, Ky., attorney and member of Crescent Hill Baptist Church, made his comments a week after SBC President Stanley named two persons from each of the 27 qualifying states to serve on the Committee on Committees for the 1986 annual meeting, scheduled June 10-12 in the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

Under the SBC Constitution and by-laws, the convention president appoints the Committee on Committees "in consultation with" the two vice-presidents. This year the vice-presidents are Winfred Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church of Amarillo, Texas, first vice-president, and Huff, second vice-president.

The primary work of the committee, which serves only during the three-day session of the SBC, is to nominate the 54-member Committee on Boards, Commissions, and Standing Committees, which, in turn, nominates persons to serve on the boards of the national agencies of the convention. The Committee on Committees is appointed by the SBC president and does not require election

Oak Valley Baptist calls pastor, Gallery

Oak Valley Baptist Church in Franklin has called James Gallery Jr. as its first full-time pastor. He began May 11.

A native of Bradenton, Fla., Gallery is a graduate of the University of South Florida in Tampa, and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Gallery previously served as minister of youth and single adults at Woodmont Baptist Church in Nashville. Most recently he was pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, in Pensacola, Fla.

by messengers at the annual meeting, while the other committees do require ratification.

Huff released a statement to Baptist Press concerning the Committee on Committees May 7, which he said is "concurrent with" by Moore.

Moore said, "Mr. Huff read the statement to me. I am aware of it and I agree with the content of it."

Huff said he and Moore submitted 198 names to Stanley for consideration in the appointment of the committee. "Only two (on the final list) were names which had been submitted by either one of us," he said.

"The list submitted by the vice-presidents consisted of the names of ministers and laypersons from all participating states without regard to their views, but with regard to the evangelistic effort, which includes baptisms as shown by their church letters, their Sunday School, training union (church training), Woman's Missionary Union, and Cooperative Program support," Huff said.

"The individuals recommended by the vice-presidents were from both small churches and large churches and represented, we felt, the basis on which the SBC functions, namely, great churches on mission together. Some of the names nominated were not objected to by the vice-presidents, but I feel the names originally submitted were far more representative of Southern Baptists than those actually nominated," he added.

"I am not speaking of votes or views. Our list was made up of people from the great churches that support the Cooperative Program. To have only two people from that list is simply not representative of Southern Baptists," Huff said.

The vice-president noted he and Moore had spent one day at Stanley's home in Atlanta, going over a computer printout listing 500 names of persons who had been suggested for appointment to the important committee.

"It would appear from the results of the meeting of the officers on April 11 that it was mostly conversation and not conferring that occupied several hours," Huff said.

"I had assumed that when we were in-

cluded to confer that our list would be taken seriously, and that unless there were objections stated, they would be carefully considered. There were no objections stated, but obviously our suggestions were given very limited consideration.

"To have this many names rejected does not seem to be in keeping with the often-expressed idea of reconciliation and peacemaking," he said.

Huff said the vice-presidents were given opportunity to object to names on

the 500-name master list. "A great number of those we objected to were not appointed, but there are several named who we did have objections to," he said.

Other than making his reaction public, Huff said there is "no way" to express disappointment with the appointments of the Committee on Committees.

"There may be some challenges when they make their report (nominating members to serve on the Committee on Boards), but we will just have to wait and see what they do," Huff said.

Winfred Moore announces . . .

(Continued from page 1)

tive missions and evangelism. Our Cooperative Program (unified method of support) was established because Baptists were confident that cooperation was the most effective way to reach the world for Christ. History consistently has shown the basic rightness of that decision.

"Knowing Baptists, I am sure that those who agreed to begin the Cooperative Program did not completely agree on doctrine. We have agreed and do agree on the authority of the Bible, but we do not and have not and will not completely agree on the interpretation of the Bible. What we did back in 1926 (when the Cooperative Program was founded) was to trust each other and to agree on the priority and wisdom of cooperative missions and evangelism.

"At this moment, we are at a crossroad in our history. We need to know just how important and grave the decision before us is. We can choose the path of doctrinal uniformity as a prerequisite for missions, or we can reclaim the path we started on, the path of common commitment to missions, under God, under the authority of the Bible and in the freedom of the Spirit."

The statement continued: "It is because of my deep conviction that this is the path — the original path and the only right and Baptist path to lasting cooperative commitment to reaching the world for Christ — that I am brought to this moment and this statement.

"As cooperative Baptists, we must respect the integrity and freedom of our fellow Baptists. We must seek fairness for all Southern Baptists and join hands in the Great Commission. This is a crucial moment. You know that in more than a quarter of a century, I have not sought any office or place in Southern Baptist life. During this past year, I have prayed and longed and worked for someone to come forward or something to happen that would bring us reconciliation and cause me never to face the decision I now face."

Moore said he came to the decision to allow his name to be presented "after much prayer," hearing from church members, and "those who have gone out from our church to serve on mission fields and in other churches, from veteran preachers and other long-time servants of God." He also noted the church "unanimously adopted a resolution of affirmation and support."

"I think God has put me in a place to help us reclaim our original mission and spirit. I do not want to be here, but by God's grace and under His leadership, I am announcing my willingness to be nominated for the presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention," Moore said.

He added: "I believe that the prime task of the president of our convention at this time is reconciliation, that his role, even as the role of a pastor, must be that of a servant, not a ruler. If I should be nominated and if I should be elected, I will give my best to these goals and to fairness for all of our churches and people."

Moore said he hopes the fact that he and Rogers both have announced their willingness to be nominated "will not hamper the work of the Peace Committee. I know I do not intend for it to interfere with the work of that group."

Belmont . . .

(Continued from page 1)

and denomination management.

In designing a professional quality program, Brown enlisted deans of other graduate business schools to help develop the curriculum. The program will give emphasis to those who are already actively involved in the business community, by providing some classes on Saturdays and weeknights.

The proposal contained specific information on financing the program, noting that this will come from tuition, and from already committed support from the Nashville business community and from special endowments.

Brown estimated that the MBA program will enroll between 30 and 40 students its first year, with an anticipated growth to about 80 students.



BAPTIST HOMECOMING — Twenty-five churches in Robertson County Baptist Association held a Homecoming '86 celebration May 2 by preparing displays of their history and variety of ministries in Springfield's civic center. They also had refreshments and gospel music entertainment. Joe Evans (left in photo above), pastor of Orinda Baptist Church in Orinda, visits with Director of Missions Frank Evans, who directed the event. Members of Cedar Hill Baptist Church in Cedar Hill (top to bottom in photo at right), Carol Hawkins, Fred Davenport, and Jeremy Hayes, were part of an old-fashioned scene.



Bivocational optimist resurrects dead church

By Charlie Warren

Chuck Ozment is a bivocational pastor. Color him optimistic.

Few pastors, embarking on their first pastorates, have faced a more gloomy, hopeless, discouraging situation than Ozment met head-on in June 1985 when he was called as pastor of Central Avenue Baptist Church in inner-city Detroit, Mich.

Once a strong church, at least by the standards of Southern Baptist churches in pioneer areas, Central Avenue had declined in numbers as the surrounding neighborhood had declined economically.

A faithful few

As he began his first pastorate, Ozment preached to eight people on a "high attendance" Sunday. There were only four "faithful" members he could count on to be there, Ozment admitted.

The church building, more than 50 years old, was dilapidated and filthy. Rooms which had not been used in years were piled full of old junk and trash. Cold Michigan air rushed in where windows were broken out. Everywhere Ozment looked needed either paint or repair.

But all he saw was potential and opportunity.

"The Lord opened doors. Everything I went after, He's given me."

Ozment knew he was exactly where God wanted him to be, which had not always been the case.

He had felt the call to preach when he was 18 years old, Ozment admitted, "but I ran from the Lord for 24 years."

In recent years he had served two churches in the Detroit area as a youth minister, on a volunteer basis. Central Avenue was his first paid church staff position, although the tithe he contributes to the church from his salary as a full-time employee with the Farmer-Jack grocery chain exceeds the meager church salary he receives.

Viewing the church's overwhelmingly

unfavorable situation as a challenge worthy of his best effort, Ozment attacked each problem, one at a time.

Earning trust

His first task was to win the people's trust.

"The people had doubts I would stay," Ozment explained. Why should a bivocational pastor, beginning his first pastorate with its meager salary and overwhelming problems, want to remain very long, they wondered?

Ozment explained his sense of God's call and convinced them of his determination to stay until God moved him somewhere else.

Next, he enlisted the "faithful" remnant of church members to help him begin to paint, repair, and clean up the building. Funds for the paint and repair work came from a variety of sources — Ozment's own pocket, support from other churches, unsolicited contributions, and some people from whom Ozment boldly requested help.

He decided asking was the only way he was going to get some things.

Needs met

The church needed an organ. He located one, asked for it, and got it.

People in the community are poor. Most are either retired with fixed incomes or are on welfare. Few in the area have cars. Ozment realized they needed transportation not only to the church but to doctor's appointments and other places.

He began to pray for a bus. After a few weeks, he noticed a used bus for sale on a lot. Inquiring, he discovered the salesman wanted \$1,800 for it.

He continued to ask God how he could get that bus.

"I'd drive by every month to see if it was still there," Ozment explained.

After several months, he noticed that vandals had broken out the windshield and several side windows.

"This was the leverage I needed," Ozment said. He went to the salesman, pointing out that the bus had sat idle on the lot for months and that now vandals had damaged it. "You're losing money on it," Ozment told him.

The bold pastor offered to write the



BIVOCATIONAL PASTOR — Chuck Ozment, bivocational pastor of Detroit's Central Avenue Baptist Church, stands proudly in front of the 50-year-old church building he is leading the members to repair step by step.

salesman a letter stating what the bus was worth and that the man had given the bus to Central Avenue Baptist Church. He explained the advantage of the tax write-off as a way to get rid of an item he was losing money on anyway.

"I'll think about it and get back to you," the man told Ozment.

After several days without hearing from the man, Ozment called him, asking again if he would donate the bus to the church.

Ozment got the bus in exchange for a simple letter.

Recently, he has arranged for free landscaping of the church property.

"The Lord opened doors," Ozment explained. "Everything I went after, He's given me. People have given money just in time to meet specific needs.

"I maintain that poor people can still build a beautiful church," he said. "You just have to step out on faith and let the Lord take care of it."

Next Ozment began canvassing the neighborhood, where there are 100 homes per city block in an area where there is no other Baptist church.

"We've only made a dent," Ozment admitted, "but it's a start."

