

# Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 152/No. 32/August 13, 1986

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

## HMB trustees solicit committee resignation

By Jim Newton

ATLANTA (BP)— By a vote of 40-36, directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, meeting in executive session, requested the resignations of seven members of a search committee appointed in June to nominate a new president.

Directors also asked their officers to appoint a new search committee "that will give fair representation and proper balance to all members of the board."

In response to the action, six of the seven members resigned from the search committee, although not from the board. M. A. Winchester, a medical doctor from Whitley City, Ky., declined to resign "for reasons of personal integrity."

The motion was made by Johnny Jackson, pastor of Forest Highlands Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark. Jackson said he was making the motion "in light of the

apparent imbalance of the present search committee in regard to theological issues facing our board."

Although the action was taken during executive session in which the media, staff, and visitors were asked to leave, copies of Jackson's motion, including the vote count, were given to news media by Home Mission Board outgoing chairman Travis Wiginton of Norman, Okla.

Just before the meeting ended, Wiginton resigned as chairman of the board, saying he had accepted the pastorate of Kona Baptist Church in Hawaii, effective Sept. 7, and would no longer be eligible to be a board member from Oklahoma.

The board elected Clark Hutchinson, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga., as "interim" chairman until the regularly-scheduled election of officers in March 1987.

Hutchinson won the election over Marvin Prude, a retired refining company president from Birmingham and current first vice-chairman of the board. The vote count was not announced.

In an interview after the meeting, Wiginton said the votes were a "clear indication" of the control of the board by what some have called "fundamental-conservatives" in the Southern Baptist Convention.

"The implication is the same old story we've had for several years — a lack of trust" between Baptists who disagree with each other in the political and theological controversy confronting the SBC, said Wiginton.

He said he was aware that board members who were unhappy with the selection of the search committee had caucused and decided to ask that the committee resign, even before they had presented

their first report.

Wiginton asked search committee chairman Eugene Cotey, pastor of First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, to lead the opening devotional and to present the search committee report as the first item on the agenda.

After Cotey's devotional, but before his committee report, a motion was made by Ann Frazier of Roanoke Rapids, N.C., that the board go into executive session.

Wiginton ruled the motion out of order,

saying he already had recognized Cotey for his report, but the board voted 38-31 not to sustain the chair and went into executive session.

Behind closed doors, Jackson made his motion to ask the committee to resign, and Wiginton ruled the motion out of order. By a vote of 40 to 36, the board voted against sustaining the ruling of the chair, and voted by the same margin to approve Jackson's motion.

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## BSSB disapproves of Sullivan article

By Linda Lawson

NASHVILLE (BP)— Citing the Southern Baptist Convention-adopted request of the Peace Committee to avoid stirring the fires of controversy, trustees of the Baptist Sunday School Board expressed disapproval of an article appearing in the July/August issue of a board publication.

The article, an excerpt of an address given on the board's Anniversary Day in May by James L. Sullivan, a former president of the board and the Southern Baptist Convention, outlined Sullivan's personal perspective on current controversy in the denomination. The publication, Facts and Trends, is a newsletter mailed monthly to about 57,000 church staff persons and state and SBC leaders.

A motion by Bill Anderson, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Clearwater, Fla., also noted that the position taken in

the article does not reflect the position of the trustees. It further requests that BSSB editorial personnel honor the Peace Committee's request for a moratorium on activities that could further fuel the current crisis in the denomination.

In speaking to his motion, Anderson emphasized that his motion was not intended to be a criticism of Sullivan or a blanket criticism of editorial personnel. "We should affirm and can justifiably affirm our editorial staff," he said.

After adoption of the Anderson motion, Ed Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Houston, and a member of the SBC Peace Committee, praised the action as an "absolutely helpful thing."

"We do not need from any publication — independent, denominational, or whatever — any more verbage that will

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**HMB LEADERS** — Outgoing Home Mission Board chairman Travis Wiginton (right) says farewell to fellow trustees while Clark Hutchinson prepares to assume duties as interim chairman.

## RA Congress participants respond to world needs

MEMPHIS — Hundreds of Baptist Royal Ambassador participants from across the nation gathered in Memphis Aug. 4-7 to learn about world missions and to fight world hunger.

Athletic competition at the Seventh National Pioneer Royal Ambassador Congress raised \$6,600 for world hunger relief. The money was secured by Pioneer (seventh through 12th grade boys) participants in a two-mile run and a canoe race on a tributary of the Mississippi River.

The races, co-sponsored by Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, emphasized the "Dare to Care" theme of the four-day event, which was sponsored by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. The commission's Royal Ambassador program is a missions education organization for boys.

Mission action projects were the highlight of another day for many of the 1,400 RAs who registered for the congress. Needy and elderly people were helped in work projects con-

ducted by teams of RAs at about 25 sites around Memphis. One team passed out Scripture portions in a Memphis neighborhood.

Eight missionaries representing the Southern Baptist Foreign and Home Mission boards gave testimonies during daily plenary sessions. The worship leader for each of these sessions was Franklin Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.

The Royal Ambassadors were entertained by comedian Jerry Clower, world yo-yo champion Bunny Martin, and AAU champion power lifter Paul Wrenn. The musical group "Truth," pianist Ken Medema, and vocal soloists Gelen Ayers, Angie Lewis, and Terri Lynn performed. George Fields served as the congress master of ceremonies.

The closing session Thursday morning featured Colonel James Irwin, the Apollo 15 astronaut who survived a serious heart attack earlier this sum-

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**RACE TO ERASE HUNGER** — A race to raise money for world hunger relief was one highlight of the Seventh National Pioneer Royal Ambassador Congress, Aug. 4-7.

# SBC missionaries join hands with Brazilians

By Leland Webb

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Two-nation missionary teams may become a trend in foreign missions. Already Brazilian Baptist and Southern Baptist missionaries are working as teams in Venezuela and Colombia.

At Puerto La Cruz, Venezuela, Calixto and Suely Patricio from Brazil and Mike and Becki Glenn from the United States are in the second year of their joint project to build a strong church that could become a model for the country. The Patricios are missionaries of the Brazilian Baptist Convention's Board of World Missions; the Glenns are missionaries of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

At Jesus Christ Is the Way Baptist Church, "Calixto is the pastor, and I am the co-pastor," says Mike Glenn. "Ours is an interesting relationship — two for-

eign missionary couples from distinct countries working together in a third country, developing a large-scale work."

In a similar partnership in Bogota, Colombia, Southern Baptist Missionaries Howard and Libby Atkinson were invited by Brazilian Baptist missionaries Idelfonso and Miriam dos Santos to work together in developing the Baptist Mission of Montes City. Atkinson served as missionary-in-residence for the Cooperative Program and stewardship promotion department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention from June 1984 to June 1985.

Similarities between the cooperative teams in Puerto La Cruz and Bogota are many:

- In both cases the church or mission involved emphasizes evangelistic witness through Bible study cells in homes. Both congregations stress missions and give more than average to national mission causes.

- Much of each congregation's membership consists of relatively new believers.

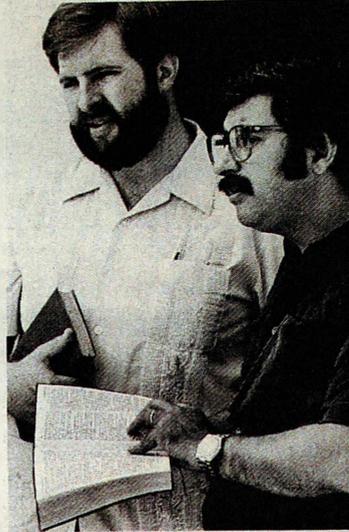
- The Patricio family in Venezuela and the dos Santos family in Colombia are the only Brazilian Baptist missionaries in those countries.

- In both congregations, training lay workers for outreach receives heavy emphasis.

- In each city, the resulting church could become a model for Baptists in the rest of the country.

- Both team efforts began at about the same time. In each case the Brazilian half of the team invited the Southern Baptists to work jointly, and in both instances the men work as equal partners on the team. Both men complement each other in their personalities and gifts for ministry. In both locations, there is a high level of trust among the missionaries involved.

"People in the mission see us both as



**INTERNATIONAL TEAM** — Mike Glenn (left) and Calixto Patricio are both foreign missionaries. Glenn is Southern Baptist; Patricio is Brazilian Baptist. They are co-pastors of Jesus Christ Is the Way Baptist Church in Puerto La Cruz, Venezuela.

co-pastors," says dos Santos in Bogota. Adds Atkinson, "We share responsibilities in everything." That includes preaching, dos Santos confirms, "We share it equally."

"You need to work together as a team," says Atkinson. "Our mission here is growing so much faster than any of the others that Baptists have because we complement each other, and Idelfonso gives more time to it." Dos Santos also plays the guitar and sings, adding musical support.

Atkinson remains heavily involved in Baptist outreach and in programs of the Colombian Baptist Convention. He helped create "Plan Bogota," a strategy for Christian witness to the city of over 4-million. The convention has recruited him as coordinator for its Board of Evangelism and for its Board of Missions. In his role with the Colombian mission board, he encourages churches to start new congregations and to give to the convention's missions offering.

In Venezuela, the Patricios in their first term began Memorial Baptist Church in Barcelona, a city adjacent to Puerto La Cruz. After Memorial called a Venezuelan pastor, the Brazilian missionaries moved to Puerto La Cruz in 1984 with a small nucleus to begin another church.

In 1985, the Glenns, at Calixto Patricio's invitation, moved to Puerto La Cruz to work with the Brazilians to strengthen the new Jesus Christ Is the Way Baptist Church. Featuring Bible study "cell" groups meeting in members' homes and reaching out to the neighborhoods, the church has grown to 120 members and regular attendance of 250 to 300. The church has a goal to have 18 such cell groups by year's end.

"This is relational evangelism," says Glenn. "We use the homes of church members as focal points to reach their family, friends, and neighbors for Christ."

Meeting in a former warehouse, the church has chosen to give 16 percent of its offerings to support mission efforts of the Venezuelan Baptist Convention and to assist several missionaries rather than to begin a building fund. Says Patricio, "We are putting our offering investments in heaven. And in the moment that we're going to need a temple (church building). God's going to open up the doors of heaven."

He adds, "If the Lord were to come today, I'd rather have 20 missionaries in the church than a large church building."

