

Baptist and Reflector

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News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention



IN SESSION — Members of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention join in discussion during their Sept. 12 meeting at the Executive Board Building in Brentwood. The convention-elected board meets four times each year.

HMB officers appoint new search committee

ATLANTA (BP) — A new seven-member search committee has been appointed to nominate a president for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, replacing another committee asked to resign by a 40-36 vote of Home Mission Board directors in August before the committee had presented its first report.

New committee members were appointed unanimously by the five officers of the board, who had been asked by the directors to select a new committee "that will give fair representation and proper balance to all members of the board."

Six members of the original search committee resigned because of perceived lack of trust among board members and because they felt the board would not elect any nominee they recommended.

One of the seven committee members, M. A. Winchester, a medical doctor from Whitley City, Ky., declined to resign as requested by the board "for reasons of personal integrity" and will continue to serve on the search committee.

According to the bylaws of the mission agency, a new president must be nominated by a search committee of not more than seven members appointed by the officers (chairman, first and second vice-chairmen, secretary, and assistant secretary). The committee is not elected by the board, but appointed by all its officers.

In addition to Winchester, two other members of the original search committee who had resigned in August were asked to serve on the new, reconstituted committee.

Troy L. Morrison, director of church-minister relations for the Alabama Baptist State Convention in Montgomery and a member of the original committee, was appointed chairman of the new group.

Lula D. Walker, a lay leader at First

Baptist Church, Beaverton, Ore., was also re-appointed to the committee.

Four new members named were M. O. Owens Jr. of Gastonia, N.C., retired pastor of churches in North Carolina and Belgium; Ralph Smith, pastor of Hyde Park Baptist Church, Austin, Texas; Brad Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, Duncan, Okla.; and Searcy S. Garrison, retired executive director of the Georgia Baptist Convention and administrator of Georgia Baptist Homes in Atlanta.

In announcing appointment of the committee during a meeting of the Home Mission Board Executive Committee, HMB chairman Clark Hutchinson of Marietta, Ga., read a brief statement from the officers pointing out they were unanimous in the selection of the new search committee.

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TBC board approves \$22.5-million budget

By Al Shackelford

At its Sept. 12 meeting, the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention voted to recommend a \$22.5-million Cooperative Program budget-goal to November's TBC; created a staff position to work with special ministries; and voted to designate Jan. 18, 1987, as "Baptist Hospital Sunday."

The board met last Friday at the Executive Board Building in Brentwood.

In other actions, the TBC Executive Board approved guidelines for a Site Fund for New Churches and for a New Work Pastor Salary Supplement Program; and deferred to its December meeting consideration of a funds campaign for Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes Inc.; and voted to recommend to the convention three minor changes in program statements.

The Executive Board will recommend to the state convention that a \$22.5-million Cooperative Program budget-goal be approved for the Nov. 1, 1986-Oct. 31, 1987 convention year.

The proposed budget-goal would be a 7.14 percent increase over the goal for the current convention year.

Tom Madden, TBC executive secretary-treasurer, reported that as of Sept. 12, Cooperative Program receipts were running 6.8 percent higher than for the same period of the 1984-85 convention year.

As approved by the board May 6, the recommended budget would increase the percentage of TBC Cooperative Program gifts shared with the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program from the current 36.75 percent to 37 percent next year.

In approving the budget-goal recommendation from its program committee, the board defeated an amendment to the division of education funds among the

three TBC colleges. In the first step of a five-year plan to move toward parity in allocations, the program committee had recommended that Belmont College and Union University each receive a 9.7 percent increase over 1985-86 and that Carson-Newman College receive a 3 percent increase.

James Robertson of Knoxville offered an amendment that Carson-Newman College receive a 7 percent increase and that Belmont College and Union University each receive an 8 percent increase.

After it was explained that the five-year plan had been worked out by the board's education committee and the college presidents, the Executive Board defeated the amendment on a hand vote.

The board approved a recommendation from its Christian services committee that a position of "program associate, special ministries" be created. This position, which will be included in the 1987-88 budget, would lead and coordinate "special ministries to exceptional persons of all ages including persons with mental retardation, learning disabilities, emotional handicaps, and multihandicaps."

In another action, the board voted to designate Jan. 18, 1987, as "Baptist Hospital Sunday" on the state convention calendar. This would be for one year only, as a pilot project.

On recommendation from its state missions committee, the Executive Board approved guidelines for administering two new funds which will help in establishing new churches and mission chapels in Tennessee.

The Site Fund for New Churches would provide grants to sponsoring churches for the purchase of property for new missions. The New Work Pastor Salary Supplement Program would provide supple-

(Continued on page 3)

Delayed check hurts August CP receipts

NASHVILLE (BP) — A delayed check held Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program receipts for August at seventh on the all-time monthly list, almost \$1-million behind what it might have been.

August receipts for the convention's voluntary unified missions, education, and ministries budget were \$10,256,116, announced Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

Contributions from one state Baptist convention — \$915,403 — were sent to the Executive Committee's former address, were returned to the sender, and failed to arrive at the Executive Committee by Aug. 31, said Tim Hedquist, the committee's vice-president for business and finance. Hedquist declined to name the state convention.

If the check had arrived on time, the August total would have been \$11,171,519, making it the third-highest monthly Cooperative Program total and 2.38 percent ahead of the same period last year.

Instead, the monthly total lagged 6.01 percent, or \$655,787, behind August of 1985.

Eleven months into the 1985-86 fiscal year, Cooperative Program receipts total \$113,870,863, an increase of 5.65 percent over the same period in 1984-85. The annual goal is \$130-million.

For August, several states' contributions were below their August 1985 contributions, Hedquist noted. "Obviously the oil economy continues to impact the Cooperative Program, and I'm sure the general economy is a factor," he explained.

The convention's fiscal year ends Sept. 30, and all Cooperative Program checks received by the Executive Committee by that date will be counted toward the current year.

Bennett and Hedquist noted several factors which could help the September total, particularly receipts from the fifth Sunday in August, which primarily arrived in September, and the \$915,000 August check which will be added to the September total.

Parks reports to FMB, envisions mobile force

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — A mobile evangelistic force made up of both career missionaries and up to 10,000 volunteers might be one way in which Southern Baptists could share the gospel with more of the world's people, R. Keith Parks believes.

Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, suggested the idea in a progress report at the board's September meeting.

Since February he has been leading board trustees and staff toward a new level of world evangelization strategy planning.

By the October meeting, Parks said, he hopes to report "some progress" on any organizational changes that may be needed to share the gospel more effectively. Specific recommendations will be made in December.

Parks said a mobile career missionary evangelistic force would be capable of moving quickly to take advantage of opportune times when people in some areas are most open to the gospel message.

"Additionally," he asked, "why could not there be 10,000 volunteers who were trained in cross-cultural communication — maybe with at least one language — ready, willing annually to sacrifice themselves and their resources to be a part of a highly mobile force to move across this world in the name of Jesus Christ?" Such a group, Parks said, "would be a force to be reckoned with in our world."

In seeking new ways to share the gospel with all people, Parks emphasized that the board will never abandon its basic thrust of appointing career missionaries who "incarnate" the gospel of

Jesus Christ by learning the language and customs of the people and planting their lives for long periods of time in one country or area.

By the year 2000, Southern Baptists hope to have 5,000 such career missionaries in 125 countries. But these 125 countries, Parks noted, represent only slightly more than half the nations of the world. At least half of the other 115 to 118 countries, under present circumstances, would not allow missionaries to live there and preach the gospel, he noted.

To reach all the world's people, Parks said, the board must explore other means of witness, including a strategy for penetrating these places where normal missionary work is impossible. Only recently, he said, has he felt that he should pray for people in Mecca, the Muslims' holy city, where signs prohibit

the entry of Christians and dogs.

"I do not believe God has yet said, 'Don't be concerned about the hard places,'" Parks said.

Southern Baptists also must escalate development of urban strategies, he pointed out, and seek ways to work with other evangelistic groups, "so that we can know what they're doing."

"We do not have the time or the luxury to continue thinking of the world as the private bailiwick of Southern Baptists," he warned. "God has never limited Himself to one group. We must not simply duplicate what others are doing but work in connection with others if we are to reach this world in our day."

To provide leadership for worldwide strategy planning, the board hopes to free up some of its creative administrators from normal administrative routine. Parks said many decisions now referred to the home office or to the trustees might be handled effectively by the missionaries themselves through their field organizations.