Reaching out

There were 69 members enrolled when Ozment became pastor, although most could not be located. The church has since enrolled 43 new members in Sunday School and morning worship attendance has reached as high as 39, with an average of about 25.

Ozment has visited street people, drug addicts, and a few with suicidal tendencies. He has even had a knife pulled on him, but he continues to go out.

The church has started a ministry to help feed and clothe needy people. They have opened part of their building for use by an Arabic ministry. Ozment plans to start a radio ministry — "maybe even TV."

He also has plans for what he calls a ministry of entertainment. He wants to invite popular preachers, musicians, and well-known personalities to speak, perform, and testify at church services.

"I want to wake up Detroit and let them know Central Avenue Baptist Church is here. We're going to take a dead church and bring it back to life again," he emphasized.

Help from Tennessee

During the recent Good News America simultaneous revivals in Michigan, Ozment tapped the resources of Haywood Hills Baptist Church, Nashville, which has assisted the church in the past and currently contributes \$200 a month to the work.

George Horton, associate pastor of the Nashville church, preached the revival and Horton and six Haywood Hills laymen painted part of the building, did some electrical work, did personal witnessing and visitation, and assisted in some other areas.

They slept on cots in the church building, using a makeshift shower for bathing.

"I've never worked so hard, slept so little, and come home so tired," Horton commented.

The laymen were Tom Gibson, Charles Graves, Estle McCool, Joe Nave, Richard Todd, and Sam Vaught. In addition to their physical labor and personal visitation in homes, the men held special sessions for children on three nights, 30 minutes before the revival service started. The singing and Bible study sessions attracted 15 to 18 children each of the nights, according to Horton.

Planting seeds

Horton related visiting in extremely poverty-stricken, broken-down homes. Single light bulbs dangled overhead illuminating scarred, filthy walls. Musty odors betrayed the depth of the poverty.

"We also witnessed to some hard people," Horton said. "They had no time to listen to us or anybody else."

Nevertheless, one young woman received Christ as her Saviour during the week. In addition, two people rededicated their lives to Jesus Christ. Attendance at the services ranged from 30 to 40.

"The seed was planted well," Ozment said of the revival effort. "We're going to be cultivating it and we're going to see more people saved."

Horton expressed amazement at how a bivocational pastor can accomplish all that Ozment does. He drives to Toledo, Ohio, to work everyday and lives more than 18 miles from the church, yet he seems to conduct a "full-time" ministry.

A wild idea

Ozment's next project is to repair the church's roof. He has already gotten an estimate — \$5,000. He asked God how he could get \$5,000.

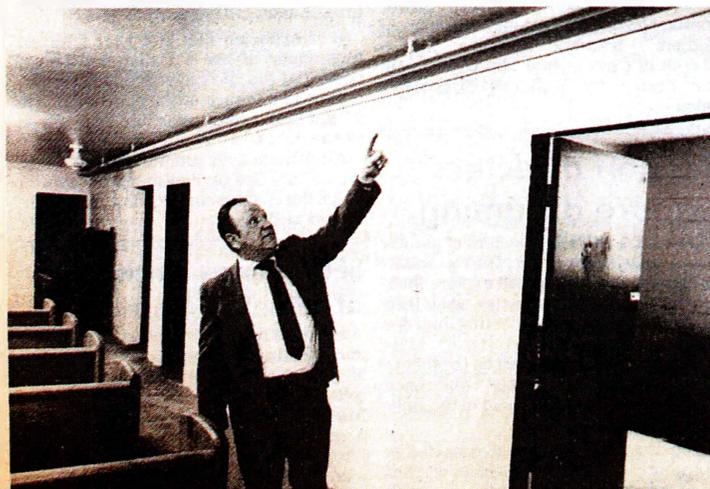
"The Lord said I could have the \$5,000 if I ask 5,000 people for \$1," Ozment said. "I told the Lord it would never work, but He said to try it."

The next day at work, Ozment asked several colleagues if they would give him \$1, no questions asked. Everyone of them did. He did not even tell them what it was for until they had given him the money.

Now, he has told his church members about the Lord's "crazy" idea. They have joined the effort with enthusiasm, boldly asking people for \$1.

So far, they have less than \$200, but Ozment's optimism is contagious.

They are beginning to believe that Ozment and the Lord can do almost anything.



TENNESSEE WORKMANSHIP — Chuck Ozment, pastor of Central Avenue Baptist Church, Detroit, shows off the painting and repair work done by seven members of Haywood Hills Baptist Church, Nashville.

Organizers announce SBC-related meetings

Each year prior to or during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, several special-interest meetings are held in the host city.

This year's convention is set for June 10-12 in the Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta.

The Baptist and Reflector already has reported program information concerning the convention itself, the SBC Pastors' Conference, the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting, the Church Music Conference, and the SBC Forum. On these pages are stories about other SBC-related meetings.

Evangelists focus on reaching lost

ATLANTA (BP)— Preachers and singers will seek to encourage fellow Christians to lead more people to faith in Christ when the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists convenes in Atlanta June 11.

The event, scheduled during the Wednesday afternoon break in business sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention, will meet at Atlanta's First Baptist Church, beginning at 12:50 p.m.

"Our theme is 'Back to Soul-Winning,'" said Larry Taylor, evangelist from San Antonio, Texas, and president of the evangelists' conference. The theme relates to the Good News America — God Loves You simultaneous revivals being held across the Southern Baptist Convention this spring, he said.

Featured will be 12 music evangelists or groups and messages from four speakers, as well as greetings from Taylor and SBC President Charles Stanley of Atlanta. Special recognition will be paid to evangelists George Havens of Fort Worth, Texas, and Felix Snipes of Atlanta.

Four related events will be held in the Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel.

The organization will host a reception for all full-time vocational evangelists and state evangelism directors and their associates June 9, following the SBC Pastors' Conference. The conference's annual business meeting will be held at 7 a.m. June 10. On Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 p.m. to midnight, the group will host "Festivals of Praise" featuring full-time music evangelists.

Ebenezer to host SBC peacemakers

ATLANTA (BP)— Joseph Roberts, pastor of Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church, will be the keynote speaker at the annual Baptist Peacemaker/Baptist Peace Fellowship meeting prior to the 1986 Southern Baptist Convention.

The program begins at 10 a.m., June 9, and will close with lunch. Tickets are \$5, available from Baptist Peace Fellowship, 222 East Lake Dr., Decatur, Ga. 30030.

Ebenezer Baptist is host for the program, which will include a tour of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Non-violent Social Change.

"Since Dr. King is something of a 'patron saint' for the Baptist Peace Fellowship, and since our top priority for 1986 is increasing black Baptist involvement in our network, it is especially appropriate that we meet at Ebenezer and that Dr. Roberts address our constituency," said Ken Sehested, executive director of the Baptist Peace Fellowship.

Educators plan to stress unity

ATLANTA (BP)— "It Takes Us All" will be the theme for the 31st annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association in Atlanta June 8-9.

"We are going to be stressing servant-hood throughout the whole conference," said Dennis Parrott, president of the organization and minister of education at Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler, Texas. Up to 900 religious educators are expected for the meeting, to be held at the Omni International Hotel in downtown Atlanta.

The first session of the organization's meeting will focus on servant leadership.

Campus ministers contemplate call

ATLANTA (BP)— "The Hope of Our Call" will be the theme for the annual meeting of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers June 8-9 at Wieuca Road Baptist Church in Atlanta.

Campus ministers from schools across the United States will focus on understanding God's direction in their lives, said Frank Cofer, president of the organization and director of Baptist student ministries for the Chicago Metropolitan Baptist Association.

Resource leaders primarily will be drawn from within the group, he added, noting contributions of colleagues are designed to enhance the spirit of collegiality within the group. In addition, information generated by small groups that focus on practical elements of campus ministry will be published as resource material for members of the organization.

Two speakers from outside the organization will address the meeting; Bill Clemmons, professor of spiritual formation at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.; and Peter Rhea Jones, pastor of First Baptist Church of Decatur, Ga.

Ministers' wives consider fitness

ATLANTA (BP)— "Ministers' Wives: Alive-Fit-Serving" will be the theme for the 1986 Southern Baptist Ministers' Wives Luncheon in Atlanta June 10.

The luncheon will begin at 12:15 p.m. in the Omni International Hotel in downtown Atlanta.

Ministers' wives will focus on physical and spiritual fitness during the luncheon, said Betty Dilday, president of the SBC Conference of Ministers' Wives and wife of Russell Dilday, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Keynote speaker will be Millie Cooper of Dallas, who co-wrote *Aerobics for Women* with her husband, Kenneth, acclaimed by some observers as the founder of the aerobics movement. The luncheon also will feature a "fitness style show" as an interpretation of the program theme.

Tickets for the luncheon will be \$15 if purchased during the convention in Atlanta. Tickets are available in advance for \$13.50 and should be ordered from Joy Rust, 324 White Falls Drive, Columbia, SC 29120. A self-addressed, stamped envelope must be enclosed.

featuring a message on that topic by Lloyd Elder, president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

In the next session, Walter Shurden, religion professor at Mercer University in Macon, Ga., will help religious educators "identify in our past those times when we have had challenges to our unity and describe how we dealt with that," Parrott added. He said Shurden also will present principles for dealing with denominational challenge and controversy in a spirit of unity.

"Then we're going to have a time of prayer where we examine our own spirits and how we can ask the Lord to use us in managing the diversity within the convention," he said. "We're going to seek out how we can contribute to a spirit of unity."

Ministry women focus on roles

ATLANTA (BP)— Southern Baptist women involved in ministry will focus on the purpose and variety of their ministerial roles during the fourth annual meeting of Women in Ministry, SBC, June 7-8 in Atlanta.

Between 500 and 600 women are expected for the event, said Irene Bennett, program coordinator and minister of education and youth at Evans, Ga. The June 7 sessions will be held at Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, and the June 9 sessions at the Omni International Hotel.

Theme for the meeting will be "We Preach Not Ourselves," based on 2 Corinthians 4:5 — "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves for your sake."

Speakers include Pam Scalise, assistant professor of Old Testament at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; and Clista Whitehurst Adkins, former professor of Old Testament at Belmont College, Nashville, now of Augusta, Ga.; and Christine Gregory, former national president of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union and SBC vice-president of Danville, Va.

The event also will feature a Sunday morning worship service; presentation of "The Lower Room," a two-act Easter drama; business sessions; "Historical Moment" dramatic sketches; and a Women in Professional Ministry Luncheon, hosted by Woman's Missionary Union.