The two men, both 35, are highly compatible — Patricio enjoys working with large groups; Glenn prefers one-on-one contact. Patricio is spontaneous, Glenn more analytical. "We have never had major disagreements," says Patricio of Glenn.

In addition to his duties as missionary, Patricio this year became regional representative for the five countries in western South America where the Brazilian board stations missionaries. Glenn, besides serving as co-pastor, remains an area missionary, assisting other churches, coordinating Theological Education by Extension for eastern Venezuela and aiding the local Baptist association.

The First Regional Conference of World Missions held at the church in June drew representatives of some 30 denominations and other evangelical Christian organizations. Among those on the program was Clark Scanlon, executive assistant to the senior vice-president for overseas operations at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. "I believe they are setting out a model here," said Scanlon after his firsthand observation.

Scanlon noted significance in the conference theme. "The work of every Christian is to make disciples, but the work of every church is to do missions to the ends of the earth," he says, noting, he sees Patricio as bringing the vision of missions to the grass roots.

The Brazilian also may be helping to bring into focus a new pattern for multinational missionary cooperation.

## Annuity Board chooses Miller

DALLAS (BP) — Annuity Board trustees elected a vice-president of communications, authorized a new study of annuitants, and requested the board staff to research the possibility of changing the agency's name during their summer meeting.

Thomas E. Miller Jr. will assume the newly created position as vice-president and director of communications, effective Oct. 1.

Miller, associate editor of the Religious Herald, the Virginia state Baptist newspaper, will have the responsibility of developing and directing internal and external communications plans.

A native of Murfreesboro, Miller is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City; Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Va.; and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

In response to a motion made at the 1986 Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta, the board authorized research to assess the conditions of Southern Baptist annuitants to recommend how more adequate provision for retirement income can be made for them.

Also, trustees requested the staff to study the possibility of changing the Annuity Board's name to more accurately reflect the total scope of its ministry.

Board President Darold Morgan reported that net income for the first six months of 1986 was more than \$141.2-million, almost double that of the \$73.1-million income from the same period of 1985.

Total assets of the Annuity Board increased to more than \$1.86-billion, a gain of more than \$305-million during the last 12 months.

The board paid almost \$24.74-million in benefits to 16,145 annuitants during the first half of 1986.

Also, the board promoted John D. Boskas to director of endowment effective, Aug. 1.

Boskas, vice-president and interim director of endowment, will have responsibilities for developing and implementing programs to meet annuitants' financial needs. Boskas, a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Texas, has been employed by the board 24 years.



Miller

## Audit reveals \$1.2-million loss for Colorado Baptist Foundation

DENVER (BP) — Losses incurred by the struggling Colorado Baptist Foundation total \$1.2-million, according to a Colorado Baptist General Convention audit released this summer.

The audit, conducted by a Denver accounting firm, examined financial records of the foundation and the Colorado Baptist Loan Corporation, separate corporations jointly operated by Colorado Southern Baptists for the purpose of raising money and loaning it to Southern Baptist churches in the state.

All losses — originally estimated at up to \$2-million — were incurred by the foundation, said Charles E. Sharp, executive director of the convention, who announced the audit results.

Foundation losses began as early as 1981 and occurred until they became apparent in February of 1985, when the foundation's assets were frozen, Sharp told Baptist Press.

The losses were the result of poor return on "over-the-counter" stock investments, Sharp said. Over-the-counter stocks are those not listed by the major stock exchanges.

Colorado leaders have worked with officials of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee and Home Mission Board to correct the situation. Included in the procedure is a payback plan designed to secure the investments of all who participated in demand loan accounts.

"No one has lost any funds in the Bap-

tist Foundation," Sharp said, promising that all demand loan investors will have their investments returned, with interest. Some individuals, churches, and associations of churches which had demand loan accounts have forgiven those accounts.

The Home Mission Board's church loan division also has granted a \$600,000 loan "to meet the initial obligations from demand loan account holders," he said, adding the loan is being repaid with funds from the liquidated foundation assets.

In another move, the board has renegotiated its cooperative agreement with the state convention, allowing Colorado Baptists to decrease their contribution to board projects in the state by 10 percent, he said, "thus freeing up monies from the Colorado Baptist General Convention budget to help with the recovery" of the loan corporation and foundation.

The next crisis that must be met in the recovery of these two organizations is a bond issue of about \$400,000 that is due in October, Sharp reported. Trustees from both the loan corporation and the foundation are working on options for making that payment, he said, noting the convention may sell a piece of property it owns in Denver to come up with the funds.

The final suggestion made by the Home Mission Board and the Executive Committee is a major fund-raising campaign.



**NEW BSSB DEPARTMENT HEADS** — Lloyd Elder (center), president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, congratulates two newly elected department directors, Fes Robertson (left), music publishing department, and Richard Bell, property management department.

## BSSB disapproves . . .

(Continued from page 1)

inflammation where we are as a denomination," said Young.

Anderson presented his motion as a substitute for one introduced the first day by Joe Knott of Raleigh, N.C.

The Knott motion, would have instructed Sunday School Board President Lloyd Elder to apologize in *Facts and Trends* for the publication of the Sullivan article and to prepare and submit for trustee approval guidelines for persons speaking at the board. The motion also would have required the board to send a book by James Hefley, *The Truth in Crisis*, to every person on the newsletter's mailing list.

In other action, trustees adopted a 1986-87 budget of \$163.8-million and a recommendation allowing more time for trustee consideration of nominees for elected staff positions. Department directors, division directors, vice-presidents, and the president of the board are elected by the trustees.

The budget represents a six percent increase over the 1985-86 projected income of \$154-million. In a report on the first nine months of 1985-86, ending June 30, E. V. King, vice-president for business and finance, said income of \$109.9-million was \$6.1-million below budget but above last year by \$3.2-million.

The recommendation on personnel search and election presented by the plans and policies committee states that trustee input, suggestions or recommendations will be sought concerning the elected staff position to be filled.

Also, when a candidate is to be considered at a trustee meeting, biographical information will be sent to the trustees 10 days before the meeting. At the meeting the candidate will be introduced with opportunity for questions by the trustees at the plenary session on the first day with the vote on the person coming on the second day.

The practice has been to provide biographical data, present the candidate, and vote in the same session. Numerous trustees expressed frustration with the process, noting they felt pressure to vote in support of candidates they had just met and had only a brief time to question.

The recommendation from the plans and policies committee came after referral of a motion the previous day by Larry Holly, a physician from Beaumont, Texas.

Holly's motion would have required distribution of information about candidates being considered for the position of vice-president for church programs and services being vacated Oct. 1 by the retirement of Morton Rose. The motion called for information to be distributed "once the candidate field has been reduced below 10 and before the candidate screening process reduces the candidate pool below five."

Opposing referral of his motion to the plans and policies committee, Holly said the entire 85-member board should be willing to confront substantive issues where differing opinions were evident.

"If you disagree with me, stand up and say it," said Holly. If trustees become lax and don't face hard issues, they could wind up with "sodomites" on the board within 10 years, said Holly, who later apologized to the trustees for remarks he called "intemperate."

Supporting the motion to refer, Gene Henderson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Brandon, Miss., said, "I need a period of time to digest some of this without so much emotion."

In other action, trustees adopted increases in 1987 summer conference center rates and an average 4.5 percent increase in church literature prices, effective April 1987.

The conference center rate includes \$1 and \$2 increases in the children's and adult conference service fees and increases in housing and food.

Jerry Lee of Jackson, Miss., chairman of the finance committee, said a major factor in the need for the literature price increase is spiraling postal rates expected to increase about 20 percent next year.

Trustees also approved four quarterly Sunday School products on cassette tape for the blind while deleting free distribution of braille materials. Tapes will include Bible Book Study for Adults, Bible Book Study for Youth, Adult Bible Study, and Sunday School Adults.

Other new products approved included Chinese editions of Bible Book Study for Adults and Bible Book Study for Adult Teachers, effective April 1988; American Indian edition of Adult Bible Study, effective October 1988; a new periodical, *Special Education Leadership*, effective October 1988; and a large-print edition of *Adult Bible Teacher*, effective October 1987.

## Committee resignation . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Wiginton explained later he felt any attempt to disband the committee before it did its work and before it presented its report would violate the board's bylaws.

While the board was taking action on scheduled business, the seven-member search committee met privately to pray and discuss their response to the request to resign.

Wiginton said each of the committee members gave his or her testimony and announced an individual decision to resign or continue. The committee decided they would not resign as a group, but would make individual statements to the board, he added.

All members of the committee except Winchester told the board they were resigning. They included Don Aderhold and Frank Wells of Atlanta, Lula Walker of Beaverton, Ore., Lawana McIver of Dallas, Troy Morrison of Montgomery, Ala., and Cotey.

Winchester said moderate-conservatives on the HMB and in the convention "are trustworthy servants of Jesus Christ." He added: "I would not allow them to force me off the committee, because my record speaks for itself, and I will prove to them by my actions that I have been trustworthy and will continue to be trustworthy."

Another member of the committee, Lawana McIver of Dallas, left the meeting in tears, but later prepared a statement which said she was speaking out because she felt she has a responsibility to the Home Mission Board and to the entire Southern Baptist Convention. "There is nothing to fear in telling the truth, and our SBC constituency is wise enough to discern that in time," she said. "There were some things done (at the meeting) that were not only unethical, but were downright unChristian," she added in a telephone interview.

McIver said that on the Monday night before the board meeting, about 40 members of the board — all in the fundamental-conservative camp — caucused in what they called a "birthday party" and appointed a three-person ad hoc committee to negotiate with search committee chairman Eugene Cotey of Murfreesboro.

McIver said the ad hoc committee requested that two or three fundamental-conservative leaders be "co-opted" to attend all meetings of the search committee, but not to vote.

"We were given the ultimatum that if we would not agree (with this request), they would table every item of business in the entire board meeting (including the appointment of missionaries)," said McIver.

McIver said the search committee, during a breakfast meeting Wednesday, agreed to accept the request "in an attempt to be conciliatory," and that Cotey was to make a motion to that effect as the first item of agenda. But Cotey, she

said, was never allowed to do so.

In a telephone interview, John Click of Topeka, Kan., who said he was one of the three "ad hoc" committee members asked to negotiate with Cotey, said he could not imagine how Cotey could have interpreted that was said as "an ultimatum. I can say categorically that there was no idea of an ultimatum in our minds," said Click.