The missions leader said Southern Baptists also must realize that "we cannot win the world without it having a personal impact on how we live and what happens to our own families."

Parents must be willing for their children and grandchildren to respond to God's call to overseas service, he said, and more preachers must be willing to give up some personal creature comforts to become missionaries.

"Until we have a consuming passion to reach this world that causes us to budget differently, to live differently, to give differently, until we reach a point of being willing to sacrifice, we will not be the people that God is calling us to be," Parks declared.

Parks praised the trustees' plans for a prayer retreat preceding their October board meeting. He identified prayer as the vital "first step" toward any effort to reach the world for Christ and called on all Southern Baptist churches to set aside a special time of "compassionate intercession" at least monthly to pray "that Southern Baptists would be revived, renewed, and recommitted to the task of reaching this world for Jesus Christ."

In another action, the board gave notice of plans to change its bylaws to conform to Virginia corporate law, which no longer requires that salaried officers be elected each year. Under the old law, the board's chief executive, treasurer, and assistant recording secretary have been elected each April when the trustee chairman and other officers were elected. If the board bylaw change is approved in October, this no longer will be necessary.

The change has nothing to do with convention politics, board officials said, because the bylaw change has been under consideration for some time.



Mr. and Mrs. Collier



Mr. and Mrs. Drummond



Mr. and Mrs. Walker



Mr. and Mrs. Watts

Tennesseans take overseas posts

RICHMOND, Va. — Four couples with connections in Tennessee were among the 21 people appointed as missionaries by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board Sept. 9 at Bethany Place Baptist Church, Richmond, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth D. Collier will work in South Brazil, where he will promote religious education and they will be involved in a variety of outreach ministries. Currently, he is minister of education and outreach at Dalewood Baptist Church, Nashville.

Born in Kingsport, Collier is a graduate of Auburn University at Montgomery, Ala.; and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary. He also attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He also has been minister of education and youth at Tusculum Hills Baptist Church, Nashville.

Mrs. Collier, the former Ginger Smith, was born in New Orleans and also lived in Florida and Alabama while growing up. She is a graduate of Belmont College, Nashville, and also attended Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., and Auburn University. A registered nurse, she has been a staff nurse at Baptist Hospital, Nashville.

The Colliers have two children: Jennifer Marie, born in 1977; and Amy Michelle, 1980.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Drummond will work in El Salvador, where he will teach in a seminary and they will be involved in a variety of outreach ministries. He currently attends Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Born in Memphis, Drummond also lived in Covington and Camden, and Denver, Colo., while growing up. A graduate of Mississippi College, Clinton, and Southern seminary, he also attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He has been a Spanish-language minister for the

Illinois Baptist State Association in Springfield, a nursing home pastor in Louisville, and a professor's assistant at Southern seminary.

Born in Barcelona, Spain, Mrs. Drummond, the former Margaret Whitten, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Whitten, Southern Baptist missionaries to Equatorial Guinea. Her parents also served in Argentina and Spain. While growing up, she also lived in Madrid. A graduate of Mississippi College, she has been a part-time Spanish-language lab instructor at Mississippi College, a school teacher, a secretary, and a Home Mission Board summer missionary to California.

The Drummonds have three children: William Charles, born in 1977; Ruth Irene, 1980; and Jessie Marie, 1982.

Mr. and Mrs. Graham B. Walker Jr. will work in the Philippines, where he will teach in a seminary and they will be involved in a variety of outreach ministries. He is an adjunct professor at St. Catherine College, Springfield, Ky., and also attends Southern seminary.

Born in Orlando, Fla., Walker also lived in Singapore, where his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Graham B. Walker, are Southern Baptist missionaries. He is a graduate of Florida State University, Tallahassee, and Southern seminary. He has been a professor at Simmons University (now Simmons Bible College), Louisville; a professor's assistant and an instructor in theology at Southern seminary; and associate pastor of Baptist Tabernacle Baptist Church, Louisville.

Born in Nashville, Mrs. Walker, the former Mimi Damonte, also lived in Maryland, Georgia, and Florida, while growing up. A graduate of Florida State University and Southern seminary, she has been a child care supervisor, associate to the pastor and minister of adults at Baptist Tabernacle Baptist Church, a

graphic artist at Southern seminary and for the Baptist Peace Maker magazine, and an instructor in humanities at Simmons Bible College.

The Walkers have two children: Graham Ashton, born in 1983; and Hannah Wren, 1985.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Wade Watts will work in Peru, where he will teach secondary students and they will be involved in a variety of outreach ministries. They are members of Highland Heights Baptist Church, Memphis.

Born and raised in Memphis, Watts is a graduate of Memphis State University and recently attended Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo. He has been a teacher in West Memphis, Ark., a Royal Ambassador camp staff worker for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and a Foreign Mission Board volunteer in Burkina Faso.

Also born and raised in Memphis, Mrs. Watts, the former Nancy Tate, is a graduate of Memphis State. She has been a bookkeeper and secretary in Memphis, and worked with her husband as an RA camp staff worker and a volunteer in Burkina Faso.

Each of the families will go to Rockville, Va., in October for an eight-week orientation before leaving for the field.

FMB opens work in St. Martin

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has transferred a missionary couple to a new mission field, St. Martin. The action brings to 107 the number of countries and geographical entities where Southern Baptist missionaries work.

Missionaries Bill and Elba Womack have moved to the Caribbean island to start Baptist churches.

St. Martin, located about 150 miles east of Puerto Rico, has a population of 30,000

people. The southern half of the island is governed by the Netherlands Antilles; the northern half is a dependency of Guadeloupe, an overseas department of France. The Womacks will begin work among primarily English-speaking people in the southern area.

The Womacks, both of Fredericktown, Mo., formerly worked in Antigua and Barbados. He was president and a professor at Barbados Baptist College from 1973 until this year.



HONORED FOR SERVICE — Receiving service pins on anniversaries of employment by the Executive Board at last Friday's meeting were (front row, from left) Ruth Preuett, Ruth Bradley, and Libby Shepard; (back row) J. William Harbin, Tom Madden, and Maurice Hays. Not present were Adam Hall and Walker Wright.

Board honors employees on service anniversaries

Eight employees of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention — with a total of 85 years of service — were recognized for their service to the board during its Sept. 12 meeting in Brentwood.

The employees were honored on their work anniversaries and were presented service pins.

Seven of the employees were presented their service pins by Tom Madden, TBC executive secretary-treasurer, while the eighth — Madden himself — received his service pin from Calvin Metcalf, Executive Board president.

Three of the employees were recognized for 15 years of service:

- Ruth Bradley, administrative assistant in the executive office;
- Adam Hall, Baptist Student Union director at University of Tennessee-Martin; and
- Ruth Preuett, secretary in the business office, and previously in the Program services department.

Receiving 10-year service pins were:

- J. William Harbin, director of church-ministers information department;
- Tom Madden, executive secretary-treasurer since Jan. 1, 1979. He served as director of the convention ministries division from 1976-78;
- Libby Shepard, administrative assistant in the protection plans department.

Recognized for five years of service to the Executive Board were:

- Maurice Hays, BSU director at Jackson State Community College, Jackson; and
- Walker Wright, worker with black students at Memphis State University, Memphis.

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

Committee . . .

(Continued from page 1)

"It was our prayerful desire that the search committee be representative of the constituency of the Home Mission Board," the statement said.

Asked by reporters after the meeting if he felt the new search committee was balanced in representation of theological points of view, Hutchinson said he "was not going to respond to that" and repeated the prepared statement.

Hutchinson also would not predict when the search committee might make a recommendation for the presidency.

"We don't want to put any pressure on the new committee," he said. "Everyone wants a new president as soon as possible, but we have great confidence in the interim leadership being given by Bob Banks." Banks, executive vice-president, has been performing the duties of president since William G. Tanner resigned June 15 to become executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

In announcing appointment of the new committee, the officers requested any Southern Baptist wishing to recommend a person for the presidency of the Home Mission Board should submit his or her suggestions to the new search committee chairman.

"It is necessary that any previous recommendations be resubmitted to the committee chairman, as well as any new recommendations," the officers said.

Recommendations may be addressed to the chairman: Troy L. Morrison, P.O. Box 11870, Montgomery, AL 36198-0001.

Tony McDonald dies

Anthony Maurice McDonald (Tony), son of Jim McDonald who directs the Tennessee Baptist Convention's business office, died Sept. 9 of a respiratory infection. He was 20 years old.