Mission directors explore dreaming

ATLANTA (BP)— Directors of associational missions from across the Southern Baptist Convention will explore their dreams of combined ministry when they gather for their annual meeting June 8-9 in Atlanta.

"Capture the Vision" will be the theme for the 1986 Southern Baptist Conference of Directors of Missions, held in the Holiday Inn Crowne Center.

"The director of missions' main task is dreaming. He is to have a vision of what an association can do and be with churches working together in fellowship," said Bob Lee Franklin, president of the organization and director of mis-

sions for Noonday Baptist Association in Marietta, Ga.

The conference will revolve around the necessity of dreaming and will provide types of dreams for associational missions, Franklin explained.

Robert Dale, a professor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., and author of the book, *To Dream Again*, will "try to set the whole pattern for us on the necessity of dreaming," Franklin said. Following will be six "visions" presented in chapters 7-10 of the Book of Acts, related by people who can be models of the dreams they describe, he noted.

Researchers study variety of issues

ATLANTA (BP)— The Southern Baptist Research Fellowship will explore a variety of topics during its annual meeting June 7 in Atlanta, beginning at 1 p.m. in the downtown Atlanta Hilton Hotel.

The general purpose of the researchers' meeting will be to expose Southern Baptist producers and utilizers of research to the work of other researchers in the convention, said O. D. Morris, president of the organization and director of the research division of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta.

Participants will hear a report by Nancy Ammerman, assistant professor of sociology of religion at Emory University in Atlanta, who conducted a survey of messengers to the 1985 Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas. Ammerman's presentation will focus more on her research methodology rather than the results of her survey, Morris said.

Other speakers include Rudee Boan, associate director of the Home Mission Board's planning and services research department; Jim Lowry, denominational statistics specialist for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville; and Lloyd Elder, Sunday School Board president.

Congress Center hosts Union alumni dinner

ATLANTA — The Union University alumni and friends dinner will be held at 5:30 p.m., June 10, in Room 360, West Concourse, of the Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta.

It is expected that last year's record attendance of 185 in Dallas will be exceeded at the '86 convention. Ticket purchases in advance of the convention are \$7 and at the convention, the cost will be \$9 per ticket.

All Atlanta area alumni and friends of the college are invited to attend as well as pastors, messengers, and others involved at the SBC.

SEBTS plans luncheon at Atlanta's Marriott

ATLANTA — A record 1,000 alumni and friends of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary are expected for the school's annual luncheon on June 11 at Atlanta's Marriott Marquis Hotel at 1 p.m.

Advance tickets are available from the alumni office at a cost of \$10 per person and \$5 for an accompanying spouse. Should tickets still be available at the convention, the price will be \$12 and \$7 respectively.



NOTE BURNING DURING EASTER SERVICE — Ebenezer Baptist Church in Knoxville burned two notes during the Easter service March 30. Chris Burns is pastor of the church.

WMU plans meal events

ATLANTA — Special meal events will be offered at the Omni Hotel during the 1986 Woman's Missionary Union Annual Meeting in Atlanta June 8-9.

A Luncheon for Women in Professional Ministry, beginning at noon on Sunday, will feature a panel of missionary women led by Minette Drumwright, special assistant to the president, Foreign Mission Board.

A Prayer Box Supper is set for Sunday from 5 to 6:30 p.m. WMU Executive Director Carolyn Weatherford will lead the program. Scheduled speakers are Susan Brindle, home missionary from Portsmouth, N.H.; former national WMU President Christine Gregory and current national President Dorothy Sample; and Kansas/Nebraska WMU President Jeanie Nolan.

Members of Baptist Nursing Fellowship (BNF) will join together Monday morning at 7 for breakfast. Guest speakers include Myrtice Owens, RN, South West Africa; Angela Greer, RN, Cordele, Ga.; and Marilyn Bayne, RN, Simpsonville, SC. The breakfast is open to all Baptist nurses or nursing students interested in BNF.

Ethnic women will take part in a breakfast designed to focus on their

Southern anticipates record luncheon crowd

ATLANTA — More than 2,000 people are expected at the Alumni and Friends Reunion luncheon sponsored by Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at 1 p.m., June 11 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel in Atlanta.

Because of the large attendance anticipated, the luncheon will take place on three levels of the hotel.

Ticket prices are \$15 per person if purchased prior to May 20 and \$18 after May 20. Ticket orders, with check and self-addressed, stamped envelope enclosed, should be addressed to: Alumni Office, Southern Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40280.

Golden Gate to host annual SBC luncheon

ATLANTA — Tickets may now be ordered for the 1986 Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni and Friends Luncheon, June 11 at 1 p.m. in the Peach State Room of the Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel.

Advance tickets for the luncheon are \$14 each if ordered by May 30. Tickets purchased at the seminary exhibit during the SBC will be \$17 each. To order tickets in advance, send a check or money order to the Alumni Office, Golden Gate Seminary, Strawberry Point, Mill Valley, CA 94941-3197. Checks should be made payable to the Golden Gate Seminary Alumni Association.

unique interests. Language WMU Consultant Doris Diaz will lead the breakfast, which will also begin at 7 on Monday.

"Alive from Atlanta" will be the theme for the luncheon for all WMUers at 11:30 on Monday. This meal event will be held at the Georgia World Congress Center.

Tickets for the luncheons are \$15 each; breakfast, \$9.25; and the Prayer Box Supper, \$11.

For tickets, write Annual Meeting Tickets, Woman's Missionary Union, P.O. Box C-10, Birmingham, AL 35283-0010. Tickets must be ordered by June 1 and checks must be made payable to WMU, SBC.

F. Pollard highlights Brotherhood breakfast

ATLANTA — Franklin Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., will be the keynote speaker at the annual Brotherhood breakfast at 7, June 11, in Atlanta's Omni International Hotel.

Presenting testimonies will be Truett Cathy, the Georgia Baptist layman who founded Chick-fil-A restaurants, and William Pinson, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Also featured will be the National Jerry Clower Award winner of the 1986 Royal Ambassador Mission Speak Out contest.

Tickets for the breakfast are available in advance for \$7.50 each and may be ordered from the Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104.

Omni Hotel to host New Orleans alumni

ATLANTA — The annual luncheon for alumni and friends of New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary will be held at 12:45 p.m. June 11 at Atlanta's Omni International Hotel.

Tickets are \$15 per person, \$12 if purchased by mail this month. For more information, contact the National Alumni Office, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126.

Midwestern to host SBC alumni luncheon

ATLANTA — The Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's annual alumni luncheon is set for June 11 at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta Hotel at 12:45 p.m.

Advance tickets are \$10 per person. After June 6, tickets will cost \$12.95 each. To reserve tickets, contact the office of alumni affairs, Midwestern seminary, 5001 N. Oak St. Trafficway, Kansas City, MO 64118.

Moore pens 'confession' to Amarillo congregation

By Tom Miller

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — "We need less pronouncements about the Bible and more commitments to the Christ of the Bible," said Winfred Moore in Richmond, Va., during an early May six-stop preaching mission in Virginia.

Winding up the three-day mission that began in southwest Virginia and reached to Tidewater, Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church of Amarillo, Texas, said he recently penned a confession to his congregation.

"I told my people I had made a tragic mistake, not becoming involved (in Southern Baptist Convention affairs) much sooner. I thought staying at home, building the best mission-minded church I could, was the way. We built a church mission-minded to the core.

"But you cannot do it that way," he continued. "You can't ask someone else to man the front line and get in the fox-holes for you."

Thus Moore explained his entrance into convention politics which led to his defeat in a run for the presidency against incumbent Charles Stanley last year in Dallas. He was, however, elected first vice-president to serve with Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta.

In his Richmond sermon, Moore did not mention the 1986 SBC presidential election but he reportedly came close to an announcement of his candidacy at another of his Virginia stops. Someone in the congregation had asked, "May we expect that you or someone of your persuasion will be a candidate in Atlanta?" to which Moore replied, "You may count on it."

The Texan began his message in Richmond with some humorous reflections on "Who I am," because he said, "I've lately seen so many things about me that I never knew before." Moore said his aged mother recently telephoned him, weeping, to declare, "If I thought these things

were true, I would come and whip you even now!

"I believe this is the infallible Word of God; God-breathed," declared Moore holding aloft his Bible in Monument Heights Baptist Church where Pastor Eddie Freeman welcomed about 200 persons to the Friday night service.

"I find it strange we are having to argue about who believes the Bible the most," he said. "I accept every claim the Bible makes for itself. I do not accept every claim that others make about the Bible unless it is supported by the Bible, itself.

"God is more interested in how we get along together than in our solving Ezekiel's wheel, or the prophecies of the Book of Daniel, or the mysteries of the Revelation," he said.

"We've got to learn how to be affirming and accepting of one another in our diversity," said Moore.

"You don't do things in Virginia like we do in Texas," said Moore. "But you have been here a lot longer than we have been there. In many things we haven't caught up to you. But we don't all have to do things the same way.

"It doesn't bother me if I run into a seminary professor with whom I disagree," said Moore. He named Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary professors Jack MacGorman and John Newport as "dear personal friends" with whom he sharply disagrees on interpretation of Scripture.

"Jack MacGorman has the worst interpretation of one of the 'tongues' passages I ever heard, and I won't ever understand John Newport's teaching on demons, but I love the fellow," he said.

"I don't even agree with some of the things I preached 10 years ago," he confessed. "But I still like this guy, and I'm going to stay with him."

—Tom Miller is associate editor of the Religious Herald, news journal of the Baptist General Association of Virginia.

Court rejects physician's appeal of anti-abortion law in Illinois

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U.S. Supreme Court has thrown out a physician's appeal to defend provisions of an Illinois anti-abortion law struck down earlier by lower federal courts.

In a unanimous decision announced April 30, the high court rejected the appeal of Eugene F. Diamond, a pediatrician engaged in private practice in Illinois, on grounds he lacked legal standing to defend the Constitutionality of a law designed to discourage the performance of abortions in that state.

The 1979 law, enacted by the state legislature over the veto of Gov. James Thompson, imposed criminal penalties on doctors who failed to comply with sweeping new requirements, including the following notice to abortion patients: "The State of Illinois wants you to know that in its view the child you are carrying is a living human being whose life should be preserved. Illinois strongly encourages you not to have an abortion but to go through to childbirth."

Other provisions of the law — all stricken either by a federal district court or by a federal appeals panel — required parental consultation in cases involving minor, unmarried women or consultation with the patient's spouse if she were

married. The law also prohibited the saline amniocentesis method of performing abortions after the first trimester of pregnancy and experimentation involving fetal tissue.