Click said conservatives on the board had been asking for the addition of representatives of their point of view on the search committee but Cotey and Wiginton had refused, saying the bylaws limit the committee to seven persons.

Click added Cotey again refused on the Monday night before the board meeting, so the board members attending the caucus decided to present a motion asking the committee to resign.

When the search committee met for breakfast on Wednesday and agreed to the co-opting suggestion, "it was too late," said Click. "It had gone too far then. But if they had been willing to do it on Monday night, it might have made a definite difference."

Contacted during a camping trip in Florida, Cotey said McIver's account of the events is "basically true." Cotey said an ultimatum was implied by the ad hoc conservatives, although none of them used the word.

He said that he was told some of the members of the group were so angry at the search committee they wanted to table any business that came before the board.

Cotey added that he did not have the power or authority to add any "co-opted" members to the committee on Monday night. He felt that was a decision only the committee could make, and it was impossible to meet with the committee until Wednesday morning. But the ad hoc group wanted an answer immediately and Cotey said he did not have the authority to agree to their demands.

Asked why he resigned from the committee, Cotey said: "Because I was asked to. There was no way I could continue under the circumstances."

Wiginton said he believed there is a possibility that some of the committee members who resigned may be asked to serve on the second committee to be appointed by the five officers.

Wiginton said he had received a great deal of criticism from board members because of a statement he made in the announcement of their appointment, saying that the committee was not chosen "on the basis of theology or politics in the denomination." Wiginton added in the announcement on June 19 that there was no attempt to "balance" political points of view on the committee.

"The reason those seven were selected," said Wiginton, "is because we wanted a team, we wanted harmony, we wanted experience — and brother, we had it on that (search) committee."

Hutchinson, the new chairman, said in an interview after the board meeting he did not know when the new committee would be appointed and announced.

"This was a tough day for all of us," he said, "but we've just got to trust God and His leadership and timing in all of this. God's timing is perfect; He never rushes; He is never late."

Hutchinson led the board members in a standing ovation in appreciation for Wiginton's leadership as chairman, and asked the board members to kneel in prayer asking God to "send a fresh sense of love" to Baptists for the board and for the denomination.

## RA Congress . . .

(Continued from page 1)

mer. "I was dead but now I'm alive because of another miracle of God," Irwin said. "My prayer for each of you is that you will have a strong heart for Jesus Christ to serve Him."

James Smith, president of the Brotherhood Commission, reported that RAs have raised \$70,000 so far to purchase goats for the hungry in Bangladesh. Smith challenged the Pioneers to adopt a new project: providing "friendship kits" as a witness to merchant sailors at U.S. seaports.

## EDITORIAL

## SBC trustees must exhibit 'trust' of each other

At the Southern Baptist Convention session in Atlanta, the messengers overwhelmingly approved seven recommendations from the Peace Committee. Because of their importance in SBC life, we printed all seven recommendations on page 4 of our June 18 issue.

One of these recommendations — which were approved by the messengers in session and therefore are the desires of the convention, as well as the Peace Committee was:

"That the convention respectfully request there be a one-year moratorium on theological/political position meetings and a deceleration, if not a dismantling, of the political power structures, allowing the Peace Committee and SBC agency leadership to work without distraction on the theological and political problems before us during the year 1986-87."

Another Peace Committee recommendation approved by the messengers stated:

"That the convention deplore the use of the type of intemperate, inflammatory, and unguarded language used by some spokesmen on both sides of the political spectrum."

We also recognize that another of these SBC-approved Peace Committee recommendations dealt with reporting of convention issues:

"That the convention urge Baptist Press, the state Baptist papers, and the autonomous independent journals to be especially careful to be fair and accurate in reporting events in the convention and to refrain from labeling and attributing improper motives."

We will attempt to abide by that admonition in this editorial.

Last week, two of the boards of trustees of SBC agencies met. In a sense it was the first test of how well Southern Baptists are progressing on defusing the controversy.

Our answer to that test must be, "Not too well" — based on trustee meetings of the Baptist Sunday School Board and the Home Mission Board.

### BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES

The trustees of the Sunday School Board were forced to deal with two controversial motions which were made from the floor. To the trustees' credit, compromises were made in both of these — although neither faction was totally satisfied with the outcome.

However, their willingness to recognize the feelings of the "other side" led to a successful effort to at least work toward a middle position.

One of these was an attempt to bypass the established policy of the BSSB president's authority to bring personnel recommendations. This was compromised to direct that "when practical" biographical information on candidates to be recommended be sent to trustees 10 days prior to the trustees' meeting.

Another compromise would direct that the candidate be presented on

the first meeting day of the trustees and the vote delayed until the next day, allowing for more opportunity for discussion.

The other motion dealt with an attempt to censure editorial personnel for a Facts and Trends article based on a May address by James L. Sullivan, former SBC and BSSB president, to the board's Anniversary Day gathering.

A substitute motion which was passed simply "expressed disapproval" of the article and indicated that the position stated in the article was not the position of the BSSB trustees.

We were disturbed, however, by "intemperate" language by one of the trustees, who made inflammatory statements about another denomination and a popular Christian musician.

### HOME MISSION BOARD TRUSTEES

The meeting of the Home Mission Board in Atlanta last week showed none of this willingness to seek a compromise.

Last June, the HMB trustee chairman appointed a seven-member search committee to bring a recommended president to succeed William Tanner, who had resigned to become executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

Trustees loyal to one political faction were concerned that in their opinion all seven members were favorable to the other political faction.

A compromise was proposed to name three "unofficial, non-voting" members to the search committee — but the trustee chairman refused. In addition, the chairman called for the search committee report at a time other than that on the announced agenda.

Before the search committee could report, a motion was passed (40-36) that the committee members be requested to resign "in light of the apparent imbalance of the present search committee in regard to theological issues facing our board."

Six of the seven committee members did resign, and will be replaced by the newly elected interim chairman (the present chairman having resigned because he is moving to another state and is not eligible to continue service on the board).

We are disturbed by three elements of this incident, which is more fully reported on page 1.

(1) The search committee was asked to resign even before it brought a recommendation for the new HMB president.

The question was NOT whether or not the committee's recommendation was acceptable to the trustees. It is like a church asking a pulpit committee to resign without knowing who it will recommend as a prospective pastor.

(2) In spite of the request by the Peace Committee — and the SBC messengers — this drastic action was taken by the HMB trustees on theological/political grounds — the motion-maker even mentioning this issue in the motion.

Although we have been assured by one trustee that those voting for the motion were from both political factions, it is obvious that the selection of the new search committee and subsequently the selection of a new HMB president are now a theological/political issue.

(3) The chairman and/or officers of the Home Mission Board were not willing to try to work out some compromise which would have defused the controversy created by the appointment of the search committee.

Certainly, the chairman was within his "rights," but in these critical days there must be some "second mile" efforts to be considerate of everyone's feelings.

Perhaps we were too idealistic to expect that deep-seated differences could be shelved for one year at the request of SBC messengers. We hope that trustees of these two boards and other SBC agencies will somehow heed the SBC action and move toward that requested one-year moratorium.

It just might be that next year's messengers may take even stronger actions to demand that trustees "cool it" and work toward efforts to restore trust among the trustees.

Southern Baptists do indeed have the right to expect that the convention-elected trustees represent the opinions and desires of ALL Southern Baptists — not just the political faction which nominated and elected them as trustees. If that is too much to hope for, then perhaps Southern Baptists need to re-examine our method of naming trustees.

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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.

## Setting SBC agenda

Dear editor:

Adrian Rogers wants Southern Baptists to believe that his 54 percent presidential victory was really a 95 percent mandate for the inerrancy theory of inspiration and the political agenda of the New Right.

Prior to the Atlanta SBC, a Louisville research firm conducted a study which revealed that our traditional heritage of unity amid diversity is alive and well in the pew if not at the annual SBC meetings: 75 percent of the SBC church members were convinced that Baptists should have the individual freedom to interpret the Bible for themselves and be tolerant of differing interpretations; 88 percent said Baptists do not have to agree on how the Bible was inspired by God as long as they agree that it is inspired by Him; 81 percent agreed that not all Baptists have to think and act the same way in order for them to still be considered Baptists; and 68 percent said the SBC president's power should be limited so no single individual can control the appointment of trustees.

Rogers does represent the approximately 21,000 messengers the "take-over" machine can deliver to an annual SBC meeting. He does not represent the decidedly moderate sentiments of the average Southern Baptists who fill our pews.

The weakness SBC mainliners have in organizing is revealed by this question.

## Tennessean joins FMB 'home' staff

RICHMOND, Va. — A Tennessean native has been elected to enlist volunteers to help foreign missionaries for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

David Coleman, a native of Cedar Hill and a missionary to Zimbabwe for 18 years, was named associate director in the general projects section of the Foreign Mission Board's volunteer enlistment department, effective Aug. 1. In his position, he will enlist Southern Baptists in short-term "support services" assignments, including position in construction and business.

Coleman and his wife, the former Linda Gholdston of Dayton, were appointed as missionaries in 1968. Since then Coleman has been financial administrator for the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Zimbabwe, while his wife served on numerous committees and boards among missionaries and nationals.

A graduate of Belmont College, Nashville, Coleman, also attended Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.



Coleman

"What do you think is the cause of disagreement between the convention's moderates and conservatives?" — 46 percent answered, "Don't know." Half of our members simply have no picture of what's going on.

Takeover leaders say 92 percent of us are Biblically conservative. TRUE, I am one of that 92 percent, but this group doesn't speak for me. An Emory study identified only 10.4 percent of Southern Baptists who "claim a fundamentalist identity." The truth is that a vocal minority is setting our SBC agenda.

James W. Watkins  
Rt. 3, Box 118  
Taylorsville, KY 40071

## Guatemala involvement

Dear editor:

Following is another documented example of how "our" government has been fighting for "freedom" in Central America.

The year is 1954; the place, Guatemala. Jacobo Arbenz, democratically elected president of Guatemala, has begun redistributing the land to the poor to alleviate the poverty and hunger gripping his country.

But one parcel of earth given to the Guatemalan poor was an unused portion owned by the very rich United Fruit Co. of Boston, Mass.