Tony McDonald's first cousin, David Krause, who is a Lutheran minister; Pastor Steve Playl of Lincocoy Hills Baptist Church in Nashville; and Gene Nabi, ministry to exceptional persons consultant at the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville and Tony's former Sunday School teacher, led the funeral. It was held on Sept. 11 at Lincocoy Hills Baptist Church in Nashville where the family holds their membership.

The graveside service was led by Krause at Harpeth Hills Memory Gardens in Nashville.

Jim McDonald and his wife, Dina, requested that memorials be made to the Tony McDonald Memorial Fund of Lincocoy Hills Baptist Church, 3134 McGavock Pike, Nashville, TN 37214.

BHCS plans facility for behavioral care

BRENTWOOD — Baptist Health Care System of Nashville, in association with Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes Inc. and Williamson County Medical Center, has announced plans for development of a 120-bed behavioral care facility in Brentwood.

Brentwood Care Center will be located on a 40-acre tract owned by Baptist Properties, a subsidiary of Baptist Health Care System. The property is adjacent to the TBCH campus on Franklin Road in Brentwood.

Although primarily to provide specialized treatment for adolescents with behavioral problems, Brentwood Care Center will also provide treatment for adults.

Management of the center will be jointly by Baptist Hospital of Nashville and Williamson County Medical Center of Franklin.

Construction costs for the facility are estimated at \$6-million by David Stringfield, president of Baptist Hospital, which is funding the project. An additional \$4-million will be needed for furnishings and equipment.

"We have had a longstanding relationship with both Tennessee Baptist Chil-

dren's Homes Inc. and Williamson County Medical Center, and we are very excited about this joint venture," Stringfield said. "Baptist Care Center is a perfect marriage of three caring facilities who have joined together to meet a need in the community."

Gerald Stow, TBCH executive director, sees the new center as an expansion of TBCH's ministry to youth. "Heretofore, we have not had on-site treatment programs for our youngsters and this facility will allow us immediate access to specialized adolescent treatment," he said.

"This facility is one for which we know there is a rapidly growing need in this region, based on our work with troubled and disadvantaged young people over the last few years," Stow added.

The proposed center will be residential in appearance and will offer in-patient and out-patient services.

Stringfield said that a letter of intent has been filed with the Tennessee Health Facilities Commission in applying for a certificate-of-need for the behavioral care facility. Approval is needed before construction can begin.

Executive Board . . .

(Continued from page 1)

ments so that new churches and missions can have pastoral leadership.

Both of these 2 new funds will receive allocations in the current Golden State Missions Offering.

After hearing a request for approval of a three-year funds campaign to be conducted by Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes Inc., the Executive Board voted to defer action on the request until its December meeting. The proposed campaign would provide endowment funds for operational expenses and would be conducted in conjunction with TBCH's 100th anniversary in 1991.

The Executive Board approved three minor changes in program statements to be considered by messengers at the November state convention.

(1) To delete Function 4 in the Program of Mission-Ministries which states, "Cooperates with the Public Affairs and Christian Life Committee of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in areas of mutual concern." This assignment was made before the establishment of a public affairs and Christian life office.

(2) To amend the Program of the Baptist and Reflector by substituting the sentence, "The Baptist and Reflector is published weekly at the discretion of the Board of Directors" for the sentence, "The Baptist and Reflector is published weekly, 51 times each year."

(3) To change the official name of "East Tennessee Baptist Health Care System" to "The Baptist Health System of East Tennessee."

In other action, the Executive Board voted to increase travel reimbursement for members of TBC committees and Executive Board members from 20 cents per mile to 21 cents per mile.

However, the board deferred until its November meeting any decision regarding its ownership of automobiles which are used by some professional staff members. It was explained that new regulations by Internal Revenue Service

have raised questions as to the advantages to the Executive Board and to its employees in using "company-owned" cars.

In other actions, the Executive Board defeated on a hand vote a motion by Billy Edmonds of Coalfield to send a letter to all pastors explaining limitations to holding worship services at Baptist Health Care Center in Lenoir City; how we got into this situation; and what we are planning to do about it.

In the discussion before the motion was defeated, it was explained that Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes was aware of the situation and was working to clarify any problems which might arise.

Also defeated was a motion by Carl Price of Nashville that the Executive Board move with all haste to fill the vacancy of public affairs and Christian life consultant at the earliest possible moment.

The board was told that a study is being made concerning the possible realignment of the two facets of this office and that in the interim Al Shackleford, editor of the Baptist and Reflector, has been asked to work in the public affairs area and that Carroll Owen, director of the convention ministries division, is working in the family life ministry.

Price's motion was defeated by a 23-29 vote.

The next scheduled meeting of the Executive Board will be held at 3:30 p.m. EST Nov. 10 at University Parkway Baptist Church, Johnson City, immediately preceding the Nov. 11-13 Tennessee Baptist Convention at Freedom Hall in Johnson City.

**BAPTIST
AND
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EDITORIAL

Ignore malicious, unfounded P&G rumor

An unfounded rumor concerning the Procter & Gamble Company — which made the rounds of Tennessee Baptist churches in 1982 — has resurfaced in recent weeks in middle and western Tennessee.

The false rumor being circulated says that the Procter & Gamble Company is owned by and supports Satanism and occult groups. The company is owned by stockholders, not by any specific group.

These same rumors were rampant throughout our state — and many other parts of the country — in 1982. A malicious unsigned statement is now being handed out in factories, on street corners, and in churches in Tennessee.

The rumored "proofs" cited are: (1) a P&G official supposedly said this on a Phil Donahue television interview which "someone else" saw, and (2) the trademark on all P&G products is supposedly the same symbol used in Satan worship.

Richard C. Thrall, senior vice-president for program production for Multimedia Program Production which owns, produces, and distributes "Donahue," says in a letter (of which we have a copy), "We have had no P&G officials as guests on the show discussing Satanism or the P&G trademark. Anyone who claims to have seen this on 'Donahue' is either lying or hallucinating."

In February 1986 "Donahue" did have a program on the Church of Satan with representatives from that church, but Procter & Gamble was not mentioned on that program.

Thrall also notes that several years ago a similar rumor made the rounds about the support of Satanism by a fast food chain owner who had appeared on "Donahue" — with no mention of Satanism.

The P&G trademark is a circle containing a crescent-shaped profile of the man in the moon on the right and 13 stars in the center.

The rumor-mongers see this instead as a sorcerer's head, and the number of stars — 13 — as related to superstition.

Actually, the trademark format was designed in about 1859 and has been used since then. At that time, most products were sold in bulk, and many citizens were unable to read, so products did not necessarily have brand names. In order for the consumer to tell

one brand from another, the manufacturers created trademarks. After trying several designs, William A. Procter, the company's first president, took the 13 stars (noting the United States' original colonies) and added a popular fad of that day, the man in the moon.

The P&G trademark was officially registered in 1882.

An official for Procter & Gamble told us that the trademark denotes a "quality product and nothing more." He stated that P&G is a stockholder company, and the officers must account to the stockholders on expenditures. "We don't give any of our profits to Satanism or the occult or anything like that," he said. "We do make contributions as a corporate citizen without regard to religious denominations. We do not make any contributions at all to the promotion of Satanism."

An additional word of caution: Procter & Gamble has filed a number of lawsuits — two more this year — against individuals who have circulated the malicious rumor.

The purpose of this editorial is not to say P&G products are any better or any worse than similar brands on the market — that is up to the consumer to determine.

However, we do feel that this inaccurate rumor should be exposed, so that you can make your market selections on the quality and price of products — not on unsupported accusations of Satanism.

Also, we would hope that our churches and their members will not be a part of spreading malicious gossip based on unfounded rumors.

GUEST EDITORIAL

That time of year

By Richard T. McCartney, editor
"The Baptist Messenger," Oklahoma City, Okla.

Department stores were having Back to School sales, but I was surprised to find a school bus blocking my path as I drove to work. It's that time of year again, and it's significant to churches.

Churches have had or soon will have Promotion Day. Choirs are getting organized. Mission auxiliaries are coming alive for fall emphases. Sunday Schools are enlisting new workers, establishing new classes, and going after prospects. Budget committees are working on next year's budgets. It's that time of year again.

It's always easy in the summertime to find something else to do on Sunday instead of going to church. Unless you're careful, the bad habits you fell into the past three months can carry over into fall. Don't let that happen.