In addition, the law imposed criminal sanctions on physicians and other attending medical personnel who failed to exercise professional skills to preserve the life and health of viable fetuses or of fetuses that might be viable.

Four gynecologists and obstetricians who provided abortion services successfully challenged the law, winning an initial victory in the district court and later a more sweeping win in the appeals court.

In those legal tests, the state of Illinois was joined in defending the statute by Diamond, who claimed conscientious objection to abortion as one ground for his intervention in the case. He also cited his status as a pediatrician and as parent of an unmarried, minor daughter.

Although the state did not appeal the rulings to the Supreme Court, Diamond did.

But the high court, citing previous decisions, ruled Diamond had no standing to bring the appeal.

About 29,000 churches join Good News America effort

ATLANTA (BP)— An estimated 80 percent of Southern Baptist churches participated in "Good News America, God Loves You" simultaneous revivals, which officially ended April 27, but final results will not be available for several months.

"All the reports we have received and the preliminary totals from state evangelism directors indicate about 29,000 of the 36,000 churches conducted revival meetings," said Richard Harris, director of mass evangelism at the Home Mission Board and chairman of its simultaneous revival committee.

Churches in all 50 states and almost 90 percent of the 1,200 Baptist associations were committed to conducting revivals, Harris reported.

Early reports indicate the "highest attendance and most enthusiasm about revivals in years," said Harris. "These are key indicators that true Biblical revival has occurred."

Harris defined revival as an experience for Christians that results in evangelism. "Evangelism is winning the lost to Christ through the witness of revived Christians," he said.

Robert Hamblin, vice-president for

evangelism at the Home Mission Board, noted "We've experienced vast sociological changes in the last 30 years that make revival meetings more difficult. But the simultaneous revivals have demonstrated a need for fellowship and encouragement that we have been neglecting."

Last fall many churches began extensive Scripture distribution programs. To date 9.6-million Scripture selections have been sold, including 7-million New Testaments. An additional 100,000 Gospel of John booklets in 10 languages have been sold.

A nationwide media campaign also aided in the preparation of revivals. Jolly Communications, a public relations firm in Louisville, Ky., headed by Southern Baptist layman Alan Jolly, produced and distributed 21 television commercials, including one with sign language and a Spanish version. The commercials and the 14 radio spots they also produced were distributed to stations around the country as public service announcements.

CBS in New York agreed to air the television commercials free of charge. No network has ever before permitted

Southern Baptists to run public announcements, said Jolly. The network has agreed to continue to air the com-

mercials through the rest of the year, even though the revivals are officially ended, said Jolly.

Commission initiates search for executive director-elect

NASHVILLE (BP)— Citing "personal health concerns," Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission Executive Director Foy Valentine has requested that the process for finding his successor be set in motion.

In a letter to the commission's chairman, Charles R. Wade, Valentine asked that a search committee be activated to nominate an executive director-elect "as soon as in the providence of God the right person can be found."

While no date was set for the search committee's report, Valentine noted that when the commission meets in September, he will be only 22 months from the age 65 retirement date designated in the agency's employment policies.

In response to Valentine's request, which was discussed at the regular meeting of the CLC executive committee on

April 28, Wade, pastor of First Baptist Church, Arlington, Texas, has appointed six other commission members to be on a search committee with him.

Committee members are Mrs. Patricia Ayres, a member of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas; Marvin Don Blanton, a member of Oak Grove Baptist Church, Bel Air, Md.; David George, pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville; Mrs. Virginia Hendricks, a member of Glorieta Baptist Church, Glorieta, N. M.; Roy Rhodes, a member of First Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Fla.; and George Strickland, a member of Beaucoup Baptist Church, Pinckneyville, Ill. Wade, a commission member since 1980, will be chairman.

In his letter requesting the appointment of a search committee, Valentine explained that "the urgency of the matter is highlighted by some personal health concerns which have recently come into focus." Last June, he said, physicians diagnosed a heart condition consisting of a 90 percent blockage in one area and a 60 percent blockage in two other areas. While the heart specialist who performed an angiogram examination did not recommend open-heart surgery, he did prescribe a special health care program including medication and avoidance of heavy stress, Valentine said.

Valentine, the dean of Southern Baptist Convention agency executives, has headed the Christian Life Commission since 1960. He came to the commission from the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission where he had been executive director for seven years.

Wade asked that suggestions to the search committee be communicated in writing and sent to Charles R. Wade, Chairman, CLC Search Committee, c/o First Baptist Church, 300 South Center Street, Arlington, TX 76010.

Church holds Ministries Weekend



MINISTRIES SEMINARS — Milfred Minatrea, pastor of Meadowbrook Baptist Church in Irving, Texas, taught sessions on how to do disaster relief ministries. Other leaders taught how to help people in urban areas to garden; how to reach young adults through concerts, speakers, and dinners; and how to provide low-cost housing for senior adults.

Discounted airfares made it possible for a Memphis church to bring in 29 seminar leaders from nine other states for a Ministries Weekend recently.

Jim Brown, minister of discipleship and evangelism at First Baptist Church, Memphis explained, "Our church made the decision to remain in midtown Memphis ... (and) not to move to the suburbs."

The Ministries Weekend was a response to this decision, he said, even though the church is involved in "as many (ministries) as other churches in our association," including deaf, Laotian, and Chinese ministries.

Brown described the approach of the weekend as the "lay renewal approach" of persons from other churches coming basically at their own expense or receiving \$100 to cover their expenses. Brown explained that the list of potential seminar leaders quickly expanded when he and other steering committee members thought of using the discounted airfares.

Brown also contacted the Home Mission Board in Atlanta, the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Brentwood, and the Brotherhood Commission and the Shelby County Baptist Association, both in Memphis. The agencies encouraged him, provided information, and even provided some financial support.

Over 300 persons from the Memphis area attended the weekend April 25-27. Brown noted that the program explored evangelistic ministries and Christian social ministries. In addition to the 26 seminars, the Friday to Sunday evening program included a banquet and meals, testimonies, a ministry fair of First Baptist Church ministries, Bible studies, and an "Urban Prayer Walk" which was a bus tour to ministry locations and prayer times.

"It heightened the sense of members of First Baptist Church in the area of ministry ... that ministry is a privilege and opportunity, not an obligation," cited Brown. Another result of the weekend was "the networking of people involved in ministry," he added.



MINISTRY FAIR — A clown ministry, in addition to a prison ministry, Laotian ministry, International Friends, and Brotherhood, were some of the church ministries displayed in the fair.

Baggett shifts role on Union's staff

JACKSON — James Baggett, dean of the school of humanities and professor of history at Union University, has been named the new associate vice-president for academic affairs, effective June 1.

He will replace Pat Taylor who resigned to accept the position of vice-president for academic affairs at Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee.

Baggett has undergraduate and graduate degrees from Texas Wesleyan College, Fort Worth, and a doctor of philosophy degree from North Texas State University, Denton.

A teacher since the 1960s, Baggett began as a history instructor in the Fort Worth Public Schools and later taught in various Texas colleges. He joined Union's staff in 1977 as a professor of history and political science.

Baggett and his wife, Lillian, are members of First Baptist Church, Jackson.



LITERACY EXPERTS — Nineteen Tennesseans attended the first literacy missions convocation at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center. Sponsored by the Home Mission Board, the convocation celebrated 25 years of literacy missions work in the SBC.

Mills expresses optimism about Nigeria visa quotas

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Nigerian Baptists are asking the government to revise visa quotas that would require missionaries eventually to leave the country.

The military government has said it imposed the quotas to nationalize jobs to help the nation's sagging economy, said John Mills, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board director for western Africa.

As the quotas stand now, some missionaries would have to start leaving in the summer of 1987. Twelve missionaries working with the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary in Ogbomoso will be affected most immediately.

In early 1988, visas would expire for about 20 more missionaries. This would include nurses, field evangelists, and those working with the pastors' schools in Kaduna and Owerri and with Theological Education by Extension.

None of these visas may be renewed and no new visas will be approved for missionaries in these jobs unless further policy changes occur, Mills said.

"After the initial shock, the morale of the missionaries was very good," said Mills, who visited Nigeria in March. "There is a wait-and-see attitude," he said, adding that missionaries are saying, "Let's get on with our job and do what we can with the time the Lord gives us."

Many Nigerians are asking the government to make revisions to permit the missionaries to stay longer, Mills said. Southern Baptists "really can do nothing about it," he added. "It would be inappropriate for our board or the missionaries to do anything. We simply would hurt our case. We are totally dependent on the Nigerians."

Some Nigerians say the government says the quotas are necessary because of the economy, which has been hard hit by the oil glut, Mills said. "They're getting less than half the income for their oil that they were getting. Unemployment is widespread in Nigeria."

Others feel Muslim Nigerians are using the quotas to oppose Christianity, Mills said.

"The government would say it's because of unemployment," he added. "It's hard to justify it on that basis because some of the jobs the missionaries are doing, the Nigerians won't do if they leave," Mills said, relaying what

Nigerian Baptists had told him.

Missionaries are not paid by Nigerian funds, and "actually, the missionaries employ some Nigerians who will be unemployed if (the missionaries) leave."

Although it is a military government, Mills said, Nigerians have an opportunity to share their opinions about government decisions. "The government is still sensitive," he said. "I think the government is trying to listen to the people."

Two-year renewable visas will be available for missionary doctors, administrators, student workers, and those involved in non-theological education. There are 119 Southern Baptist missionaries assigned to Nigeria, where missions work began in 1850.

Proponents of taxes on alcohol request support from Baptists

WASHINGTON (BP) — Proponents of equal tax rates for beer, wine, and liquor have urged Southern Baptists to support a ninth-hour lobbying effort aimed at the Senate Finance Committee. The committee, chaired by Bob Packwood, is examining federal excise tax rates on alcoholic beverages during the final stages of its tax reform deliberations.

George A. Hacker, director for alcohol policies at the Washington-based Center for Science in the Public Interest, said the response from the nation's religious community "could be the difference between victory and defeat on this issue."

"Members of the Senate Finance Committee have been hearing regularly from those who sell alcoholic beverages — producers, wholesalers, retailers — and from others who work in related industries," he said. "Unless grass-roots citizens join alcoholism professionals and economic and health experts in expressing their concerns, the committee is likely to bow to enormous industry pressure."

Hacker's organization and other groups have supported two related actions — increases in taxes on all alcoholic beverages and equalization of tax rates on alcohol in beer, wine, and hard liquor at the current hard liquor rate.