As reported in the July 1986 issue of *The Progressive* magazine, "United Fruit assembled a team of public relations men ... to get rid of Arbenz." United Fruit lobbyists found the "CIA and State Department particularly receptive since both Allan Dulles (head of the CIA) and brother John Foster Dulles, the secretary of state, had business ties to United Fruit before entering the government." Upon recommendation by the Dulles brothers, "Eisenhower authorized the CIA to oust Arbenz." The new regime set up by the CIA "burned books" and "disfranchised three-fourths of the Guatemalan people. It dismantled social and economic reforms such as land redistribution, social security, and trade union rights. Our overthrow (of the Guatemalan government) began 31 years of repressive military rule and the

deaths of more than 100,000 Guatemalans."

The article quoted was written by Philip C. Roettinger, the CIA case officer involved in the Guatemalan operation. He is now retired and living in Mexico.

And Jesus said to the rich young ruler, "go and sell what thou hast, and give to the poor."

C. James Matuschka  
108 Sherwood Ave.  
Chattanooga, TN 37404

## Response to Daniel's letter

Dear editor:

I read with interest and no little concern M. G. Daniels' letter in the *Baptist and Reflector* (July 23). One must not allow misinformation and untruth to go unanswered.

I'm a lifelong Republican and know something about conservatism. For eight terms I served in the United States Congress and have some knowledge of government. As an 80-year-old Baptist, I do not follow liberal fads.

The strong stance of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs honors Baptists and brings us together around our dedication to religious freedom.

Constitutionally, the BJCPA church-state positions conserve the First Amendment values of church-state separation.

Fiscally, the Baptist Joint Committee has stood firm for safeguarding public funds for public purposes.

Politically, this office for all Baptists has fought every attempt by politicians of either party to favor one church or religion over others.

Religiously, the committee staff is busy preaching the old-time gospel and working in our churches.

There's nothing liberal about any of that or them.

Enough of this name-calling by people who know neither the work nor the people of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Fred Schwengel  
200 Maryland Ave., N.E.  
Washington, DC 20002

Fred Schwengel is president of the U.S. Capitol Historical Society. (editor)

## Tennessean speaks at FMB service

RICHMOND, Va. — Rockwood native Phil Nelson, during a journeyman commissioning service, told how the Biblical story of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch influenced his decision to spend two years on the foreign mission field.

Nelson, 25, who became a Christian at 17, was one of 57 young men and women commissioned July 25 in Richmond, Va. Nelson will teach English at a student center in Bangkok, Thailand, during the next two years.

The Tennessean said his Christian life had been "business as usual" until 18 months ago when he learned of a request from the board for volunteers to Hong Kong.

He spent two weeks of vacation in a mission camp in Hong Kong. Talking to missionaries throughout the trip, "I realized that you didn't necessarily have to be a pastor to serve on the mission field," he said. "God can use ordinary people."

The accountant looked at the journeyman program and wondered if it would take away two years of his career. He decided he would be investing in his career. "I would grow, stretch my horizons, and have a new perspective on the world," he said.

He thought of the passage in Acts 8 in which Philip had developed a good ministry in Samaria. Crowds were there and miracles were happening. Yet God told Philip to take the desert road, he said. There, God had prepared the heart of the Ethiopian eunuch to receive the gospel.

Nelson had a nice job, benefits, and good hours. "Yet, I knew the Lord was calling me to take that desert road," he explained.

"What started out as me giving up two weeks of my vacation has since resulted in me giving up my vocation. But it's a new vocation, and it's to do His will," Nelson said. "That's all that matters in this life — to do God's will — nothing more, nothing less, nothing else."

## Canadian seminary names first head

CALGARY, Alberta (BP) — Clinton M. Ashley of Pullman, Wash., has been named first president of Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary in Calgary, Alberta.

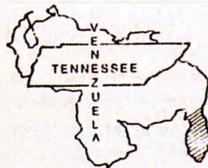
Ashley was chosen by the executive board of the Canadian Southern Baptist Convention in July. He will begin his duties Sept. 1. Canadian Southern Baptists plan to begin seminary classes in September 1987.

Ashley will move from Emmanuel Baptist Church in Pullman, where he has been pastor since 1978. He and his wife, Andrea, previously served with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board as missionaries to Brazil.

Ashley has been on the Northwest Baptist Convention executive board since 1979. He is completing his second year as president of the convention and also has been a trustee for Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., for three years. He is a graduate of Baylor University in Waco, Texas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Missions emphasis will become an important part of the Canadian seminary, he promised.

The seminary also will fill a "vacuum for conservative, evangelical, Biblically-based theological education in Canada," Ashley said.



## Tennessee/Venezuela Prayer Net Partnership

—Pray for Missionary Mike Rogers who has a birthday on Aug. 16. He serves as a general evangelist and lives in Caracas.

—Pray daily for the 156 partnership crusade team members as they follow this schedule:

- On Friday, Aug. 15, the 40 teams leave Tennessee and arrive in Venezuela. Half of the teams will go to their hotels in the city of Caracas and half will go to Valencia.
- On Saturday, the volunteers will attend an orientation breakfast and then meet Venezuelan pastors who will take them to their partnership churches.
- The volunteers will attend Sunday worship services in the churches.
- During the weekdays of Aug. 18-23, the group will join church members in a devotional time, visiting people, and helping lead revival services each evening at 7:30.
- On Sunday, Aug. 24, the churches will close the revival during the evening service.
- A citywide celebration will be held on Monday for volunteers, missionaries, and Venezuelans.
- On Tuesday, the Tennesseans will travel back to their homes.

## FMB plans to sell hospital, drop medical work in Jordan

AJLOUN, Jordan (BP) — Southern Baptist medical work spanning nearly 35 years in Jordan may be coming to an end.

Efforts have been initiated to find a buyer for the Baptist Hospital at Ajloun — perhaps a religious organization or the Jordanian health ministry. A final sale would be approved by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Hospital trustees hope the sale will be completed by June 30, 1989.

The hospital's board of directors cited "inadequate patient loads, shortage of personnel, and finances" in concurring with the Southern Baptist missionaries in Jordan that the medical work end.

It will be emotionally painful for many Jordanian Baptists, according to Isam Ballenger, director of Southern Baptist work in Europe and the Middle East, and Missionary Lois Calhoun, the hospital's director of nursing who retired this year after 15 years of work there.

Ballenger quoted Fowaz Ameisch, president of the Baptist Community of Jordan, as saying, "I understand the necessity of this move with my head, but my heart can't accept it."

Calhoun said, "Jordanian Baptists have a very special feeling for the hospital." The hospital, and thus Baptists, had developed a good reputation throughout the country, she said.

The Baptist Community of Jordan reported six churches, nine preaching points, and 403 members at the end of 1985. Fifty-five baptisms were recorded. Two Baptist schools with elementary

and secondary students, one in Ajloun and the other in Amman, the nation's capital, also have earned high marks.

The number of students enrolled last year was 691.

The hospital treated 2,160 inpatients and 11,241 outpatients last year. The number has been declining since a high of 2,908 inpatients in 1977 and a high of 17,884 outpatients the following year. One reason for the downturn is that the number of government hospitals has increased in recent years. Also, the Baptist Hospital's fees are higher than those charged at government-subsidized facilities.

The Baptist Hospital's capacity was pared down from 50 to 30 beds in 1978. Its nursing school closed after the number of students dropped from a high of 31 in 1974 to three in 1978.

The average inpatient load is 15 to 20, though sometimes all beds are full and, once, just two beds were occupied, Calhoun said.

Retirements of key missionary personnel have not been offset by new appointees. L. August Lovegren, a surgeon, and his wife, Alta Lee, will retire next year. John Roper, another surgeon, and his wife, Ruth, also a physician, will retire within a few years, as will Violet Popp, who supervises in-service training of nurses.

No replacements have entered the missionary appointment process, Ballenger said.

The current facility was built in 1975. There are two floors and a basement. Working alongside seven Southern Baptist missionaries are 70 Jordanian doctors, nurses, and other staffers.

"There is a need for a hospital in that area," Calhoun noted. Ajloun is a city of about 6,000 people in northern Jordan. Other than the Baptist Hospital, the nearest facilities for full emergency medical care are hospitals in Irbid, an hour's trip to the north, and Amman, an hour and a half to the south. The government has plans to open a diagnostic medical clinic in Ajloun offering full, 24-hour service.

**Tumor benign**

## Barrows recovers following surgery

OKLAHOMA CITY — Surgeons at Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City have listed Cliff Barrows, 40-year associate of evangelist Billy Graham, in serious but stable condition following a four-hour surgical procedure Aug. 5 to remove a tumor attached to the skull behind the right ear.

The one-inch in diameter tumor was determined to be benign following removal from its position around the eighth intracranial nerve and facial nerve. Barrows has lost the hearing in his right ear, but doctors believe there will be no permanent paralysis to his face.

Barring complications, Barrows is expected to remain hospitalized for two weeks. A recuperation period of three months is being recommended by his physicians.

Barrows, who serves as master of ceremonies and songleader at Graham's crusades worldwide, has already cancelled his participation in the Mission France campaign to be held in Paris, Sept. 20-27 — the first crusade he has missed in over 40 years.



**PROJECT AWARD WINNERS** — Pioneer Royal Ambassadors from Central Baptist Church, Chattanooga, won a first-place award at the National RA Congress for their project on poverty conditions in Appalachia. With their display are (left to right) Dewayne Souther, Gary Ketcham, Brent Everett, Chris Armstrong, Barry Hill, Kevin Mathews, and Max Thomas, RA counselor. After the congress, the project was presented to Archie King (right), TBC Brotherhood director. It will be on display at the TBC annual meeting in November.

## BSSB elects Bell, Robertson as directors of departments

By Linda Lawson

NASHVILLE (BP) — Directors of the music publishing and property management departments of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board were elected by trustees during their semi-annual meeting in Nashville.

Festus G. Robertson, an employee of the board since 1967, was elected to head the newly created music publishing department which will begin operation Oct. 1. Richard Bell, who has owned a construction and development company in Houston, will direct the property management department which oversees maintenance and construction projects in Nashville and at the 63 Baptist Book Stores and two conference centers.

Robertson has been supervisor of the youth/adult/general materials development section of the church music department since 1980. Earlier, he was music promotion specialist in the Broadman sales department and consultant in adult music in the church music department.

The music publishing department, authorized by the trustees in February 1986, will publish Christian music products for church, school, and home use. Products will include printed music, vocal and instrumental audio and video items, musical instruments, and other music related items.

Larry Holly, a physician from Beau-

mont, Texas, strongly reiterated concerns expressed at the previous meeting that the new department not publish so-called Christian rock music.