People find a way to do the things that are important to them. It isn't a matter of time — but a matter of priorities. Every one of us has the same amount of time. We determine for ourselves how to utilize the hours at our disposal. If family is most important, we find time for family members. If the church and its ministries are important to us, we make time to participate in them. People who complain that they don't have enough time really mean that they choose to use their time for something else.

Jesus declared His love for the church. He demonstrated His love by giving His life for it. That should tell us that the church must be an important institution in our lives. I'm not saying that every church meeting is of equal importance to every person. I do believe that the church itself is so vital in society, and in God's scheme of things that Christians must give their time, energy, and money to keep it strong. Sometimes that means neglecting many good things we could do in order to do the better thing that must be done to keep the church moving forward on its mission of reaching and winning our world.

Why not make a new commitment to be faithful to your responsibilities as a church member? Determine to make the ministry of the church a priority in your life. Commit your resources of time and money to the work of Christ through His church. It's that time of year. And it's time to move forward in the life of the church.

Cicero's comment



By the editor

Cicero was invited to a press conference for Hale Fellows and Will Mett, co-authors of a new book, *Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Hospital Visitation, But Were Afraid to Ask, and Thus Remove Your Excuses.*

"It is important to be cheerful — like in Baptist convention hallways or at all-church picnics," Fellows bellowed.

"You must have some jokes. Unless you get the patient to laugh, you have failed. This is especially true after surgery; laughter helps stretch the stitches for faster healing," he added.

Will suggested that laughter is as contagious as the common cold, so the visitor should laugh continually and loudly while in the hospital room.

"Get close to the patient. Use a vigorous handshake and a firm backslap. I like to sit on the bed," Will declared.

Hale warned against cutting visits too short, although many patients — out of thoughtfulness — insist that "you move along on your busy schedule. After all, these people are lonely, and if you were to leave, they would have nothing to do but rest!"

The two ministers said that late night hours are especially lonely times.

"Doctors know this and give patients something to make them rest. If visitors would stay later, patients would not have to waste time sleeping!"

Mett advised that in order to do this it is necessary to violate hospital visiting hours, which he feels are too brief — and tend to favor the patient rather than the visitor. "Just tell them you are a pastor and can't come at regular times."

Noting the need to encourage patients, Fellows suggested that the visitor often repeat the phrase "I know how you feel." If the patient does not seem to believe the visitor, he can tell how tired he is; how his feet hurt or how his headache (stomach, arthritis, etc.) is acting up. "This will let the patient know how grateful he should be that you came."

Another encouraging tactic is to tell the patient about other church members who are sicker than he is — OR how much sicker he might be in the future. "Tell him that even though his Aunt Matilda died of the same ailment, that doctors have never proven conclusively that it is hereditary."

"Assure them that they should not worry about their jobs, making statements like, 'They've learned to get along without you' or 'Your boss said he didn't care if you ever come back.'"

Mett urged visitors to bring something to eat — peanuts, candy, pizza — since hospital food is rather bland.

The counselors said that the pastor should offer to help by arranging for an attorney to update the patient's will; finding a new insurance agent, since his policy might be cancelled; or contacting a realtor so the home can be sold to pay the hospital bill.

To close a successful visit, Fellows always uses this sure-fire line, "You lucky guy (or gal) — lying up here in this nice bed with all these beautiful nurses looking after you!"

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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.

Genesis as 'poetry'?

Dear editor:

A word of caution should be dropped in reference to W. Clyde Tilley's exposition of Genesis, chapter 1 (Sept. 3, page 10). Professor Tilley speaks of Genesis 1 as being poetry. This, of course, is not true; and he says nothing of the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch.

Southern Baptists should not think of the historical account of God's effortless creation of the universe in terms of poetry. Genesis 1 is a historical account of creation, revealed directly to Moses by God. This account is completely reliable and inerrant. It is not given in a poet's literary form where room is found for the

poet's use of his poetic license which allows him to deviate from the facts in order to achieve literary effect which has no real basis in objective truth.

The Scriptures are all we have to trade with. We should guard them very closely, and Genesis 1 is written in prose, not poetry.

J. W. Gill
1223 Radmoor
Chattanooga, TN 37421

Clyde Tilley's reference to "poetry" was only to literary form — not to the truth or accuracy of Genesis 1. Just because the Psalms and Proverbs were written in poetic form does not mean in any sense that these are not God's inerrant truth. The form does not affect the content. (editor)

Moving expenses

Dear editor:

It is customary for pastors to be moved to a new church field by the church which has called them — but how often is a pastor moved away (expense-wise) by the church he is leaving! Some churches might be willing to pay moving expenses to get rid of a pastor, but I've never heard of that happening.

Twice in my ministry, churches have moved me away from the church in all good will.

The first time in 1957 the Good Hope Baptist Church of Saluda, S.C. moved me to New Orleans when I began service under the Home Mission Board. Back in those days HMB did not pay moving expenses for all positions.

This year when I took early retirement, the Gracey Ave. Baptist Church of Clarksville moved me to Owensboro. I want to commend both of these churches, and their deacons who initiated those actions. Especially do I commend the church for their supportiveness of my ministry.

Bill Moore
8462 Ky. 815
Owensboro, Ky. 42301

Thanks to Southern Baptists

Dear editor:

I would like to speak a word of praise for Southern Baptists and our Cooperative Program.

My husband, Roy O. Collins Jr. (native of Knoxville), pastored churches in North Carolina for 22½ years until his sudden death April 11, 1986.

In May, I moved to Tennessee to be

near my parents and my son and daughter who are students at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City. It seemed it would be impossible to keep them in college. However, due to prayers and financial aid provided by our fellow Baptists, both have just registered for the fall semester.

Through my husband's retirement plan with the SBC Annuity Board, we receive a stipend each month, and both children will receive an allotted amount each semester for four years past high school. In addition they are also given an allotment from the Tennessee Baptist Convention since they are both going into fulltime Christian service.

We have a denomination and a program to be proud of. It has certainly been an answer to prayer for us during this transition. I am thankful to be a Christian. God has led me to Immanuel Baptist Church in Elizabethton where our pastor, John Perkins, preaches the Word of God to us and wholeheartedly supports the Cooperative Program.

God is faithful to His Word and is using Southern Baptists. "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have shown toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints and do minister" (Hebrews 6:10).

Mrs. Nancy Collins
413 West "C" Street
Elizabethton, TN 37643

Conservatives exist

Dear editor:

I refer to the letter "Conservative professors" by J. W. Gill (Aug. 6) which expressed the opinion "that there are very few world-class, truly conservative theologians about these days."

With all due respect, I would suggest that one only needs to take a good look within our truly conservative Southern Baptist churches which house many of those who God will call forth to replace our non-conservative seminary professors.

I truly believe that a detailed investigation will find that, while the ranks may be thinning a bit, we still have more than a few world-class, truly conservative theologians about these days. Thus, all that remains is that God put a burden on the hearts and minds of His elect at the proper time. When God does this, these men will respond with the same heartfelt desire to please Him in service which placed them where they are presently.

Still, it remains for those in places of authority to be on guard against any "sheep in wolves clothing" which will seek to slip in, as they have in the past, much to our regret.

None the less brethren, do not despair about replacements for those non-conservative professors, we have them and our God is able! But, we'll "cross that bridge when we get to it," and when we do be assured that God will be there waiting for us.

Johnny Miller
Route 3, Box 50
Dickson, TN 37055

Tennesseans take US-2 assignments

CONYERS, Ga. — The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board recently appointed two Tennesseans as US-2 missionaries, during a service at Rockdale Baptist Church, Conyers. In addition, a Colorado resident was appointed to serve in Tennessee.

Michelle Summar of Murfreesboro and Ginger Wyatt of Goodlettsville begin their two-year terms of service this month.

Summar, a graduate of Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, will work in Des Moines, Iowa, at Friendship Baptist Center as a weekday coordinator. She will be leading Bible studies and supervising activities for children and senior adults.

Wyatt, a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, will serve as Baptist Student Union director and campus minister at Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho. She was a BSU summer missionary in Daytona Beach, Fla., in 1985.

Appointed for home missions work in Benton, was David Dillard of Aurora, Colo. He will develop resort missions programs for two associations and will supervise a campground and river ministry. He also will work in a winter ski ministry in Gatlinburg. Dillard is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee.