The tax on liquor, adjusted for alcohol

Convocation challenges SBC to stress literacy missions

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — One out of three adults in the United States cannot read or write; 60-million people are functionally illiterate.

The first literacy convocation, celebrating 25 years of Southern Baptist Home Mission Board involvement in literacy, opened with these statistics and the challenge to "be the presence of God" through literacy missions.

Christine Gregory, first vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance, told 300 participants that literacy missions revitalized the Woman's Missionary Union in her church 25 years ago.

"I was so turned off by WMU at that time," said Gregory, who later became national WMU president. "But that first year of literacy missions helped me realize what we could do."

Gregory said involvement in literacy work helps women experience missions personally: "Truth that is not experienced is no better than error; and it may be more dangerous. Don't worry about who you are or what people say of you. Listen to God. Be obedient to Him."

In a later session, Carolyn Weatherford, WMU executive director, listed actions necessary to become involved in literacy missions: awareness of peoples' needs, unconcern about who gets the credit and practicing servanthood.

Olna Daves of Gastonia, N.C., told how she has taught people how to read for 22 years: "I found out there were 12,444 functional non-readers in Gaston County where I live. At night I would wonder how long it would take for all those people to march by my door. It still makes me shudder."

Daves has taught 33 people to read. Three of her students were high school graduates. She and 14 other people were honored for 20 or more years of literacy

mission service.

"You are our heritage, and we thank you for giving yourselves to your students and to us," said Mildred Blankenship, assistant director of church and community ministries for the Home Mission Board. Blankenship presented the certificates of appreciation.

Tennesseans honored were Muriel Briggs, Memphis; Sue Stancil, Memphis; and Mary Allred, Nashville.

Blankenship, who directs the literacy missions program nationally for the Home Mission Board, was awarded the first annual Mildred Blankenship award for 25 years service to literacy.

Personal Perspective

By Tom Madden
SBC Executive
Secretary-Treasurer



J. M. Price was one of the pioneers on the subject of religious education. It was my privilege to sit at his feet as a seminary student.

In the mid 1940s he wrote a book called *Jesus the Teacher*. The book made an impact on my life, but somewhere along the way I misplaced it. Recently, I preached a Good News simultaneous revival with Pat Landrum of Brighton Baptist Church. I found a copy of this book in his library. I was blessed as I reread the book.

To me, one of the most rewarding chapters of the book was on the characteristics of the people Jesus taught. Price noted the following characteristics of those first disciples.

They were undeveloped. They were far from perfect when Jesus began. John, who became His beloved disciple, had a temper that was not under control. The man who was to be called Peter lacked a solid disposition. Thomas was so hard-headed that it took a special effort on the part of Jesus to demonstrate the fact of His resurrection. Judas never developed to the point of being able to resist the temptation to betray Christ for financial gain.

They were impulsive. Peter was one who moved first and thought it over later. John was termed by Jesus Himself as a "Son of Thunder." Simon the Zealot belonged to a radical group. John the Baptist had a thunderous disposition.

They were sinful. Peter could swear if it would help hide his identity and save him from a tight place. James joined in with others in asking for social and political recognition and power.

They were perplexed. They wanted to know how many times one had to forgive another. They asked questions about inheriting estates. They were concerned about loyalty to government and matters of tax paying. They wanted to know about keeping all the laws of the Sabbath.

One marvels at our Lord as He lovingly and patiently made of this group a most effective corps of disciples and teachers.

I know you join with me in gratitude for His continuing power to take the weak and make them strong. He is still building His church out of raw material. He is not finished with us.

Seminar speakers suggest Bible-based sex education

NASHVILLE (BP)— While acknowledging "this is the kind of thing that can get you fired," family life specialist Charles Petty urged Southern Baptist youth ministers to lead their churches in providing Biblically-based sex education for children and youth.

"Human sexuality is God's creation," said Petty. "We must teach our kids about sexuality, and we must do it from a Biblical perspective."

Petty, president of Family Success Unlimited in Raleigh, N.C., outlined a Biblical and theological framework for sex education during a conference on "Moral Problems and Youth." The three-day seminar for Baptist youth ministers and other youth leaders was sponsored by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

Petty, former director of the Christian Life Council for the Baptist Convention of North Carolina, was joined by Lane Powell, family life educator and counselor at Crossroads Samaritan Counseling Center in Lubbock, Texas, who led five sessions on sex education programming, and Douglas Anderson, director of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's family ministry department, who delivered the opening address for

the youth leaders' seminar.

Each of the speakers warned that abdicating the responsibility of sex education only increases the growing problems related to teen-age sexuality. Children will learn about sex, they said. The key issue for Christian parents is whether the information will come from them and the church or from other sources.

Powell said that parents and church leaders "must quit pretending that somehow our youth are protected from society's attitudes about sex."

Both Powell and Petty encouraged youth leaders to involve parents in planning and supporting sex education programs in the church.

In his presentation, Anderson emphasized youth ministry actually is family ministry. "You cannot deal with youth without dealing with families or the lack thereof," he said.

He encouraged youth leaders to reject the models of the "morals lifeguard" who "sees his role as primarily a rescuer" and the "morals policeman" who opts for a legalistic approach to complex moral issues in favor of the "disciple maker" who "doesn't confront or condemn but calls youth to grow in Christian maturity."

BOOK REVIEW

By Michael Davis

Bush focuses on spiritual dieting

Invitation to the Feast by Danny E. Bush; Broadman; 128 pages

If you are fed up with a fast-food type of Christian living that appeals to your desire for a convenient commitment to Christ, then this book will be a rewarding challenge.

The author offers his readers an opportunity to consider Biblical insights as they are communicated through the language and experiences associated with eating. He believes that Christians can digest more truth than is frequently assumed. He writes from "a conviction

that Christians can handle a far broader and more comprehensive diet of truth more often than thought possible."

The 10 chapters present a variety of devotional material that will help readers think through their Christian faith in a different and refreshing way. It may be difficult, for example, to imagine that a person could consume too much of God's truth. Rightly understood, isn't this a real possibility? "Yes, we can gobble down everything within our reach," writes Bush, "only to experience proverbial 'spiritual indigestion.' The superior choice is to consume what is best for us at the direction of our devoted Father God."

Although Bush uses many excellent illustrations from a range of sources, an important part of this book's inspirational character is derived from the personal experiences that he shares. One gets the feeling that he is not writing from a detached intellectual perspective, but is involved in relating experiences and insights that have become significant to him.

An experience on an airline flight, his first real encounter with a poor person, and worshiping with Mr. Frank, the father of Evangelist Billy Graham, are only a few of the fine selection of experiences shared by Bush.

This book is commended reading for Christians who have a strong desire to develop their relationship to Christ and their own understanding of how to apply Biblical truth to everyday living.

One will not get the best use of this book by simply viewing it as a resource for devotional talks, sermon illustrations, or Sunday School teaching. Although it could serve well as this kind of resource, its highest value is in assisting readers in their own spiritual journey. What Bush succeeds in doing is to involve his readers in a personal dialogue with Christ, self, and others.

Danny E. Bush is associate minister at First Baptist Church, Oak Ridge.

Baptist establishes breast care center

NASHVILLE — Officials at Baptist Hospital have announced the opening of the Baptist Breast Care Center, a comprehensive, centralized breast evaluation and testing facility which has an all-female staff.

The breast care center, located in the outpatient services area of the hospital, is a joint venture between Baptist Hospital Radiology Department and the Baptist Hospital Women's Pavilion. The center provides educational programs as well as diagnostic testing.

"Our main objective at the new breast care center is to provide medical treatment and consultation in pleasant, comfortable surroundings which offer each patient as much privacy as possible," said Jean Vaiksnoras, director of the Baptist Hospital Women's Pavilion.

Along with the all-female staff, the center has a full-time breast care center coordinator, Carolyn Womack, a registered nurse. She is responsible for following each patient's progress from the time the patient enters the center and will remain available to answer any questions or to relieve any anxieties the patient might have, through support and information.

Interpretations Blessed Assurance

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote unto thee, knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say" (Philemon 21).

We have noted Paul's tactfulness in dealing with a delicate problem. Never is it more evident than here. This verse is the climax of his appeal on behalf of Onesimus. He does not mention him by name. However, Philemon knew the meaning of his friend's words.

The reason why Paul is writing to

Philemon is his confidence in his "obedience." The Greek word means a hearing under. As an apostle, Paul writes from that exalted position. Philemon "hears under" at his lower position.

But notice that Paul does not command, a right he had as an apostle. He wants Philemon to set Onesimus free of his own accord.

While there are differences between races and/or classes, laws may be passed to remove inequities by legal force. But such problems are never really solved until it is done in a person to person relationship.

Thus Paul writes, knowing full well that Philemon will not grudgingly give in. Literally, "above and beyond (huper) what I say you will do." In other words, he knows Philemon well enough to be assured that he will welcome Onesimus home, "not now as a servant (slave), but above (huper) a servant, a brother beloved" (v.16).

Paul has been criticized by some for not opposing slavery head-on. But due to the situation in the Roman empire at that time, he would have accomplished nothing except to have added to the slaves' burden. In the long run, this little epistle has done more to destroy the institution of slavery than any other document ever penned.

Benson accepts WMU position

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)— Karen Benson, assistant public relations director at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, will become communications group manager at Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, June 2.

She succeeds Carrol Kelly who is now an associate for the Tennessee WMU.

Benson, a native of Texas, is a graduate of Baylor and has been on staff in the office of public relations there since 1980, holding her present job since 1982.

In her new responsibilities at the national WMU headquarters, she will lead in planning, organizing, directing, and coordinating information pertaining to the program and activities of WMU, SBC, through media available to Southern Baptists.

Prior to joining the Baylor staff, Benson worked for the Waco Tribune-Herald.

'Belmont Vision' wins top honors

NASHVILLE — Belmont College's bi-weekly newspaper captured three first place awards in the annual American Scholastic Press Association (ASPA) contest recently.

The Belmont Vision, under the direction of student editor Michelle Williams of Old Hickory, and faculty advisor Thom Storey of Nashville, was chosen best newspaper for schools with enrollments of 1,700 to 2,500.

Individual first place awards were presented to Skip Shaw of Nashville for best news photo, and Carla Seufert, also of Nashville, for best school-related investigative reporting.

Rogersville church calls David Tullock as pastor

David Tullock has returned to his home state to accept his first pastorate. He began his ministry with Choptack Baptist Church in Rogersville April 14.

A native of Loudon, Tullock has served on the staff of churches in Tennessee and Kentucky. Most recently he was minister of music and youth at First Baptist Church in Fisherville, Ky.

The Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, graduate also attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.



Tullock

Court to review creationism law

WASHINGTON (BP)— The Supreme Court announced May 5 it will review a Louisiana law requiring "balanced treatment" in teaching "creation science" and evolution in the state's public schools.

Last year both a U.S. district court and the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals agreed the law violates the Constitution's ban on an establishment of religion. But the appellate court split 8-7 in its ruling, a vote that might have encouraged the Supreme Court to take on the case.

The law, "The Balanced Treatment for Creation-Science and Evolution-Science Act," was enacted five years ago by the Louisiana legislature with the stated purpose of "protecting academic freedom." It defines creation-science as "scientific evidences for creation and inferences from those scientific evidences."

Louisiana Attorney General William J. Guste Jr. argued in a brief asking the high court to review the law that creation-science "can be taught in public schools without religious concepts" and therefore does not violate the establishment clause.

In addition, Guste maintained the Louisiana law differs markedly from an Arkansas creation-science statute struck down earlier. That law, he noted, would have forbidden the teaching of evolution in favor of teaching the account of creation contained in the book of Genesis.

Arguing against the high court's taking up the controversy, a battery of attorneys from Louisiana and New York City stated the purpose of the law was "to promote a religious belief," a key consideration in the lower courts' decisions to strike it down.

The high court will hear oral arguments in the case next fall. A decision is expected no later than July 1987.

Tennessee

**GOOD NEWS AMERICA,
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REVIVALS...

Evangelist Eddie Martin led revival services at Third Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, where F. Murray Mathis is pastor. There were 22 professions of faith, one addition to the church by letters, and numerous rededications. Stan Baskin served as music leader.

Revival services at First Baptist Church, Rogersville, resulted in eight baptisms and several other decisions. Jack Prince served as evangelist and Carl Perry as music leader at the church where Aubrey Floyd is pastor.

LEADERSHIP...

Bethlehem Baptist Church, Springfield, recently called Mark Carroll as director of youth. He is a student at Belmont College in Nashville. Robert E. Carroll is the pastor.

Wayne Simpson has been called as minister of education, youth, and activities at Third Baptist Church, Murfreesboro. He has been serving at Parkway Baptist Church in Tallahassee, Fla. He also served in First Baptist Church, Elizabethton. He is a graduate of New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary. Simpson will begin June 1 at the church where F. Murray Mathis is pastor.

Bethlehem Baptist Church in Greenfield has called Bruce McCartney as associate pastor. Roy Auvenshine is the church's pastor.

Stroope to assist FMB enlistment

RICHMOND, Va. — Mike Stroope, a former Southern Baptist missionary to Malaysia, has joined the Foreign Mission Board's missionary enlistment department as a consultant responsible for states east of the Mississippi River, including Tennessee.

He will coordinate the missionary enlistment activities of 10 enlistment assistants who are general evangelists on furlough, said Bill Morgan, director of the missionary enlistment department. Stroope will be corresponding with missionary candidates and directing the nurture ministry. He will be available to speak at pastors' conferences, state evangelism conferences, state conventions, and other meetings where pastors will be present.

A native of Odessa, Texas, Stroope is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Stroope was a general evangelist in Kandy and Colombo, Sri Lanka, in the early 1980s. Then in 1984 he was transferred to Malaysia where he was a theological teacher and general evangelist in Penang.



Stroope

Bill Poyner has been called to serve as music minister at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Humboldt. Benny Wallis is the pastor.

PEOPLE...

Charles Ross and Terry West were recently ordained as deacons at Third Baptist Church, Murfreesboro. F. Murray Mathis is pastor of the church.

Gary Williams, who is serving as pastor of the Oak Grove Baptist Church in Fayetteville, was ordained by the church April 27. Participants in the service included B. H. Berry, former interim pastor, and Herbert Maxwell, a former pastor now serving at Prairie Plains Baptist Church in Manchester.

REVIVAL PRAYER REQUESTS...

Revival services are scheduled for May 18-23 at Whitehaven Baptist Church, Memphis. Harold Bryson of New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary will be the evangelist, and Billy Appling of Chattanooga will be guest musician. Jim Meredith is pastor of the church.

Bennett, Sims speak at Union

JACKSON — The pastor of the First Baptist Church in Fort Smith, Ark., and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs will be the speakers for Union University's annual graduation exercises, May 31.

Bill Bennett, pastor of the Fort Smith church will deliver the 10:50 a.m. baccalaureate sermon in the G. M. Savage Memorial Chapel.

The commencement address will be brought by Robert Sims, a Union graduate who was named Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs by President Ronald Reagan in August 1985. The 6 p.m. ceremony will be outdoors on the east campus.

Bennett has been pastor of the 7,500-member church for the past 20 years. A member of the board of trustees of Ouachita Baptist University, Bennett also has served as the state chairman of evangelism for North Carolina Baptists, president the Arkansas Baptist Pastors' Conference, and as the Arkansas representative on the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Prior to becoming the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, Sims had been serving at the White House as special assistant to the president and deputy press secretary for foreign affairs since 1983. Previously, he was special assistant to the president and senior director of public affairs on the National Security Council in 1982-83.

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TENNESSEE TRUSTEES — During a recent trustee meeting on campus, Roy Honeycutt (center), president of Southern seminary in Louisville, Ky., greets Tennessee trustees Stephen Anderson (left) and Wayne Allen. Anderson is a Memphis realtor and Allen is pastor of Briarcrest Baptist Church, Memphis.

Annuity Board trustees approve new building

DALLAS (BP) — After nearly two years of study, trustees have authorized negotiations for lease of a new Southern Baptist Annuity Board home office near downtown Dallas.

The board will negotiate with a Dallas-based developer to design and construct a new building, said Annuity Board President Darold H. Morgan. After an initial 20-year lease, the Annuity Board will have the option of extending the lease for another 20 years at competitive market rates.

The board will occupy about 110,000 feet and an expansion space of 30,000 feet will be included if needed in the future, Morgan said.

The new home office, located in the Oak Lawn/Turtle Creek area near downtown Dallas, is expected to be completed in the fall of 1988.

The Annuity Board will work with the developer in designing and overseeing the construction.

Morgan said the trustee relocation committee agreed with construction consultants that the board should enter into a long-term lease in lieu of purchasing or constructing a new building.

"In keeping with the fiduciary responsibilities of the board," Morgan said, "we decided the optimum plan would be to lease a build-to-suit building in a loca-

tion near the Dallas central business district."

Morgan said the board will have "several new amenities, such as free parking and easy access to expressways."

The current building was sold to Lincoln Properties Inc., in 1984 at a record \$300 per square foot. A lease arrangement allows the board to remain in the building through 1988.

Morgan noted the present 26-year-old facility was sold because the property value had increased to allow the board to make a substantial profit. He also said the building had deteriorated and was becoming inefficient to operate.

The president accepted the resignation of endowment officer D. William Dodson Jr., who is taking medical disability. Dodson underwent heart bypass surgery in November. John D. Bloskas, associate endowment director, was appointed interim director.

Assets for the first quarter grew 26.7 percent to a record \$113.8-million, raising the asset base to \$1.8-billion, trustees learned.

Net income totaled \$101-million, exceeding any other previous first quarter earnings by \$56.9-million.

The strong stock market pushed the unit value of the Variable Fund to a record of \$6.21.



Tennessee/Venezuela Prayer Net Partnership

—Pray for the 10 students who will graduate from the Baptist Theological Seminary, Los Teques, Venezuela, May 17 in the 13th graduation ceremony as they go to their places of work.

—Pray for Southern Baptist Missionary Becki Glenn, who is a homemaker and church worker in Puerto La Cruz, as she celebrates her birthday May 15.

—Pray for the 14 team members from Woodmont Baptist Church in Nashville as they prepare to go to the Island of Curacao May 23 to lead a crusade.

—Pray that chaplains will be trained to minister to the inmates of Venezuela prisons and their families.

BIBLE BOOK SERIES
Lesson for May 18

Correcting injustice

By Mike McGinnis, pastor
Central Baptist Church, Chattanooga

Basic Passage: Nehemiah 5:1 to 7:73a
Focal Passages: Nehemiah 5:1-8, 11-12a, 14



McGinnis

Nehemiah and the children of God had been facing persecution from without. Now they are confronted with persecution from within.

The enemy of any work of God is a relentless foe. It would be easy for the children of God to grow weary and quit. If we rely on our own strength, we will; yet, if we depend on the Lord's strength, we can claim the promise of Isaiah 40:31, "yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary."

Because so many had dedicated themselves to the construction of the wall and due to heavy taxation, there was a food crisis in Jerusalem. Unfortunately, there were people who were prepared to take advantage of the situation. It must have been distressing to Nehemiah to find that they were his own people, the Jews.

No one can do as much harm to God's work as God's people. If you want a work of God ruined, just let misunderstanding, discouragement, and mistrust arise. This is the situation that Nehemiah faced. How he faced the situation can be a lesson to all of God's people.

First, Nehemiah refused wealth (5:14-15). Nehemiah was presently the governor of Jerusalem. He pointed out that former governors had taken advantage of their position and had become wealthy in the process. However, Nehemiah states, "but I did not do so because of the fear of God" (v.15).

It is not uncommon to be lured into using position for personal gain. There is always this temptation, even among church leaders. Nehemiah refused to accept the excuse that "everyone else is doing it." He determined his actions in light of his respect for God (5:15).

Second, Nehemiah resisted worldli-

ness (5:16-19). Nehemiah, in a time of confusion, was able to stand before the people with a life that was beyond reproach.

We cannot demand that others share our convictions; neither should we condemn them when they do not (Romans 14:1-4). However, this does not discount the fact that a child of God should have strong Biblical standards by which he governs his life. Ultimately, there will be people who will not believe as you believe, and will not choose to live as you live, but in their hearts they will respect you for your courage of conviction.

Chapter six begins with the announcement that the work had been completed. Nehemiah is not claiming the glory of the accomplished task for himself. This is apparent throughout the book. Nehemiah knew his triumph was because he was doing a work which God initiated and because God initiated it, God, Himself, empowered it. No work for God will otherwise prosper.

We would do well to remember that our task is not to develop attractive programs on our own initiative, but to discover the purpose of God and function in it. Nehemiah had done exactly this. Nevertheless, chapter six displays that he faced three forms of attack which he had to resist.