Sunday School Board President Lloyd Elder said publishing guidelines for the music publishing department would be presented for trustee consideration, probably at the February 1987 meeting.

Bell has owned the Sabel Company since 1984. Earlier, he was vice-president of construction for Vantage Companies, a Houston real estate development and management company; Houston area facilities manager for Texas Instruments, Inc.; and corporate branch manager for Honeywell Inc., in Houston and Charlotte, N.C.

In his report to the trustees, President Lloyd Elder announced Executive Vice-president James Clark has been named, effective Aug. 1, to serve as acting vice-president for church programs and services due to the retirement Oct. 1 of Morton Rose.

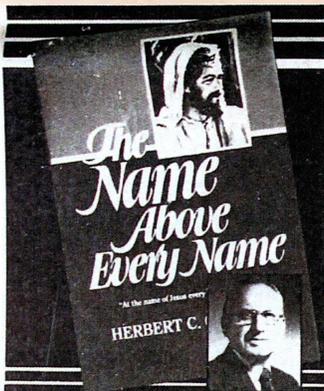
He said that during the interim, "we will take a careful look at the position description and the organizational structure of church programs and services." The vice-president for church programs and services presently oversees the work of the Bible teaching, Christian development, church and staff support, and conference center divisions.

In a challenge to "reach forth in significant areas that relate to the standard of Christ in the midst of our people," Elder urged moving beyond the present conflict in the denomination.

He expressed support for the newly elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention, Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis.

"He has my support for wisdom and grace as he gives servant leadership to all of us. It is my deepest longing that he will lead us to focus attention primarily on the missionary, evangelistic, and educational programs of our great people," said Elder.

"When Baptists start with Christ — the Christological principle of interpretation — we stay united. 'Christ died for our sins. He was buried. The third day He arose.' It's time to reach toward Christ as the goal and consolidate our Biblical position, not around parties or personalities, but around the Saviour," said Elder.



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Herbert C. Gabhart is chancellor of Belmont College, Nashville, Tennessee. He is also the author of *Meeting the Challenge*.

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**BROADMAN**

# Special Friends Camp 1986

## draws past campers, staff

photos and story by Connie Davis

LINDEN — The campers at Camp Linden Aug. 4-8 were different in some ways from the hundreds of other campers during the year who gather at the Tennessee Baptist camp on the Buffalo River.

The 99 campers were happier, more enthusiastic, more thankful, and more responsive, said the staff, which numbered about 60. Both groups want to come back each year.

Two counselors came back even though they had married just three weeks before camp and had moved from Tennessee to serve on a church staff in North Carolina.

Liz Lee, director of children's work for the Sunday School department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, led the camp for mentally retarded persons older than 10 years. Jim McDonald, TBC business department and camp director, assisted her along with the summer missionaries and volunteers from churches who made up the staff. It is funded by the Golden State Missions Offering.

Lee, who noted that the camp which began in 1983 could not accommodate all wishing to be campers this year, projected a week of camp in east Tennessee next year.

One reason the workers come back is to see the changes in the lives of the campers. "I think the spiritual aspect plays a big part in this camp and is reflected in their (the campers') behavior by the second day," said Lee.

Another reason the staff comes back to Special Friends Camp is because it changes them too.

"This is really my favorite week of camp," said Jenise Cheatham of Enon Baptist Church in McKenzie, a Camp Linden staff worker.

A teen-age boy counselor, who said he originally came because he needed the

money and his sister talked him into it, described the campers as "family."

Summer Missionary Darryl Long from the Baptist Student Union at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville explained that before camp he had always felt uncomfortable around mentally retarded persons. "It's been fun ... They're so self-sufficient."

Calling herself a "charter member," Becky Wilkinson, a college student in Florence Ala., has worked every year and decided to major in special education because of her experiences.

"They give us more than we get," ex-

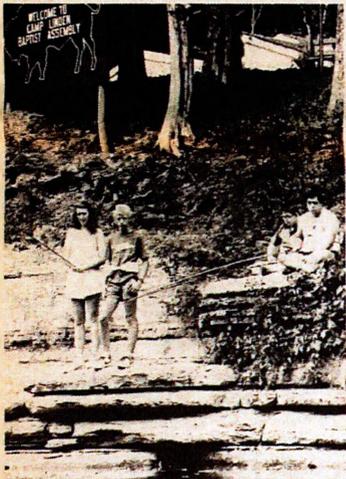
plained Denise Coleman of First Baptist Church in Waverly, who came last year because her roommate at Union University invited her. "They are the most loving and most encouraging group. We leave as excited as they do," said Coleman, who will be a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville this fall.



**PADDLIN' AND PADDLIN'** — Counselors help campers paddle a canoe and paddleboat on the Buffalo River.



**AIMING FOR BULL'S-EYE** — Jimmy Kirby of Beverly Hills Baptist Church in Memphis learns how to use a bow and arrow from Debbie Ratliff, a counselor from Grace Baptist Church in Johnson City.



**BUFFALO RIVER FISHING** — Counselors not only taught campers how to bait hooks and hopefully hook a fish, they also tried it.



**CHECKIN' OUT CHECKERS** — Geoffrey Gray (left) of Memphis and Bobby Farrington of Lincoln Park Baptist Church in Knoxville play a serious game of checkers.



**GOD IS LOVE** — Counselor Missy Goostree of First Baptist Church in Hendersonville helps Dennis Cooper of Memphis make his wall-hanging that reads, "God is Love."



**FINDING FRIENDS** — Patrick Harris (left) of Martin and Chris Cole Jr. of Johnson City became good friends during the week.



**SURPRISE GIFTS** — Camp Director Liz Lee and Jim McDonald, who assisted her, hand out packages that included towels, toothbrushes, soap, and other personal items to campers. About 20 churches across the state donated the gifts.

# Sears says Americans can defeat obscenity

By Marv Knox

WASHINGTON (BP)—Americans can wipe out obscenity in two years, the Southern Baptist who headed up the Attorney General's Commission on Pornography contends.

"Over-the-counter sales and large multistate distribution of obscene material can be eliminated from this country in the next two years," says Alan Sears, executive director of the commission, which released its 1,960-page report this summer. He insists his "incredibly realistic" prediction can become reality if officials vigorously enforce present laws.

"We could make a substantial attack" on the pornography industry, Sears notes. "When you drive (an illegal activity) underground, you don't get rid of it, but you sure do make it smaller. Anybody who wants to use the analogy that driving something underground doesn't reduce its business doesn't know much about the heroin business and some of these other businesses that criminal enterprises engage in."

A member of Ninth and O Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky., Sears was an assistant U.S. attorney with a reputation for prosecuting producers and peddlers of obscenity when he accepted the job

with the pornography commission in March of 1985.

Sears first came in contact with obscenity because it was part of his job.

"As a prosecutor and as an attorney, we swear an oath to uphold the laws of the Constitution of the United States," he says. "Consistent with my Christian beliefs, I believe that whenever you take a job, it's important that you keep your word. In this case, part of your duty is to enforce the law."

"I became familiar with this industry and what it did to people — the way it kind of chewed up people," he says of his days as a prosecutor.

Turning to his work with the commission, he notes: "I had some understanding of the harm pornography caused, but to be honest, I had no idea when I set out on this task what I would find or where the commission would end up. I was amazed and really shocked to find out just exactly how much harm does occur, both in the production and as a result of the dissemination of a lot of the kinds of pornography in America today."

The commission determined that sexually violent, degrading, humiliating, and subordinating material produce "certain demonstrable negative effects and that there was some evidence of linkage between consumption of that type of material and aggression against women, certain criminal activities, and other anti-social things," he reports. "We found there were very strongly demonstrated attitude and belief changes, especially in terms of the way people view women. There were negative impacts on family and on society."

In dealing with child pornography, commissioners discovered "not only do you have injury to the child while the photograph is being taken, because you cannot make child pornography without molesting children sexually, but then you have a lasting injury, a permanent record of the abuse that's going to haunt that child for the rest of his life."

The commission had two assignments — to determine if pornography produces anti-social effects and to recommend actions for reducing pornography. It "found that certain types of pornography were indeed harmful" and offered 92 recommendations for action which involve state, federal, and local prosecutors, judges, legislators, and citizens at large.

Sears says Southern Baptists can do several things to reduce pornography in America. A first step is to understand terms.

"When we're talking about pornography, we're talking about a very broad class of material," he explains. "Inside that class, there is a smaller class called 'obscene' material. That's material that can be prosecuted. It meets the three-part test from the Supreme Court case, *Miller vs. California*: Does the material appeal to the prurient (lustful) interest? Does the material depict certain types of sexual activity in a patently offensive way? Does the material lack serious scientific, literary, artistic, or political value? If the material meets those three parts of the test, it can be prosecuted

under laws of most states and the federal government.

"As to obscene material, I would encourage Southern Baptists to get with their local prosecutors, educate them on this issue and the concern that they have, and encourage them to enforce the law," he says. "Let the community, through its jury system, set the community standards and not let the prosecutors set the standards for them."

"As to the material that is not unlawful but is a concern to Southern Baptists, I suggest they read the commission's recommendations as to what they can and cannot lawfully do under the First Amendment to express their concern about this and act to see the material diminished in distribution," he adds. "It's so important that people be educated about what their rights are. We always hear about the rights of the criminal, but we don't hear about the

rights of the people. The commission tried to get both sides of the story.

"The commission is very realistic," he notes. "It doesn't believe the elimination of pornography would create a perfect world, but it believes it would create a better one — one in which fewer children are molested, fewer women are raped, and many other negative social aspects are minimized."

He blames criticism of the report and "a very mixed response and a very narrow understanding by many people" on failure to read the report. "I think that (much of the criticism and misunderstanding) basically boils down to one cause, and that's failure to read the report itself and not simply what critics say about the report."

Although currently available through the government, the commission's report will be available through a private publisher this fall. The paperback report will cost about \$8, compared to the current \$35 price tag, he notes.

Response from the religious community has been gratifying, Sears says. He points specifically to a national gathering of religious leaders July 25, which included Harold C. Bennett, president of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, several Roman Catholic cardinals, and leaders from Jewish and Protestant groups across the country.

"This has been called the most cross-sectioned ecumenical meeting to ever take place in America, gathering for the sole purpose of developing a statement of concern on the issue of pornography. That pretty well expresses what's going on now in the religious community," he says.