US-2 missionaries are college graduates age 27 or younger who are appointed for a two-year term of service throughout the nation and its territories.

Cleveland church calls Rick Nauck as pastor

Calvary Baptist Church in Cleveland has extended a call to Rick Nauck to serve as pastor. He began July 27.

The New Orleans, La., native attended Tennessee Temple University in Chattanooga.

Nauck returns to Tennessee after serving as pastor of Sallis Baptist Church in Sallis, Miss. He previously served as an intern on the staff of Woodland Park Baptist Church in Chattanooga.

Ellis Bush accepts new position as BMT promotion coordinator

NASHVILLE (BP)— Ellis M. Bush has been named Southern Baptists' Bold Mission Thrust promotion coordinator.

Bush has been executive director-treasurer of the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey since 1978. He will assume his new post Nov. 10.

Bold Mission Thrust is Southern Baptists' campaign to present the gospel of Jesus Christ to every person on earth by the year 2000. The program is being implemented through a variety of projects. For example, current Bold Mission Thrust emphases are to make new Christian converts, develop the faith of Christians, and start new churches.

Bush is to be the "denominational entrepreneur" needed to make the campaign work, said executive vice-president of the convention's Executive Committee and Bold Mission Thrust

planning coordinator, Reginald M. McDonough, with whom Bush will work.

Bush will work with state convention and denominational agency staff members to develop a coordinated promotion plan for Bold Mission Thrust. He also will be the chief interpreter of that plan to state convention and agency groups.

The formation of Bush's new job follows a detailed study of the convention's coordinated promotion planning policies and procedures and signals a change in focus, McDonough said: "Previously, the denominational promotion package was put together by agencies and offered to state conventions. Now we envision joint development by state conventions and agencies."

Bush will chair the 10-member advisory committee, which includes two state convention executive directors and seven SBC agency staff members.

He will work out of Nashville, and will be employed by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. However, his position will function as a service to the denomination, not a function of the board, noted James D. Williams, associate to the president, office of planning, at the Sunday School Board.

Bush, a native of Alabama, has been pastor of churches in Alabama, Kentucky, and Indiana. He was on the staff of the Sunday School Board, 1956-65, and worked for the Alabama Baptist State Convention as Sunday School department director, 1965-69, and as church development division director, 1969-75. Prior to joining the Penn-South Jersey convention, he was executive minister at First Baptist Church of Shreveport, La., 1975-78.

He is a graduate of Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.



Tennessee/Venezuela Prayer Net Partnership

—Pray for a committee which is working to provide a new campsite for Venezuelan Baptists. The present camp is adequate for only about 100 persons.

—Pray for Egler de Nunez, new WMU president, and the other national WMU officers who were just elected to lead Venezuelan women and girls during 1986-87.

—About 50 students are enrolled in the seminary at Los Teques. Pray for them.

—An Indian family became Christians years ago from a missionary's witness. They moved to the Sinamica area, began a church, and are building a church building where about 65 worship. A missionary who visited the area recently for the first time, asked for prayer for the church.

Venezuela volunteers report 2,615 decisions

Editor's note: This is the first of a two-part series which will be completed in the Sept. 24 issue of the Baptist and Reflector about a recent partnership project in Venezuela.

By Connie Davis

During a recent partnership project with Venezuela, Tennessee Baptists made their biggest investment since the



PARTNERS — Luis James (left), pastor of Primera Iglesia Bautista de Petare in Caracas, and Clarence Stewart were just two partners who overcame language cultural barriers as they worked together in the partnership project to reach people.

partnership began in November 1985. The investment paid off in 2,065 professions of faith and 550 other commitments made during a recent crusade in two cities.

The 153 Tennesseans invested their time from Aug. 15-26, about \$1,000 each from various sources, and their abilities to preach, lead music, and witness.

The members of the 42 churches in Valencia and Caracas also invested their time, personal expenses, and abilities. In addition, they worked to prepare their churches and communities for the revivals.

The Southern Baptist missionaries in Venezuela and five from Colombia also invested themselves in the project. They helped the national Baptist leaders plan and carry out the project.

Baptists in Venezuela and Tennessee supported the project with their prayers and some in Tennessee also gave money to support a volunteer.

Clarence Stewart, foreign mission ministries consultant and partnership coordinator for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, described the hard work by the Tennessee volunteers.

They formed four-member teams and joined church members from their assigned churches and translators to visit during the day and lead revival services each evening. The revivals began on Sunday evening and ended the following



NEW CHRISTIAN — Clarence Stewart (left) of the TBC and Kathryn Speropulos, a single from Woodmont Baptist Church in Nashville, shared with this young man through an interpreter and he accepted Christ. He had come to the pastor's home which adjoins the church, Primera Iglesia Bautista de Petare in Caracas, with questions about God.

Sunday evening. The Tennesseans stayed in hotels.

Stewart noted that the volunteers, about one-third of which were women and many were singles, did an excellent job.

"Tell the Tennessee people that the crusade gave the missionaries spiritual impetus in their work with the Venezuelans," said one missionary to Stewart.

"The team members were some of the very finest people we have ever had to work with," said Jacobo Garcia, executive secretary of the Venezuela Baptist Convention, referring to missions groups from the U.S.

Other results of the partnership project were shared at "victory meals" held in the Caracas area and the Valencia area. Volunteers shared experiences that included helping lead a former Catholic priest and a friend of a current Detroit Lions football player from Venezuela to accept Christ.

Many of the 900 persons who gathered at a final rally for persons involved in the project were also celebrating new friendships before the Tennesseans returned home the next day.

Stewart predicted other results of the project would be that Tennessee Baptists would give more money for missions, have an increased world vision, become career missionaries in increasing numbers, and become more involved in local mission work.

Stewart noted that many of the volunteers have already asked to be volunteers in the next crusades scheduled for August and September of 1987.

Even though 450 Tennessee volunteers will be needed, Stewart believes that Tennessee Baptists will make the investment.

Baptist leaders discuss AIDS with U.S. Surgeon General Koop

WASHINGTON (BP)— U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop told a group of Southern Baptists recently that churches can play a strategic role in combatting the dreaded disease of AIDS.

Koop, the nation's highest-ranking public health officer, met with seven Southern Baptist leaders in the last of a series of meetings with various groups dealing with the country's growing AIDS problem and the development of a surgeon general's report on the disease.

The group included Wendell Belwe, vice-president for mission ministries, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta; Glen Clark, executive vice-president, Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas; Kenneth Mahannes, pastor, Far Hills Baptist Church, Dayton, Ohio, and member of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee; Stephen Reynolds, vice-president, Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis; Dan Stringer, executive director-treasurer, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville, and president of the Southern Baptist Association of State Executive Directors; and Larry Braidfoot, general counsel and director of Christian citizenship for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission which arranged the meeting.

Control, more than 1-million Americans have been infected by the virus that causes AIDS, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome. No treatment exists for the virus which attacks the body's immune system, leaving the victim defenseless against other infections. While AIDS often is misidentified as a homosexual problem, the impact of the disease now extends beyond the homosexual population, Koop said.

He told the Baptist group the "greatest concern" to health officials is the spread of the AIDS virus into the heterosexual

community. Health officials in Africa have reported the ratio of AIDS victims on that continent is now nearly 50-50 male and female. Koop noted a recent study in New York found 45 percent of people who tested positive for AIDS were females.

Koop said current predictions indicate in 1991 there will be 275,000 persons hospitalized with AIDS and 70,000 AIDS victims will die in that year alone.

The Baptist leaders talked with Koop about several concerns related to the upcoming surgeon general's report: the dilemma hospitals face in treating AIDS patients while also protecting employees and other patients from the disease; potential legal and insurance implications for hospitals, schools, and other Baptist institutions; ministry to AIDS victims and their families; and the need for better sex education through the church and the home to emphasize AIDS risks and means of prevention.

Koop said public education about AIDS faces a difficult task. Leaders must try to allay the fears of the majority of the population who are safe from AIDS, yet they must underscore the serious risks to a minority of the population whose lifestyles make them susceptible to AIDS.

One of the keys, he said, is teaching parents how to educate their children about sex. Churches, he said, have a tremendous obligation to educate children and young people about sexual behavior and specifically about the dangers of drug abuse and sexual promiscuity.

Because of the unique threat of AIDS, "we must approach our young people with education on sexual matters on a level of frankness we've never had before," Koop said. "The qualitative difference with AIDS is that one mistake can kill you."