First, Nehemiah was encouraged to accept the enemy's friendship (6:1-4). The temptation was to compromise in order to accommodate. This is one of Satan's most subtle temptations. When a Christian who takes a stand for godly consecration is persuaded to compromise in one detail, Satan has him in his grip.

Second, Nehemiah had to face the enemy's slander (6:5-7). This is, perhaps, the most difficult thing that a child of God faces. When the world cannot convince the child of God to compromise, it will seek to discredit him through rumor and misrepresentation. It is almost always true that this slander comes from within the church. This makes it even more biting.

Nehemiah is a perfect example of how to handle such an attack. He simply identified the rumors as ridiculous and continued the work, asking God for additional strength (5:8-9). It is never wise for the child of God to seek to defend himself against every hurting bit of gossip. Simply continue with the task God has given you and He will assume the responsibility of guarding your reputation.

Third, Nehemiah was tempted to compromise his faith. Shemaiah sought to convince Nehemiah to seek protection from his enemies in the Temple. If they could somehow get Nehemiah's faith to crumble, the victory would be theirs. But Nehemiah refused to run and hide. His question in 6:11, "Should a man like me flee?" is an expression of his faith. If we stake our confidence on the purpose and promise of God, we need not fear anyone. "If God be for us, who can be against us" (Romans 8:31).

When none of these attacks were effective, Nehemiah's enemies continued with the deluge of letters to frustrate and frighten. Our study reveals not only God's protection, but Nehemiah's persistence. Real faith will not quit. The question is: How far are we willing to cooperate with the Lord in seeing His work through to a finish?

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES
Lesson for May 18

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

By Robert O. Byrd, professor of religion
Belmont College, Nashville

Basic Passage: 1 Corinthians 12-13
Focal Passages: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; 12:28 to 13:3

Paul's interaction with the church at Corinth is both complex and considerable. He has extensive knowledge about the situation on which to base his response because he has received some personal reports (see 1 Corinthians 1:11; 5:1) from Chloe's people and perhaps from Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus (1 Corinthians 16:17).

The church as a whole may have addressed several issues to Paul in a letter. (See 1 Corinthians 7:1, 25; 8:1; 12:1; and 16:1, where, in Greek, the two initial words are exactly the same. This is felt by many to be a literary clue from Paul that at each juncture he is taking up a new issue raised by them.)

At any rate, it is clear that strife related to spiritual things is an issue so clearly recognized on their part that they feel the necessity of seeking advice from Paul.

Gifts: their source and purpose (12:4-7)

Paul's main intention is to deal with the friction created by the abuse of spiritual gifts. Paul set the discussion in a framework of "Trinitarian" thought. The terms he used suggests the development of a full-scale doctrine of the Trinity. He mentioned "Spirit," "Lord" (one of his favorite ways of speaking of Jesus), and "God" (see 1 Corinthians 1:3 where he specifically links this term with "Father").

Apparently, God's gifts had become the occasion for a pride that resulted in divisions. Reality led Paul to acknowledge that there was great diversity among the many gifts conferred by the Spirit.

All these gifts have the same source. The word for gift comes from the same stem as the word for grace. So man is the recipient and God is the giver. True spiritual gifts have the same source and are intended for the same purpose. Spiritual gifts are to be used for building up of the entire body of believers. (See 1 Corinthians 14:12.)

Gifts: their diversity (12:8-11)

In this section, Paul listed nine different gifts. It should not be concluded that he was even attempting to make a complete list of all the possibilities. He is, no doubt, dealing with those that would provide them the most assistance in unraveling the knotty issues in their midst.

The first two he mentioned were gifts of the mind. Could it be that was a corrective since the Corinthians magnified emotion so greatly (see 1 Corinthians 12:3)? "Wisdom" may be understanding and "knowledge" is likely practical application.

"Faith" may be the ability to conceive and carry out great deeds. Jesus spoke of having faith to move a mountain (Mark 11:22-23). "Gifts of healing" are mentioned in Acts 4:30 and James 5:14. "Miracles" is often used in the gospel accounts of the powerful deed of Jesus. Paul highly values "prophecy." He makes a descriptive statement of the prophetic function in 1 Corinthians 14:1-3. First John 4:1-3 provides another New Testament example of concern about distinguishing spirits.

Although it may have pained some of Paul's friends, he placed "tongues" and "interpretations of tongues" at the end of the list. There is no room for pride since the Spirit assigns gifts as He wills.

Gifts: their interrelationship (12:12-16)

Paul makes, at least, four significant points in this section. First, he adopts "body" as an important image for understanding the church.

In 12:14-19, he reminded his readers that no part of the body or the church should be self-disclaiming because its own gifts seem inferior. In 12:20-21, he makes the point that no part of the body or the church should disclaim any other part because they are different. In 12:19-20, 22-23, the necessity of diversity, in the church as well as the body is affirmed.

If the body of an individual were composed entirely of identical parts, it would hardly be a body. It would be more of a monstrosity. So, if the church were composed of entirely identical parts it would perhaps be more of a monstrosity than the body of Christ.

Gifts: submissive to love (12:28 to 13:3)

The flow of this passage is beautifully clear when one remembers that when Paul wrote these words there were no chapter and verse divisions.

Paul reminded the readers of some of God's gifts, that they, mistakenly, may have evaluated too highly (12:28). He notes that not all these gifts were available to everyone (12:29-30). Then he directs them to desire those higher gifts of faith, hope, and love which are equally available to all believers.

He focused most attention on love, the one superior gift which should support and direct all the others.

ABTS adopts record budget

NASHVILLE (BP)— The Southern Baptist Commission on the American Baptist Theological Seminary adopted a record budget of \$287,800 for 1986-87 at its annual May meeting.

The budget represents only a 1.5 percent increase over the previous year, because the seminary commission received the smallest Cooperative Program increase of any Southern Baptist agency.

Commission members serve as Southern Baptists' trustees for American Baptist College of the American Baptist Theological Seminary, a Bible college co-sponsored with the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A. Inc.

Commission members voted to place \$5,000 in the George E. Capps Scholarship Fund at American Baptist College of American Baptist Theological Seminary. Capps, former associate director of the SBC Education Commission who died last June, was staff support for the American Baptist Theological Seminary Commission.

Kenneth L. Castleberry, pastor of Dalewood Baptist Church in Nashville, was elected chairman of the commission for 1986-87. Other officers include Marshall Gupton, pastor of Una Baptist Church in Nashville, vice-chairman, and Roy D. Raddin, director of missions, Washington Baptist Association in Greenville, Miss., recording secretary.

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LIFE AND WORK SERIES
Lesson for May 18

At work

By Danny Bush, associate minister
First Baptist Church, Oak Ridge

Basic Passages: 2 Thessalonians 3:7-13; Colossians 3:22 to 4:1
Focal Passages: 2 Thessalonians 3:7-13; Colossians 3:22 to 4:1

You may have heard the description of someone who is pious on Sundays and a tiger on Mondays as "A Sunday Christian." In these Biblical passages, Paul emphasizes practical application of Christian living at work, on the job during the weekdays.

He does not profess that he has all the answers which will instantly clean up society, but he does urge Christians of all ages to influence society and church in positive ways.



Bush

Some years ago my father was speaking with a college professor of economics. The subject of unions came up. It was the opinion of the teacher that unions had served a vital role years ago in helping workers to gain better working conditions, higher wages, and benefits. It was also his opinion that unions today had become out of control and were causing more harm than good for workers, businesses, and the national economy. My father has seen both sides during his lifetime and he tended to agree with the assessment.

What our country is experiencing more and more is a decline in the work ethic. That is, value placed on working for what you receive is eroding.

Another unethical practice still exists. Persons doing the same thing as fellow workers are paid differently simply because they are women. There are even some cases where the reverse is true. A building code inspector once told me that pride in workmanship is almost a thing of the past.

Getting something for nothing or nothing for something both are wrong and unfair. Common sense, as well as the Bible, instructs us to live differently. Both the spoiled child and the lazy employee have some things in common. Both the employee and the employer have obligations one to another, according to Paul.

Christians in the secular business world and in church must operate on the same standards according to Scriptural instruction.

Through 25 years of professional ministerial service, I have observed Christians in church who were generous toward their churches but tight and even crooked in their dealings with employees and customers. The opposite is true also. Many times church members are generous in their secular operations and unfairly stingy with their church employees be they pastor, other staff ministers, secretaries, janitors, and accompanists.

Paul was an example to the early Christian movement not only because of his outstanding Christian teaching and service but also because of his hard work in the kingdom work and his hard work elsewhere.

This great apostle spoke clearly about idle Christians who stir up trouble because they have time to do such. First century Christians had to work and serve each other because of persecution that forced them out of the work force and because many of them were poor anyhow. Apparently some of the members were not doing their share of work to provide daily needs and were just being problems.

Does your church have folk like that? Are you one of those folk? It is one thing to be aware of the need for more effective evangelism, better quality teaching, and more generous ministering to human needs and quite another to be a part of the answer to improvement in these areas.

Pestering those who are involved, as best they know how in these areas, is one way idle, uncommitted Christians avoid personal responsibility. Pestering comes in the forms of lack of involvement, criticism of what is or is not being done, and a failure to privately and publicly encourage faithful disciples.

One of my favorite verses is Colossians 3:23. Part of the root meaning of the word "heartily" is the similar background for the word "enthusiasm." Of all people on the face of God's good earth who have reason to live joyfully and work enthusiastically at home, school, on the job, and in church, it is certainly the redeemed of God.

Students receive Belmont awards

NASHVILLE — Awards were given to over 100 Belmont College students at the college's annual Awards Day recently.

Several awards were given in the field of religion.

The Tabor Ministerial Award, given each year to an ordained minister for outstanding leadership and academic abilities, was presented to James Petty of Antioch. Petty is minister of youth at First Baptist Church in Pleasant View.

The Jerry E. Lambdin Award was given to John Teubert of Hendersonville for "character involvement and scholarship of the highest caliber."

The Roy A. Helton Award to the outstanding senior in religion and philosophy went to Kay Cheesman of Antioch.

Lori Fischer of Nashville received the W. F. Powell Award for the student "whose spirit and attitude best demonstrate the spirit of Belmont College."

The newly established John D. Freeman Award for a sophomore demonstrating Christian leadership potential was presented for the first time this year. The recipient was Laura Thurmond of Chattanooga. Thurmond also received the Charles F. Treadway Award to the outstanding writer among religion students.

Tennessean receives SWBTS scholar award

FORT WORTH, Texas — Robert Horton Welch of Elizabethton won the 1986 President's Merit Scholar Award in Religious Education, presented during the annual Awards Day at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

A master of religious education student, Welch was recognized for best representing the traditions and goals of the seminary on the basis of Christian commitment, personal character, and scholastic achievement.