Adds Sears, now an assistant solicitor general with the Interior Department: "I would recommend that every church get involved . . . Wherever they can, they ought to get involved."

## Health care system elects R. Chandler

KNOXVILLE — Robert C. Chandler, currently president and chief executive officer of East Tennessee Baptist Hospital, also has been appointed president and chief executive officer of the East Tennessee Baptist Health Care System Inc., by its board of trustees.

He fills the position left vacant by the retirement of Earl G. Skogman. Chandler will remain president and chief executive officer of the hospital.

Chandler came to Baptist Hospital in July 1985 from the Baptist Medical Center Princeton, in Birmingham, Ala., where he was executive vice-president between 1979 and 1985. The Birmingham native also has served as top executive of the Baptist Hospital Foundation Service Corp., and as senior vice-president for Corporate Services to the Baptist Medical Centers in Birmingham.

Prior to his appointments in Birmingham, Chandler lived in Knoxville, where he was vice-president for administration at Fort Sanders Presbyterian Hospital from 1972 to 1978.

He is a graduate of Samford University and the University of Alabama, both in Birmingham.

## Personal Perspective

By Tom Madden  
TBC Executive  
Secretary-Treasurer



"Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered" (2 Kings 20:7).

When I read the above statement, I remembered that my mother used to "doctor us" by putting a flaxseed poultice on a skin infection "to draw it to a head." It usually worked. Since the advent of antibiotics, I guess we do not use poultice any more.

Isaiah had been sent by God to tell Hezekiah that he would die. Hezekiah prayed and God extended his life 15 years. It was then that Isaiah put the poultice of figs on Hezekiah and he recovered.

Hezekiah knew he would not die for 15 years. No one of us knows that. Since we do not know that, it would be well for us to have our house in order, lest any day we die.

God did not have to use the fig poultice to effect a cure, but He did. This may be a way God is saying to us that He expects us to do what we can, and then He will work the miracle.

When Christ raised Lazarus from the dead, He also could have loosed him from his grave clothes, but while the disciples could not give back the life of Lazarus, they could "loose him and let him go."

Likewise, Jesus did not have to have the lad's fishes and loaves to feed the multitude, but He took what the little fellow had and multiplied them.

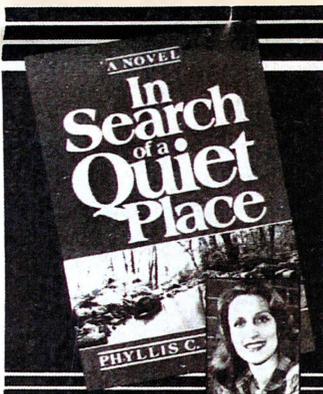
I believe God still wants to do as Nehemiah did, "we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night" (Nehemiah 4:9).

God heard and honored Hezekiah's prayer and lengthened his life. It is rather a sobering thought to recognize that we may have sinned against God's people by failing to pray for them.

It is good to note that Hezekiah was a good steward of the added years of life. Many good things were done by him during the years of life God gave him.

While you and I may not know how many days God will share life with us, we can be a good steward of each day He does give to us.

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Author Phyllis C. Gobbell is a freelance writer living in Nashville, Tennessee.

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Executive Director-Treasurer

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Tennessee Baptist Convention*

We are overwhelmed with gratitude in Central Office of TBCH by your response to the 1986 Mother's Day Offering. The total received in our office after the books were closed on the offering was \$717,010.01. This is the largest offering ever received by TBCH.

This increase comes at a very needy time for us.

Our endowment income has been greatly reduced due to the decrease in the interest rates. This generous offering by our churches will offset some of the loss. Again, I say thank you to all our wonderful pastors and friends.

Our children have had a great summer. We enjoyed a great camp again this year. Seventeen of our boys and girls were saved. We praise God for this spiritual victory. It was a week filled with hope and promise from God's word and love and fellowship among His people.

The need to expand our ministry increases daily. We need to double the number of girls we can care for in the Jennings ministry at Memphis. In addition our dream to establish a similar work with boys grows each day. Recently a worker for the Department of Human Services related that she had seventy children awaiting a foster home. We need your help in locating good families that will open their hearts and homes to some boy or girl.

Pray for our children as they prepare to go back to school in a few days. We depend on each of you to pray for and help us care for these children.



Dr. Gerald Stow  
income has been greatly reduced due to the decrease in the interest rates. This generous offering by our churches will offset some of the loss. Again, I say thank you to all our wonderful pastors and friends.

**Pastors and Tennessee Baptists  
THANKS  
For Helping TBCH  
Reach Our Goal  
of  
\$680,000  
in the 1986  
MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING**

**1986 Camp of Champions**

June 29 through July 3 was the date of summer camp for all the children who live at Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes. A total of 278 children and staff from across the state met at Shocco Springs Baptist Assembly in Talladega, Alabama, for our second year of summer camp.

The children, youth and staff were all involved in morning Bible study. The afternoons were filled with softball, volleyball, putt-putt golf, basketball, swimming and crafts. Rev. Richard White, pastor of First Baptist Church, Franklin, served as our camp pastor at

the evening worship services. As a result of the spiritual emphasis 17 young people made decisions during the nightly services.

TBCH wishes to thank the many people who volunteered their time and talents at camp this year and also those who provided financial support. Gerald L. Stow, executive director-treasurer, says, "We feel that each of the children is a champion. Because of Tennessee Baptists who care about the children of Tennessee our 1986 Camp of Champions was made a wonderful spiritual and therapeutic experience."



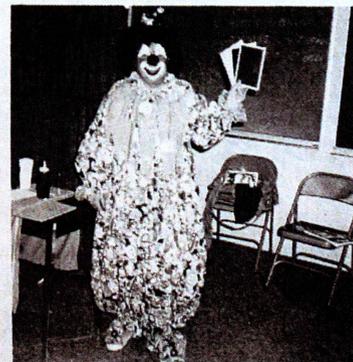
Children, grades 1-6, learned how to play color-coded chimes and bells.



The pool was an afternoon favorite of all the children and youth.



Afternoon recreation included competitive games of volleyball and softball.



Jingles, the clown, performed magic tricks and entertained the children with puppets.



Supt. Burl McMillan  
East Tenn. Campus

Ephesians 5:20 reminds us to, "always give thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father."

I want to share my thanks to God and to Tennessee Baptists. Through a record Mother's Day offering this year, Tennessee Baptists will help to provide the highest quality child care for the needy children of Tennessee. Thank you for making our 95th year of child care one of significant growth and stability.



Supt. Jerry Blasingame  
Middle Tenn. Campus

Historically, Tennessee Baptists have been one of the most generous conventions in their support of their child care program. As we face current financial demands and needs of children, this year's response is encouraging and gratifying to our staff as we seek to provide homes for troubled youth.



Supt. Gene Gafford  
West Tenn. Campus

This week a 15 year old girl who recently came to live at the West Tennessee campus said, "Thank you for giving me a home. I am happy here and no longer afraid."

In behalf of this young lady and many other children like her, I say to you, Tennessee Baptists, "Your expressed love is helping to meet the varied and growing needs of today's hurting children. Thank you for giving so generously and sacrificially to this year's Mother's Day Offering."

**Volunteers Are Valuable**

Many are the blessings enjoyed at the Memphis Home through the great number of people who voluntarily devote their time and talents to the service of children.

Ms. Linda King from Martin Tennessee teaches school in the county school system and in the summer months resides on campus where she volunteers her services as an assistant social worker. Among her many and valued responsibilities are: taking children to medical professionals, gathering information for a foster home study, and providing individual tutoring for a special-needs child. Linda comments, "This is one of the most enjoyable summers I have ever experienced."

The staff and children have enjoyed Ms. King's service on the campus.



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**BIBLE BOOK SERIES**

Lesson for Aug. 17

# Genuine worship

By Fred M. Wood  
author, preacher, teacher, Memphis

Basic Passage: Zechariah 7:1 to 8:23  
Focal Passages: Zechariah 7: 4-11; 8:18-23

Ralph Waldo Emerson, in an address at Cambridge in 1838, asked, "And what greater calamity can fall upon a nation than the loss of worship?"

A modern writer replied, "The wrong kind of worship, that which pretends to be related to God but is only a sham and pretence, ignoring the deeper meaning of an encounter with Him in His sanctuary."



Wood

Such hypocrisy is an abomination to Him Who said that those who worship God must worship Him "in spirit and in truth." Superficial worship sees no relation between bowing at the altar while chanting shibboleths and accepting the moral and ethical claims of Christ upon one's conduct.

In Zechariah's day, the people had come dangerously close to such a situation.

**A question about fasting (7:1-3)**

As work on the Temple neared the end, a group from Bethel came with a question, "Should they discontinue the fast they had observed during the 70 years in exile, the one which commemorated the first Temple's destruction?"

**Condemnation of insincere worship (7:4-7)**

Before answering their question, Zechariah gave them a lesson from history. He included another fast day they did not mention. The day that Gedaliah, the governor appointed by Babylon when Jerusalem fell, had been assassinated was supposed to be memorialized also.

The prophet's position was that their "so-called" prayer and fasting during the 70 years of exile in Babylon had been only a sham. Why were they so concerned now about whether or not they should continue these days of empty observance? The fasting had brought about no change in the people's conduct.

The earlier prophets had warned them of meaningless religious ceremony. The nation had a track record of nothing but hypocrisy. Why had this suddenly become such a crucial issue?

**Reminder of past teachings (7:8-14)**

What does God want from worshippers? He wants more than the recitation of lifeless creeds or observance of stale rituals.

The least known of the four great eighth century prophets was probably

Micah. Yet, he gave perhaps the greatest statement of God's requirements to be found in the Old Testament. Combining the themes of his three contemporaries, Isaiah, Hosea, and Amos, he first asked a question. What does God really want from His people? He then answered, "do justly, love mercy, and ... walk humbly with thy God" (Micah 6:8).

**Glorious days ahead (8:1-23)**

One writer suggested, "He is only anxious about the future to whom the present is unprofitable."

Zechariah knew the people of his day were suffering, and he promised them, on God's authority, that a better time was in store for them (vv.1-8). He gave them a picture of the restored city. The holy hill, which lay in ruins, would become a place from which God would dispense justice. The two classes of people who are most affected by a terrible invasion, the old and young, would once more throng the city's streets.