Belmont reports record enrollment

NASHVILLE — Belmont College has kicked off its 35th anniversary year with the announcement that enrollment has increased for the 15th consecutive year.

A record 2,364 students, representing a 4.7 percent increase over fall, 1985, registered for courses in the fall, 1986, semester.

This year's increase continues the upward enrollment spiral that began in 1972. Records show that the average fall increase over the 15 years has been 6.9 percent.

"Belmont's continued growth is a tribute to the quality of our program and a testimony to the growing demand for quality, value-centered Christian education," said President William E. Troutt.

Belmont's undergraduate population of 2,314 with a full-time student equivalency rating of 1,940, represents students who have enrolled in the liberal arts-centered college's seven degree programs. Many part-time students are enrolled in Belmont's before and after business hours program.

Baptist Hospital names Brennan to lead nurses

NASHVILLE — Barbara Brennan, assistant director of nursing at Divine Providence Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pa., has been named associate vice-president of nursing at Baptist Hospital, Nashville.

Brennan, a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the University of Pittsburgh, will be responsible for the day to day operation of Baptist Hospital's nursing service.

Fifty graduate students have registered for the new master of business administration program in The Jack C. Massey Graduate School of Business, according to business school Dean Wayne Brown.

The 1986-87 academic year also marks the first time Belmont's faculty has surpassed the 200 mark. There are 113 full-time faculty members, and 89 part-time faculty members, according to James Stamper, vice-president for academic affairs.

Belmont's five residence halls are filled to capacity, with 636 students living on campus.

The newly-established Honors Program at Belmont, created to provide enrichment opportunities for students who have potential for superior academic performance, enrolled its first 13 students. The Honors Program offers students a creative curriculum, flexibility in forming degree plans, private tutoring from honors faculty members, and interaction with fellow honors students.

RTVC trustees alter plans for fundraising methods

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)— Revamped plans to raise funds for the ACTS network through new development programs and a revised approach to syndication have been approved by trustees of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

During their September meeting, trustees heard plans to de-emphasize capital campaigns in favor of fund-raising dinners and direct-mail efforts and to shift the emphasis of the syndication effort from attempting to sell programs already produced for ACTS to producing two versions of the country music show "Country Crossroads" — one for sale to television stations and the other to be shown on ACTS — and packaging "classic movies" for sale to TV stations.

RTVC President Jimmy R. Allen told Baptist Press that the revamping was necessary because previous efforts did not produce enough revenue and costs were "unacceptably high."

According to figures released in August, previous development efforts, which featured four citywide campaigns, produced \$1.9-million in pledges and actual revenues of \$922,000, at a cost of \$1.2-million, giving the development effort a current cash deficit of \$297,000.

Syndication, in which the RTVC attempted to sell five ACTS shows to commercial TV stations, has resulted in sales of \$88,000, well below the 1985-86 budgeted projection of \$216,000.

"We have been in the process of learning how to conduct capital campaigns, but the cost has been unacceptably high so far," Allen said, adding ACTS "launched into difficult territory" when it began the fund-raising efforts.

"We do not have constituencies such as seminaries, colleges, and other institutions have, with their built-in loyalty factor," he said. "We have found these capital campaigns are expensive and laborious ways to go. We spent too much to get the funds we obtained."

Allen told trustees the new development plan, designed for the commission by Resource Development Inc. of Springfield, Mo., will emphasize "telemissions dinners" and direct-mail appeals, as well as cultivation of potential major donors which are surfaced through the dinners, mail campaigns, listener in-

quiries on both radio and television, and referrals.

"We know how to do dinners," Allen told trustees. Information provided the trustees indicated the dinners are expected to produce \$240,000 in revenues this year, against a cost of \$170,000. In addition to pledges and cash, Allen said, the dinners also have produced major donors and others who are giving regularly to the network.

"We are trying to build a development plan which is workable for us," he said. He emphasized ACTS will keep its promise not to solicit money from viewers with on-air pleas, but will depend on the fund-raising and syndication efforts to provide funds above the nearly \$5-million per year provided by the Southern Baptist Convention's unified program of support, the Cooperative Program.

Allen told trustees, "We are learning as we go, dropping some things and picking up some other things. That is part of the process. We are in a creative process where we know we will have to 'blue sky' some, try some things. We will have some things that won't work until we find the things that will work."

In the 1986-87 budget, approved by trustees during the September meeting, development efforts are expected to produce \$1.9-million against costs of \$1.1 million.

The budget also projects syndication efforts to produce \$475,000 in revenues from sale of the inventory of current family programs, packages of "classic" family movies, and the revised "Country Crossroads." Costs to syndicate the shows are estimated to be \$461,000.

Trustees appointed immediate past Chairman T.W. Terral of Baton Rouge, La., and Fred Roach, chairman of the finance committee and a Dallas homebuilder, to work with Bob Taylor, vice-president of production services, and other commission staffers in monitoring the progress of the syndication effort.

During the business session, Terral commented the commission has been getting along on borrowed money, a situation eased somewhat by a \$10-million loan from the Central Bank of Walnut Creek, Calif., which pays off about \$8.7-million in indebtedness and will provide about \$1-million in new money.

"When we spend that \$1-million, there

will be no more money we can borrow," Terral said. "Syndication and development is going to have to make up that \$1-million plus per year we have been borrowing."

During the meeting, trustees expressed concern that salaries, equipment, and facilities had been neglected while all attention was focused on the launch and continuation of ACTS.

Trustee Jimmy Waters of Macon, Ga., chairman of the program services committee, said that group had spent a "great deal of time" discussing the needs of the commission and had "vital

concerns about the welfare of the people and of finding money to continue production."

Walter Garrett of Cincinnati noted the entire staff had been cut back and salaries had been frozen nearly a year ago. He urged trustees to be "quite sensitive to the working conditions and benefits of the people who remain."

Russell Capps of Raleigh, N.C., commended the commission's employees as a "dedicated staff doing everything they can to make it (ACTS) work with what they've got."

Wake Forest University to begin new relationship with convention

RALEIGH, N.C. (BP) — Wake Forest University and the North Carolina Baptist State Convention will sever formal ties and establish a new "fraternal" relationship, pending final approval by state convention messengers meeting Nov. 10-12 in Greensboro, N.C.

The proposed new relationship is the result of several years of study, debate, and discussion on how best to relate the 152-year old university, founded by the

Baptist state convention, and the 1.1-million-member state convention.

The fraternal relationship would give the school control over electing all of its trustees, without requiring convention approval. The state convention would no longer provide any regular funding for the institution, although individual Baptist churches could send designated gifts for Wake Forest through the convention's business office.

In 1985, the Baptist state convention, through a special provision in its unified budget, the Cooperative Program, sent \$500,000 to Wake Forest. The university's budget is about \$160-million.

The new relationship, if adopted would culminate literally scores of meetings over several years involving university-denomination affairs.

In 1978, Wake Forest amended its charter to delete any references to the university as an agency of the convention, claiming North Carolina Baptists could not exercise any authority to elect or dismiss trustees. The state convention responded by withholding money from the university for several months until an agreement could be reached.

The next year, 1979, a new "covenant relationship" was formed between college and convention whereby churches had to specifically include Wake Forest in the church's gifts. About 450 of the state's 3,400 churches included Wake Forest in their Cooperative Program gifts. In turn, Wake Forest was allowed to have one-third of its trustees be non-Baptists and non-residents of North Carolina.

The 1979 covenant also gave Wake Forest sole power to nominate its trustees — both the Baptists and non-Baptists — but the state convention still had final veto power over the process.

In November of 1985, a recommendation to the state convention would have allowed Wake Forest to elect the one-third non-Baptist trustees without convention approval. The recommendation, needing a two-thirds majority, failed to pass by less than 30 votes.

A few weeks later, Wake Forest trustees declared their intent to elect all of their trustees, Baptists and non-Baptists, without convention approval.

Convention leaders, in a special called meeting of the General Board Executive Committee, expressed strong disapproval of the unilateral action of Wake Forest.

The most recent proposal — calling for a fraternal relationship minus any formal or legal ties between university and convention — will now go before the general board, meeting at the end of September, and then to the full state convention in November.



GETTING CONTROL — Brian Harbour, speaker for Spiritual Emphasis Week at Belmont College, tells students how to get control of their lives.