The award consists of a plaque and a cash gift.



APPRECIATION — Norris Stampley (left), chairman of the Brotherhood Commission, presents a resolution of appreciation to Kenneth Rose, Baptist layman from Maryville, upon his completion of eight years of service as a Brotherhood Commission trustee.

Brotherhood sets 1986-87 budget

MEMPHIS (BP) — Trustees of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission approved a 1986-87 operating budget of \$3,285,188 for the agency and received staff reports on a wide range of topics during their April 25-26 meeting.

Income for funding the budget includes a projected amount of \$924,000 from the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program and \$2,097,578 from sales of materials.

The commission's program services division will receive \$1,398,798 of the budget to develop and implement the agency's plan to help churches involve men and boys in missions. It will take \$666,100 to fund administrative services; \$610,410 for business services; and \$583,880 for support services.

Trustees listened to reports on the Fellowship of Baptist Men, a Brotherhood enlargement campaign, and the seventh national Pioneer Royal Ambassador Congress to be held in Memphis, Aug. 4-6, 1986.

James Smith, commission president, described the Fellowship of Baptist Men which provides missions opportunities

according to men's gifts, vocations, and special interests. He said the fellowship is like a "parallel track to units of Baptist men in local churches."

In his report on the Brotherhood enlargement campaign, Charles Ragland, Florida Brotherhood director and chairman of the enlargement committee, said the major thrust of the effort will be to start new units of work in local churches. "We want to help pastors get the concept of what it's like to have every man and boy involved in missions through Brotherhood," he said.

More than 500 men and boys already have registered for the national Royal Ambassador Congress with more than 2,500 expected to attend, according to Russell Griffin, director of the children and youth department at the Brotherhood Commission.

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Rural America faces growing health crisis

By David Wilkinson

WASHINGTON (BP) — Rural America — home for more than 70 percent of all Southern Baptists — may be poorer and hungrier than even the experts have guessed.

After a year-long study of rural poverty, a report by Public Voice for Food and Health Policy concluded this country's rural poor "are underfed, undernourished, and in poor health."

Public Voice, a consumer research and advocacy organization, reported that in 1983 — the latest year for which such statistics are available — 13.5-million poor people lived in rural America,

compared to 12.8-million living in urban areas of cities with populations of 50,000 or more. In 1979, there were 9.9-million rural poor.

Despite such statistics, the report noted most domestic hunger studies in recent years have overlooked the worsening plight of rural America while focusing on urban poverty. "The result," it stressed, "is a health policy crisis of national proportions."

The study's findings should sound a call to alert for Southern Baptist churches, many of whom have increasing hunger, and malnutrition in their own backyards, said hunger and rural issues experts at

two Southern Baptist agencies.

Robert Parham, director of hunger concerns for the SBC Christian Life Commission, said the study is "another reminder that hungry America is largely the America of the rural South. The fact that the hunger belt overlaps the Bible belt is a sign that we are having a tough time translating our faith into concrete action."

Gary E. Farley, associate director of the SBC Home Mission Board's rural-urban missions department, said the study "adds further evidence that rural America's troubles are broader than the farm crisis."

Farley cited several factors which have contributed to worsening rural poverty:

— Commodity prices have fallen below costs of production.

— Small factories are closing and the jobs are being exported to Third World countries where costs are cheaper for labor and production.

— Falling energy prices have shut down coal mines and curtailed domestic oil development and production.

— Multinational corporations have shifted the refining of petrochemicals to overseas locations.

— National retail chains have expanded into the rural areas, causing small-town businesses to close.

— Changes in cost and delivery of health care are closing small-town hospitals.

"The frightening thing about this crisis is that it is touching people who have never before known the anguish of poverty," Farley said.

In its study, funded by the Ford Foundation, Public Voice found "startling disparities between the nutritional status of the rural poor and that of the nation as a whole." And the gap is widening, it added.

The study's survey of health conditions considered indicators such as dietary intake, height-for-age, other anthropometric measures, low birthweight, and infant mortality rates. In each category, the rural poor fared significantly worse than the rest of the nation.

For example, in 1983 the infant mor-

tality rate (proportion of children who die in the first year of life) was 46.4 percent higher for rural counties than the rest of the nation. Between 1980 and 1983, the gap between low birthweight rates (infants weighing 5.5 pounds or less per 100 live births) in rural poor counties and the rest of the nation grew 34 percent.

In terms of height-for-age, an indicator of chronic undernutrition, 7.3 percent of poor rural children were abnormally short compared to 2.8 percent of non-poor children. The contrast was most pronounced in the South, where the respective figures were 8.8 percent compared to 3.1 percent.

Meanwhile, the study said, public assistance in rural America has been waning. Public Voice found that 56.8 percent of the rural poor, compared to 53.9 percent of the metropolitan poor, remained unserved by the government food stamp program. Translated into per capita numbers, the figures are \$222 monthly for the rural poor compared to \$368 for metropolitan poor. An even wider gap exists in Aid to Families with Dependent Children, where monthly per capita figures are \$161 for rural poor and \$554 for metropolitan poor.

Both Farley and Parham encouraged Southern Baptists to respond to the rural crisis through gifts to the Home Mission Board's program of domestic hunger relief.

Farley also suggested a "networking" program among churches would match rural needs with urban resources. Another important strategy, he said, is for churches to work cooperatively through Baptist associations to provide social ministries for the rural poor.

"Many rural and village congregations lack the resources to meet escalating needs for food, clothing, and shelter," he said.

Parham said Southern Baptists have demonstrated "a growing compassion" for the hungry in America. "What we need now," he said, "is a growing understanding of the forces causing hunger and an increasing commitment to practice Christian citizenship as well as Christian charity."

Oklahoma City pastor asks former church's forgiveness

By Norman Jameson

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) — Two and one-half years after 50 people followed Pastor Chris Hartley out of Western Hills Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, he returned to ask forgiveness for the split he caused.

Hartley stood before the congregation April 20 and said: "God has convicted me very deeply that I sinned against you . . . I hurt many of you and I caused bondage for many of you. This morning I ask you to forgive me."

After the worship service, Hartley and his wife stood at the altar as church members filed down both aisles to tell him they forgave him and to ask his forgiveness for bitterness they harbored.

Jerry Wells, current pastor at Western Hills, started the process that led to reconciliation with a series of sermons on forgiveness that began on Easter.

He told how an unforgiving heart blocked God's willingness to work. He urged people to "put on a heart of forgiveness." He quoted signs of unforgiveness listed in Ephesians 4:31 — words of wrath, anger, bitterness, clamor, slander, and malice.

Several members were convinced by the sermons to seek reconciliation with Hartley. Through their efforts, a meeting was arranged between Hartley and Wells.

Hartley, who independently had become convinced his own forgiveness was hindering his ministry, had prayed just days before that God would make a way to restore relationships with people at Western Hills.

Wells invited Hartley to come before the church. Several members who had left Western Hills when he did came to the worship service with him.

Wells pointed out in the service that if people did not forgive, God would not forgive them.

"Unforgiveness forms a barrier in people's lives that keeps them from going on in their Christian faith," Wells told the Baptist Messenger, news journal of the Baptist General Convention of Okla-

homa. "There is no freedom to love, to work, to act in faith. It is a form of bondage. Christian lives roll to a stop. God can't do anything new in that Christian's life."

Hartley's action will help the church, Wells believes, because "they saw forgiveness in action."

"They saw a man humble himself before people, admitting he was wrong," he said. "Then they saw people responding to that."

Wells credited Western Hills' prayer ministry with moving God to affect the reconciliation. Between 20 and 40 members gather from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday to pray.

Member Mike Barnett is a Baptist Student Union director in Oklahoma City and filled the pulpit for a month after Hartley left. The reconciliation, he said, "was a breath of fresh air."

"People have been able to lay a lot of burdens aside now," he said. "A lot of people had to deal with this before they could move on in their relationships to the Lord."

As far as Barnett is concerned, Hartley could "come and sit in our church and there wouldn't be any reason for any weird feeling at all, except for those who haven't forgiven, and that's their problem."

Hartley, who started a church called City of Truth when he left, is relieved for the reconciliation. An "intense" Bible study the church conducted during Sunday School, worship, and church training times in the fall of 1983 had convinced Hartley he and the church needed to "come out of a system that was holding us in bondage."

That system, he said, is a "Babylonian system that begins to take religion and make it God instead of the Father."

He was looking for a way to "unite" the entire body of Christ, outside denominational lines, and became frustrated at the reluctance of the church body to follow. So he left, with about one-fourth of the church body. Another fourth left Western Hills for other churches.

In leading to the reconciliation, Hartley said, "The Word of God showed me because I was judging them, I was becoming what I had accused them of. What I didn't understand was that in coming out, we further divided ourselves.

"To our own grief and the grief of the Holy Spirit, though we had an avenue to minister to others, we were alienated from those dearest to us."

BMH, Memphis, joins chain of 'Hands Across America'

MEMPHIS — Baptist Memorial Hospital has joined in the fight against hunger in America by signing up as an institutional sponsor for the May 25 Hands Across America project.

BMH will sponsor 330 of its employees as they line the 1/4-mile section of Union Avenue that fronts hospital property during the Hands Across America event.

Stretching from East Avenue to I-240, BMH employees will line up at 2 p.m. for the human chain which will pass the Medical Center buildings, the BMH School of Nursing, and HealthPlex.

BMH also will provide special T-shirts to its employees who take part in the Hands Across America event. Sporting the Hands Across America and Baptist Hospital logos, the shirt will convey BMH's concern and participation during and after the event.

Hands Across America organizers are seeking to enlist 6-million Americans to form a coast-to-coast chain May 25 from New York City to Los Angeles as a symbolic stand against hunger and homelessness in this country. Each person

standing in line pays a minimum \$10 donation, will go toward food and shelter programs. Donations will be used for the needy across the country.

Tennesseans take Centrifuge abroad

NASHVILLE — Three Tennesseans will be part of the first Centrifuge youth camp outside the United States when a five-day camp is held June 23-27 near Seoul, Korea, for children of Southern Baptist missionaries serving in Japan and Korea.

Don Mattingly, program services section supervisor in the church recreation department of the Sunday School Board, will lead the six-member faculty formed specifically for the Korean Centrifuge camp.

Mack Hanna, pastor of Harpeth Heights Baptist Church, Franklin, and his wife, Patty, will lead Bible study groups and special interest conference times.

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