Because God's love would be manifest in future days, Zechariah urged the people (vv.9-17) to be faithful during the present crisis. Once more, he looked back, reminding the people they would fare better than their predecessors. In past days, their enemies had noted with glee the disasters that had fallen upon them. Things, however, were going to be different. They, therefore, should be courageous and trust the Lord.

What about the fasting? Having dealt with the need for repentance, Zechariah turned back (vv.18-19) to the original question. He included two more occasions for fasting, the one reminding them of the siege's beginning and the one calling attention to the breach Babylon made in the wall. That made four!

His answer was that because justice and righteousness would come to the land, truth and peace would be loved. This would bring joy and gladness to the people. These fasts would become festivals. The people would actually be happy when they remembered the difficulties of former days, because they would realize God had brought deliverance due to His great love for them.

Zechariah's final word (vv.20-23) was a promise that Jerusalem would draw other nations to God. We should, of course, recognize that the ultimate fulfillment of this passage is found in Jesus Christ.

The intense monotheism of the Jews served as a catalyst for other nations for a period of time, but God had a higher revelation of Himself. When God became man in Jesus, the ultimate was reached. We will never go back to something we have outgrown. God's final Word about Himself is Jesus Christ. In our missionary messages and programs, we see the principle of this passage reach its highest fulfillment.

**UNIFORM LESSON SERIES**

Lesson for Aug. 17

# God honors obedience

By Don Garner, assistant professor of religion  
Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City

Basic Passage: Daniel 1  
Focal Passages: Daniel 1:3-5, 8-12, 15-17

What would you do if you were captured and kept as a hostage? This week's Biblical story about hostages involves four of Judah's finest young people. Captured by the Babylonians around 605 B.C., they were held in Babylon as hostages for years. Daniel led his friends in a remarkably faithful lifestyle during those experiences.



Garner

**Daniel's resolve (1:8)**

Since the time of the Sinai covenant and the law of Moses, God had called for His people not to eat certain foods. Instructing them on how to live, God had asked His people to be "holy" (unique, set apart, different) in all of their lifestyle, including their diet.

Daniel and his friends found that these laws of God were not followed in Babylon where there was no recognition of God's will nor respect for His Word. The king provided a diet for them from the rich foods and wines of Babylon (v. 5). What should the young men of Judah do — go with the flow of the king's plans or remain steadfast in keeping their religious convictions?

Even as captives, the four were "free" to decide what they would do. They were isolated by many miles from parents and home. The Temple and its religious services were all back in Jerusalem. Nobody would know. And what harm would it do? Just one pork chop sure would taste good!

But, no! Daniel knew that God had called such things unclean and he knew to avoid them as harmful or destructive. So Daniel "resolved" or "determined" or "made up his mind" that he would not defile himself even with the most attractively tempting choices.

The faithful follower of God sometimes has to decide not to do some things — not to eat, drink, behave, think, speak, participate, etc., in certain specific situations. Like Daniel, we must see our bodies as God's good creation and as the temple-dwelling of the Spirit of Christ in our world. Ingesting rich food or "junk" foods with negative nutritive value is a defilement of our bodies (but avoid pharisaical legalism — see Matthew 15:1-20).

Even secular society is fast becoming aware of the defilement represented by

the abuse of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and other illicit stimulants (cf. Proverbs 23:29-35). The "kick" or the "high" is at best temporary and at worst fatal. It is not smart, and it is not worth it. More persons today need more of Daniel's resolve.

**Fear: enemy of faithfulness (1:10)**

It is one thing to see a truth; it is another thing to say it and do it! Most of us are like the chief of the king's servants who said, "I'm afraid." We are even afraid of doing what God asks because, like that servant, we think we will be worse off rather than better off. If we are really faithful to God, then it might cost us too much.

Just such fear is the single biggest hindrance to all-out faithfulness to God and His will for our lives. "If I give my best to God, then I'm afraid I won't have enough left to enjoy." "If I tithe, then I'm afraid I can't buy all I want." "If I give my life totally to God, then I'm afraid He will send me to Africa as a missionary." "If I seriously resolve not to defile myself, then I'm afraid it will cost me my friends and my popularity and my good times in life."

The rich young ruler was afraid to turn loose of what he had, but his fear caused him to lose all he could have gained (Mark 10:17-22).

Fear has no place in the faithful lifestyle of one who is totally committed to God. God is perfect Love; and such love tosses fear aside (read 1 John, especially 4:18-21).

God in His love wants us to be happy. He is no "heavenly killjoy" out to spoil our enjoyment of life. He loved and cared for our happiness so much, in fact, that He sent us His Son so that we "might have life and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). Remember Jeremiah's promise about God from ancient days and an earlier lesson: God has plans for us which are good and not evil; and He wants to give us a fear-free and hopeful future if we will seek Him with all of our heart's faithfulness (29:11-13).

**Daniel's experiment (1:12-15)**

Daniel told the chief of the king's servants to try his plan and see if it would work. Not a bad idea when you are not sure of something — experiment and see what happens. Daniel proposed a plan by which the king's servant could tell which way was best. And the results were conclusive: a lifestyle of faithful obedience to God's ways will be best.

Daniel can teach us only so much. At some point we must put our lives on the line of total commitment to God and discover the exciting truth that His way works best for us. But do not be misled to underestimate the costs involved. Out of His own faithfulness to God, Jesus was led through Gethsemane to Calvary! He calls us to follow Him in that same path of self-sacrifice and to bear our crosses daily. But having shared a sacrifice like His, we shall know a resurrection like His (Philippians 3:8-11).

A recent popular song by Bob Dylan is entitled, "You're Gonna Have to Serve Somebody." Decisions like Daniel made long ago are unavoidable. We each have to make them. Paul said that there are two choices: either we are slaves to sin or slaves to God (Romans 6:20-23). Take your pick. But like Daniel and his friends, each one of us must choose his master.

## Malaysians elect Yim as executive director

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — The Malaysia Baptist Convention has named a full-time executive director, filling a position which has been vacant for more than 10 years.

The new director is Isaac Yim, a former Baptist pastor and seminary professor in Malaysia.

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**LIFE AND WORK SERIES**  
Lesson for Aug. 17

# Human sexuality

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

Basic Passages: Genesis 2:21-25; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20  
Focal Passages: Genesis 2:21-25; 1 Corinthians 6:9,11,13, 18-19

The summer before last, our minister of youth activities asked me to deliver two lectures at the annual youth retreat. My wife and I were attending the retreat as chaperones and teachers. He also wanted me to field questions following the lectures.



Bush

The two lectures were nutrition and sex. Talk about an up-tight minister! I am accustomed to dealing with the subject of sex in premarital counseling and marital counseling but not with a group of junior and senior high young men and women.

Months before the retreat, I gave much thought and prayer to the matter. It was clear to me that the subject of sex was in some ways explosive and in other ways crucial to normal human growth and development. I knew some parents would be in the audience and that added to the source of tension. But, I also knew that as a minister of the gospel, a teacher, my concern should first be with truth to meet human need as opposed to fear based on traditional views and ignorance of Biblical teaching.

Without any apology, I assured the teen-agers and adults that sex was great and a precious gift from God. It was

amazing to see the combined looks of shock and relief in the faces of these teens and adults. To be quite honest, it was somewhat of a disappointment to see Christians and potential Christians surprised that a Christian minister would even dare to openly mention sex and then praise its value. In talking with fellow ministers, I have learned that they are experiencing similar reactions.

A primary reason people may be reluctant to discuss sex is that our culture is saturated with the abuse of sexuality. Everything from soap to cars is advertised using human anatomy or inferences to such.

Another problem confronting us is the so-called ideal image of the sexy man or woman. They have to be a certain shape and size and must own particular items — cars, clothes, stereos, foods, etc. — in order to achieve acceptable sexual satisfaction.

This is not only bad from the standpoint of Christianity but it is also damaging psychologically and emotionally. Not everyone can meet the criteria established for ideal sexuality according to magazines, movies, and culture. Consequently, teen-agers and young adults become depressed, feel less than adequate, and experience frustrations which lead to a wide variety of behavioral problems. Middle-aged adults and even senior adults have problems dealing with sex too.

Scriptural materials for this lesson are just a few of the passages which make it clear that human sexuality is God given and good, not bad. God's Word presents and discusses sex. Why shouldn't parents, Christian education teachers, and ministers?

If families, husbands and wives, and churches avoid this important and normal aspect of human life, then they need not be surprised that people will gather their information on the subject from any and every other resource. God's people need to be informed, alert, open, and reverent in their approach to human sexuality training and discussions. Ignoring the matter is wrong, even sinful!

Another aspect of this subject has to do with the treatment by Christians of persons whose sexual practices fall short of the beneficial intentions of the Creator. It is one thing to promote Christian virtues and quite another to be unforgiving, insensitive, and judgmental of others.

Our Lord showed us how to stand for purity while dealing with the reality of sin in the life of a struggling human being, a Samaritan woman. The religious folk were so busy with standards and self-righteousness that they were totally incapable of expressing true love and reclaiming a misguided fellow sinner.

Like any other gift from God, human sexuality can be used or abused, enjoyed or feared, and accepted or ignored. We will be held accountable to God for what is done with His gifts to us. May we unashamedly thank God for sexuality and readily enjoy its meaning in our lives within the constructive bounds our Lord intended.

## Bible society reports Bible for deaf, blind

NEW YORK — Luke's Gospel in Braille, published recently in East Germany, is believed to be the first Bible portion produced essentially for people who are deaf as well as blind, the American Bible Society reports.

The text of the Gospel is a very simplified account because people who lack both hearing and vision — and are often mute also — generally do not acquire large vocabularies. The Braille embossing was produced by Christian Service to the Blind with partial ABS funding.

The millions of people who are barred from reading the Word of God because of blindness, and the countless others who cannot manage the print of a normal Bible due to poor vision, are a growing concern of the world's Bible societies.

Earlier this year 44 delegates from the societies and other organizations who work with the blind met in Bangkok, Thailand, in order to examine the needs of the visually impaired, and to discuss ways to improve services to them.

It was agreed that the best way to help the literate blind is with Scriptures in Braille. But this is an expensive undertaking, and does not take into account the many who cannot read Braille and will probably never learn.

These "disadvantaged blind" must make do with the Bible text on cassette recordings, says Dorothea Kindt, who coordinates Braille work among the 102 national Bible societies that form the world United Bible Societies fellowship.