Harbour addresses Belmont students

NASHVILLE — "Getting Control of Your Life" was the theme of Belmont College's Spiritual Emphasis Week, Sept. 3-5.

Brian Harbour, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark., delivered daily sermons to an overflowing crowd of students, faculty, and staff in Belmont's Massey Auditorium.

His sermon topics were "Know Yourself," "Avoid the Side Streets," and "Move Past Your Failures."

Harbour used Joseph's story from Genesis 37, 39, and 41 as an example of someone "who avoided the side streets that take us away from where God wants us to be."

He offered three suggestions on how to avoid side streets: (1) Learn to hold on in the midst of trouble and not give up; (2) Remember that our immediate evaluations and eventual evaluations of experiences are not always the same; and, (3) Remember to remain faithful to what God wants you to do.

"Trouble, disappointment, and adversity come into the lives of everyone," Harbour said. "But the key to life is a willingness to hold on until God can bring something good out of a circumstance."

HMB elects staff, missionaries

ATLANTA (BP) — The executive committee of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board elected a new associate vice-president, a new assistant director in the special mission ministries department, and appointed 35 missionaries during its September meeting.

Margrette Stevenson, director of the board's personnel division for the past four years, was promoted to a new position as associate vice-president in the board's services section, effective Oct. 1. The new position was created by board action in August.

Stevenson, a native of Texas, has been a member of the board staff 11 years. Prior to election as director of the personnel division in 1982, she was director of the board's business services division and director of payroll and employee benefits.

The executive committee also elected Valerie J. Hardy, currently minister to youth at St. John's Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C., as assistant director of the agency's department of special mission ministries, effective Oct. 1.

Hardy will succeed Esther Burroughs, who has become a national consultant for the Home Mission Board on women in evangelism. Hardy, a native of Oklahoma, has been youth minister for churches in Wichita, Kan.; Arkadelphia, Ark.; and Louisville, Ky. She also has been director of weekday activities for First Baptist Church, New Albany, Ind., and a psychiatric aide for a hospital in Louisville, Ky.

In other actions, the executive committee elected Carl Savell, director of the board's interfaith witness department, to a new position as national consultant for interfaith witness. Savell, a former pastor in Jackson, Miss., will move from Atlanta to set up an office at his home in Jackson, effective Oct. 1.

In other personnel matters, the board appointed 15 new missionaries, eight missionary associates, and 12 church planter apprentices; and approved financial aid to 79 mission pastors, language pastors, and other field personnel in cooperation with state Baptist conventions.

Suicidal woman credits ACTS with saving her life, self-worth

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)— With tears in his eyes, Jimmy R. Allen introduced Stephanie to trustees of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission during their September meeting.

"One of the joys of ministering in radio and television is the joy of the end product," said Allen, commission president. "It is the joy of what God is doing in people's lives."

In a soft, low voice, Stephanie told trustees of her encounter with God through ACTS: "Two months ago, I was suicidal. I had already tried (to commit suicide) and I figured the third time it would work."

She related how she had been working with retarded children but was off work because of an injured back. "I wasn't

working, and my work was my life, so I just thought, 'There's no reason to live.' "I had the pills in my hand and I decided that I would turn on the TV and watch music or something," she said, explaining that in Fort Worth, Texas, the computerized cable system usually comes on at Channel 6, the weather channel.

"But this time, it came on at ACTS (Channel 47). They were showing 'The Word of Life' with Joel Gregory preaching, and he was talking about suicide and how your life is worth something. It really touched me. I took those pills and right then I flushed them all down the commode. Then I came back and sat down. I must have cried for hours," Stephanie said.

The following Sunday, she went to Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth, where Gregory is pastor. There, she made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ as her personal Saviour and was baptized into the fellowship of the church.

Soon, Stephanie showed up at the RTVC offices in Fort Worth and volunteered her services.

"They gave me back my life and my self-worth," she said. "I wasn't doing anything and I decided to come as a volunteer for ACTS."

Personal Perspective



By Tom Madden
TBC Executive Secretary-Treasurer

"Is the seed yet in the barn?" (Haggai 2:19). This question asked by Haggai intrigues me. Let me share the background as I understand it.

The seed has been carefully selected and preserved from the last year's crop. The anxiety is that the planting season is almost over. Much depends upon whether the seed is taken out of the barn and planted in the soil.

If the seed is not planted during the planting season, it cannot be planted later to provide a harvest. Those who cannot plant will suffer because the seed remains in the barn. Those who have the seed and do not plant also will suffer because the seed is not sufficient to provide them food for the year and still leave enough seed for the next year, so many suffer.

When we apply this truth spiritually, I am impressed that our Lord is asking us to get the gospel out of the church and into the world. I am especially concerned because this is a time in the life of our convention family when we are taking a special offering for state missions.

If our Tennessee Baptist Convention family is to continue to share the gospel beyond our state, it is imperative that we maintain a good strong base. It is necessary for our churches to grow stronger and for new churches and missions to be planted. The largest percentage of our Golden State Missions Offering and the largest amount ever designated for new work are in this year's allocations.

We are grateful for the regular contributions of our wonderful Tennessee churches as they give to missions through the Cooperative Program. If we could respond affirmatively to the Golden State Missions Offering goal of \$1,005,000, it would surely strengthen the Word in Tennessee and thereby strengthen our mission efforts around the world. We want to lengthen the cords but we also must strengthen the stakes. Pray and give with me that we might get more of the seed out of the barn. The devil is pleased if we keep sowing where the seed is sown. Jesus is honored and pleased if we store where the seed has not been sown.

DOM's service spans 24 years

After 24 years as director of missions of Concord Baptist Association, Thomas E. Bryant Jr., will retire Sept. 30.

He will be honored by the association at a retirement luncheon on Sept. 28 at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro.

Bryant, a native of Una, was ordained by Seventh Baptist Church in Nashville, now Donelson View Baptist Church in Donelson.

He did pastoral interim and supply work in Nashville, and later was the educational director for Seventh Baptist Church.

After helping to begin Lincoya Hills Baptist Church in Nashville in 1955, he was pastor until 1962, when he accepted his present position.

Bryant led the Concord Baptist Association to build an office building which is debt free, hire a language missionary, and work with the Tennessee Baptist Convention to build a Baptist Student Union center at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro.

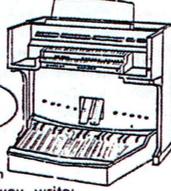
Bryant's family includes his wife, Irby Roberts Bryant of Nashville; one daughter; and two grandchildren.



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12:00 Noon - Dinner on the Grounds
1:30 P.M. - Presentation of "Liberty" by the Church Choir

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Riceville church calls Click to lead as pastor

Edward L. Click assumed his role as pastor of First Baptist Church in Riceville on June 23.

He comes to his new position from the pastorate of New Midway Baptist Church in Kingston.

A native of Lenoir City, Click is a graduate of John A. Gupton College in Nashville.

His denominational service includes serving as president of the Loudon County Baptist Association's Pastors' Conference, as well as youth director for the association. Click also participated in the '84 African Crusade in Tanzania, East Africa.



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LEADERSHIP . . .

Grandview Baptist Church in Maryville, has called Raymond Smith as interim pastor. Ed Nichols Jr. has resigned as minister of music, as of Aug. 17. The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, graduate will be band director in Tullahoma. Assuming the position of minister of music, effective Aug. 20, is Mark Heron.

Edward Luttrell has resigned as pastor of Pleasant View Baptist Church in Clinton. Lee Kidwell has been called as interim pastor.

Taylor Smith, associate pastor of South Clinton Baptist Church, Clinton, has resigned.

Leon Reed, minister of music and youth at First Baptist Church, Pulaski, has resigned.

Clear Branch Baptist Church, Lake City, has called Kenneth Duggan as minister of youth. He is a student at Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, Ky. Before coming to the Clear Branch church Duggan worked with youth at First Baptist Church, Tellico Plains. Charlie Ivey is pastor of the Lake City church.

Melvin Martin resigned from the pastorate of Meadow Brook Baptist Church in Maryville.

Henry Grady Simpson III began serving as minister of music/youth at Ardmore Baptist Church in Memphis Aug. 24. The Middleton native previously served in the same position at Malesus Baptist Church in Jackson. He also served as minister of music at First Baptist Church, Middleton. Simpson is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. Norris E. Smith is pastor of the Ardmore church.

James Ryan is serving as interim pastor of First Baptist Church, Livingston.

PEOPLE . . .