Delegates, addressing the needs of people with limited vision, decided that large-print portions, and possibly the simplified Scriptures that are used when teaching people to read, should be a major priority, to be followed later by large-print New Testaments and eventually, Bibles.



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# Tennessee

## LEADERSHIP . . .

Rick Markum is the new minister of music at East Chattanooga Baptist Church in Chattanooga where Tom Sparrow is pastor. He began serving July 13.

The pastor of Sand Springs Baptist Church in Monterey, Billy Stringer, has resigned and ended his service July 13.

Wayne Poling has resigned as minister of education at First Baptist Church in Greenbrier to serve in that role at Long Hollow Baptist Church in Hendersonville, where he began July 20. Gerry S. Claybrook is pastor of the Hendersonville church.

Beverly Hills Baptist Church in Memphis has asked Ed Crawley to serve as music/education director beginning Aug. 31. John L. Bedford is pastor of the church.

Roseberry Baptist Church in Mascot has called Steve Watkins as minister of youth where Ken Shinlever is pastor. Watkins is a student at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City.

## PEOPLE . . .

The 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Worley was June 22. They are members of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Mountain City.

Friends and family noted on June 22 the 50th wedding anniversary of Lebern and Brenda Mae Hollingsworth who are members of First Baptist Church in Camden. S. Ray Jones is their pastor.

## Baptists in Benin hold first WMU conference

COTONOU, Benin — Baptists in Benin recently conducted their first national Woman's Missionary Union conference. The conference was "a wonderful answer to prayer," said Southern Baptist Missionary Marilyn Bonnell. Benin Baptist women "discovered that they can lead themselves and do it will."

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Jack and Mable Parker of Calvary Baptist Church in Knoxville observed their 50th wedding anniversary on July 26. Bob Burch is their pastor.

A festivity was held on July 27 for Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Frasier to note their 60-year marriage. They are members of Bear Cove Baptist Church in Sparta where Roy D. Graves is pastor.

Oak Grove Baptist Church near Flintville ordained Dale Limbaugh, David Baker, Harvey Edwards, and Jimmie Jacks as deacons on July 13. William Carey Baptist Association Director of Missions Joe Mayberry was the moderator and B. H. Berry, a former pastor, preached the ordination sermon. The church's pastor is Gary Williams.

## REVIVAL PRAYER REQUEST . . .

On Aug. 17-22 Mount View Baptist Church in Antioch will hold a revival with Haskel Ingram, pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church in Mountain City, leading. Guest music groups will also be a part of the services. Ralph Duncan is pastor of the church.

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Earl C. Davis is pastor of First Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee

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**BROADMAN**

# Crestridge, Armstrong make history together

By Terri Lackey

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — The Korean War recently had ended. Sen. Joe McCarthy was making headlines. And Rosa Parks' refusal to give her seat to a white man on a bus in Montgomery, Ala., helped spark a reformation of the nation's civil rights laws.

History was in the making, and to an isolated group of girls at a Christian girls' camp near Ridgecrest, N.C., Johnnie Armstrong was to become part of that history.

It was 1955, and the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board had just opened Camp Crestridge for girls. Nestled in rolling mountains, the camp was founded on a portion of the 1,900 acres which made up Southern Baptist Assembly, now known as Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

Armstrong, a recent graduate of Blue Mountain Baptist College in Blue Mountain, Miss., had just accepted a summer position at the camp as land sports director. Little did she know when she walked on the rustic grounds of Camp Crestridge 32 years ago that she would be back every summer thereafter.

The camp director with the distinguished head of salt-and-pepper hair, yet blue-jeans-and-tennis-shoes accessibility, says her philosophy is simple — "I'll be here as long as the Lord wants me to be here."



**DEDICATION TO CRESTRIDGE** — Johnnie Armstrong, director of Camp Crestridge, speaks to a group of campers gathered at the outside worship area. Armstrong has worked at the summer camp every year since it opened in 1955.

Armstrong has become a staple of Camp Crestridge. She wittily acknowledges she even outdates some of the buildings.

Slender and spunky, Armstrong, camp director for the past eight years, has

found in Crestridge a second home. Her first home is Blue Mountain, where she is chairman of the department of health and physical education and athletic director at the college she attended as a young woman.

Armstrong's life is a creative blend of two similar careers, and she says she is

proud of both. But she notes she especially is proud of the atmosphere of love Camp Crestridge offers to girls whose lives are sometimes lacking in that area.

"Crestridge has something no other camp has," she explains. "I think we offer here the love of God. Even the kids who have been really rebellious leave here feeling good."

Crestridge offers much more than just a Christian atmosphere. The girls can choose among such activities as horseback riding, backpacking, camping, drama, basketball, archery, water sports, music, and crafts. But chapel services and regular worship times serve as the backbone of the camp's ministry, she says.

"There's always a need for a place like this," Armstrong insists. "We try to teach practical Christianity here. But we want our girls to grow mentally, socially, physically, and spiritually."

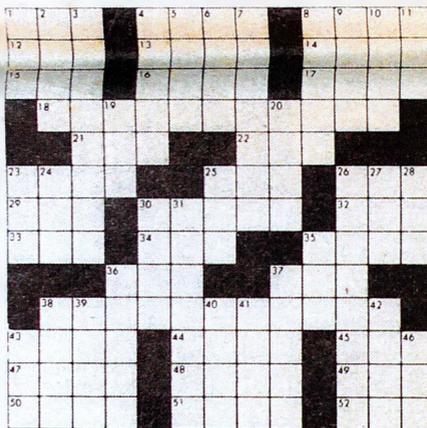
Armstrong acknowledges that she is a workaholic, working with a staff of 54 from sunup to sundown. Her one day off a week during the summer is spent on the golf course.

Time has not permitted her to marry. "I'm afraid there has not been time," she says. "It almost happened once, but it just didn't work out."

And although Armstrong has no children of her own, that does not stop her from claiming a large family.

"I have thousands of kids all over the world," she beams.

## Bible Puzzle



### ACROSS

- 1 "the labourers are —" (Luke 10)
- 4 "is — abroad" (Rom. 5)
- 8 "and — of heart" (Luke 24)
- 12 Macaw genus
- 13 They walk (Matt. 11:5)
- 14 Color
- 15 Poet's contraction
- 16 The Red
- 17 Plain (Amos 1:5)
- 18 Mesha (2 Ki. 3:4)
- 21 Small demon
- 22 Female deer
- 23 "He that covereth his —" (Prov. 28)
- 25 City, with 47 Across
- 26 Number of servants (Luke 19:13)
- 29 O. T. book: abbr.
- 30 Spice
- 32 One is past (Rev. 9:12)
- 33 Being
- 34 Wire measure
- 35 Cornbread
- 36 Pouch
- 37 Body joint
- 38 "in him a — —" (John 4)
- 43 City of Galilee (John 2:1)
- 44 Mortgage
- 45 City of the priests (1 Sam. 22:19)
- 47 See 25 Across

### CRYPTOVERSE

QYF YIYON SEC ELKRY KC FZY MESY  
HEQQKCD UZYQYKC ZY UEM HEQQYR

Today's Cryptoverse clue: R equals D

- 48 English princess
- 49 Bill's complement
- 50 Darius (Dan. 11:1)
- 51 Places
- 52 Greek letter

### DOWN

- 1 "the — of fed beasts" (Isa. 1)
- 2 Pagan goddess
- 3 "and divers —" (Heb. 9)
- 4 "and many —" (1 Cor. 11)
- 5 Praise instrument (Psa. 147:7)
- 6 Like the Anakims (Deut. 2:10; sing.)
- 7 Time periods
- 8 Condition
- 9 Faith works by it (Gal. 5:6)
- 10 Unusual thing
- 11 Skin tumor
- 19 Printer's measures
- 20 Fish
- 23 Haggard novel
- 24 Ireland's John
- 25 The sesame
- 26 "took out —" (Luke 10:35)
- 27 Long time
- 28 Born
- 30 Son of Helem (1 Chron. 7:35)
- 31 A proselyte of Antioch (Acts 6:5)
- 35 Fruit part
- 36 Servant
- 37 Place (Isa. 30:4)
- 38 Curl
- 39 Oklahoma town
- 40 Not coarse
- 41 Proceeded
- 42 Plant part
- 43 Machine part
- 46 Snake

## Interpretations

### Blessed Name: Jesus

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Thou shalt call His name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins (Matthew 1:21b)

When Joseph learned that Mary was with child, he could only assume the worst (Matthew 1:18-21a). Though betrothed, they were not married. He knew the child was not his.

But when God revealed to him the reason for Mary's condition, he immediately married her, though they had no sexual relations until after Jesus' birth. Barbs of gossip would be flung at her, but between her and them stood stalwart Joseph. Surely God chose His Son's foster-father as well as His real mother!

But the climax of God's revelation to Joseph is when He gave Him His name. In his book *Titles of the Triune God* (Revell, 1956), Herbert F. Stevenson shows the vast number of names ascribed to Christ in the Bible. But he notes

that the favorite one is "Jesus."

Among the Jews, Jesus was a common name for boys. It is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew Joshua which is a shortened form of Jehoshua, "Jehovah is salvation." So in a sense "Jesus" means "Jehovah in flesh for salvation."

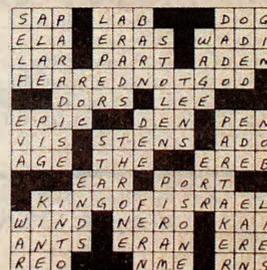
Yes, it was a common and popular name. But our Lord, in His redemptive work, breathed into it a new life and meaning. Except in Spanish-speaking countries where many boys/men are called "Hesus" or "Jesus," when we hear that name, we think of only one person: Jesus Christ, God's Son and our Saviour.

Indeed, Paul says that as our Saviour, "God hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name" (Philippians 2:9). And what is that name? "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow... and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10-11).

How could Christ be more exalted than He was in heaven eternally? Then He was the Creator-Christ. When He returned to glory He was also the Redeemer-Creator-Christ. He was "Jesus Christ!" It is no wonder that Peter said, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Yes, gossiping neighbors in Nazareth may have spoken shamefully about a boy named Jesus. But history has declared it the greatest of names in all history. And eternally in heaven, the redeemed will praise Him as Redeemer and Lord (Revelation 4).

### Last week's Bible Puzzle answers



"But we will give ourselves continually to prayer" (Acts 6:4).