Mr. and Mrs. Mack Davis celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 25. They are members of Central Baptist Church, Johnson City, where David W. Crocker is pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Blevins were honored with a reception recognizing their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 14. The reception was at Wilsonville Baptist Church in Newport, where Blevins is pastor.

Baptist Properties names L. Meagher

NASHVILLE — Lawrence V. Meagher, an 18-year veteran in healthcare administration, has been appointed executive vice-president of Baptist Properties, Nashville.

Meagher, chief executive officer of American British Cowdray Hospital, a 152-bed hospital in Mexico City, Mexico, since 1980, will assume his new position with Baptist Properties immediately.



Meagher

He will be in charge of activities outside Baptist Hospital proper and will have responsibility for the growth and development of Baptist Properties.

Meagher, who earned his master's degree in hospital administration at Yale University, New Haven, Conn., has been associated with healthcare facilities in Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, as well as Mexico City.

Michael Pierce McIntyre was ordained by Brainerd Baptist Church in Chattanooga on Aug. 31. He is presently serving as pastor of Agee Baptist Church in Hico, Tex., and is a student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex.

First Baptist Church, Bradford, recently ordained Dickey Hinson, Mike Manning, and David Roberson as deacons. William F. Northcott is the pastor.

CHURCHES . . .

A note-burning service was held Aug. 24 at Salem Baptist Church in Henning. Ed Baxter is the pastor.

MISSION PROJECTS . . .

The youth choir of Brownsville Baptist Church, Brownsville, recently returned from a 12-day tour to Canada. The 41-member group presented the musical drama "Surrender" seven times and enrolled 120 children in backyard Bible clubs while working with the Dixie Baptist Chapel in Mississauga, Ontario. H. K. Sorrell is pastor of the Brownsville church, and Ralph Brown is minister of music/youth.

Historical Society sets meeting in Nashville

The Middle Tennessee Baptist Historical Society will meet at 7 p.m., Oct. 13, at First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill, Nashville, to hear two professors discuss "The Beginnings of Black Churches in Nashville."

Featured on the program will be Bobby Lovett, professor of history at Tennessee State University, Nashville, and Albert Wardin, professor of history at Belmont College, Nashville.

The public is invited.

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BIBLE BOOK SERIES

Lesson for Sept. 21

God's charges

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

Basic Passage: Malachi 1:1 to 2:16

Focal Passages: Malachi 1:6-9; 2:8-9, 13-16

A church building program is always exciting! Immediately after entering new facilities, another period of exuberance occurs, resulting in enlargement, outreach, and numerical growth.

But then the leveling off period comes and the exciting glamour disappears. There is nothing to look forward to but 20 years of debt retirement!

That is when the preacher starts looking for a pulpit committee to come! A wise man, however, once said, "It's fun to run," but people of integrity and stability do something better. They "stay and pay!"



Wood

Something like this happened in ancient Israel. Haggai and Zechariah "preached up" a building program. Malachi inherited the aftermath — discouragement, disenchantment, and disillusionment!

In every generation, God needs a prophet to declare His will afresh in a way that is relevant for that particular day and need.

Malachi began his message with an assurance to the people that God still loved them (1:1-5). From the beginning, He had chosen them as the object of His special affection. Not Esau, but Jacob received God's blessing. He had continued to watch over the nations that had come from them.

Edom personified worldliness and the type of strength that always comes from trust in human abilities and accomplishments. She had boasted of her resourcefulness to conquer in any situation, but God had overruled her proud claims.

Using the Socratic style of question and answer, Malachi put his points across in a striking way. He made a statement of truth and then anticipated people's answer, vocalizing their objection. Restating the original affirmation, he then added evidence to strengthen his argument.

Throughout the centuries, God has chosen spiritual leaders to guide His people. When they fail to hold the standards high, the people stumble and fall. Hosea's phrase "like people, like priest" (4:9) has proved true in every generation. Malachi rang out a warning, not untouched with acid sarcasm, to the priests (1:6-14).

The prophet did not accuse the people of being irreligious. They never went that far, but they did something perhaps worse, certainly more difficult to change. They were "playing church," making only a halfhearted effort to be loyal to God both in personal conduct and sacrificial offerings. They were spending enormous sums on their own pleasures, but offering only "polluted bread" on the altar to their God.

"Try that on the Persian governor!" he shouted to them. "Do you think he will let you pay taxes that way?" Though the words were addressed to the priests, the prophet intended for the people to apply every sentence to themselves as well!

Having brought words of condemnation to the priests, the prophet spelled out their punishment (2:1-9). Since they had sought personal gain through their office, God would reduce their revenues. He would, however, do even more to bring them the rebuke they deserved by lowering their prestige and the importance of their office.

The priests had been set aside to provide the people with high and lofty concepts of God. They had lowered the standard of everything they touched. Poor and slovenly ideas of God produce disgraceful worship.

The prophet's condemnation was severe. "It is the duty of priests to teach the true knowledge of God. People should go to them to learn My will, because they are the messengers of the Lord Almighty. But now you priests have turned from the right path. Your teaching has led many to do wrong" (2:7-8 TEV).

What would God do? The prophet, speaking for Him, said, "I, in turn, will make the people of Israel despise you" (2:9). What greater punishment can come to a religious leader than for the people he leads to lose all respect for him?

Two other matters called for the prophet's special attention and comment. Turning from the priests to the people, he condemned their marriage practices. First, they had taken women who engaged in heathen religious rituals to be their wives (2:10-12). Malachi called it an "abomination" that "profaned the holiness of the Lord" (2:11). How could they keep their religious faith pure when they did such things?

Second, they had adopted a flippant attitude toward the wives they had taken in their youth (2:13-16). Malachi thundered God's once and for all attitude when he shouted, "I hate divorce" says the Lord" (2:16 TEV).

The increase of broken homes in America constitutes one of our greatest national problems. We should, of course, be kind and seek to minister to those who are innocent victims of divorce. Special Christian ministries to such people are necessary, even urgent. We must not, however, ever come to the place where we accept divorce easily. As Christians, we must not lower the standard so much that we cease to feel as God does toward this malignancy which is eating away at our national life.

This prophet, whom we call Malachi and whose name means "My messenger," teaches us a tremendous truth. Just as "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," so perennial prophetic preaching is essential to a continuity of morality among the people of any nation.

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

Lesson for Sept. 21

A promise to Abraham

By W. Clyde Tilley, professor of religion and philosophy
Union University, Jackson

Basic Passage: Genesis 17

Focal Passages: Genesis 17:1-8, 15-19

Interaction between God and human beings is always a two stage process: divine initiative and human response. Here this process is fleshed out in terms of God's covenant promises (17:1-2, 5-8, 15-16) and Abraham's two consequent prostrations (17:3-4, 17-19).

The conditional promise and the compliant prostration (17:1-4)

Some of the promises of God are conditional and some are unconditional. The first promise of God to Abraham was conditional: the promise of a covenant.

No theme is more dominant in the Bible than that of covenant. This is reflected in the division of the Bible into Old and New Testaments. "Testament" is but a synonym for "covenant." The former is based on a Latin stem in contrast to the Anglo form of the second word. The Bible could as easily have been called the Old Covenant and the New Covenant, because each of the two testaments is but the portrayal of two covenant arrangements.

The promise of a covenant had to be conditional. A covenant is a two-part contractual agreement. The promise to make a covenant is then necessarily contingent upon its acceptance by the other party. God's condition for Abraham in connection with this promised covenant is that he "walk before Me (God), and be blameless" (v.1).

In the first of two times that Abraham prostrates himself before God in this chapter (v.3), he does so in seeming affirmation of his intention to comply with this condition. God accepts Abraham's affirmed intentions and proceeds to make the covenant: "Behold, My covenant is with you..." (v.4).

The unconditional promises and the uncompliant prostration (17:5-8, 15-19)

Although the making of a covenant requires compliance on the part of the second party (otherwise the covenant could not be made), once the covenant is made, the parties that have complied in the making of the covenant may prove uncompliant (faithless, disobedient) in the way they discharge their obligations. When the covenant is a divine-human one, as is this case, God always proves faithful but human beings often prove unfaithful.

New names (vv.5, 15) — Both Abram and his wife Sarai, were given new names. Abram, meaning "exalted father," was changed to Abraham which meant "father of a multitude" (v.5). Sarai was changed to Sarah, a variant of the same name, meaning "princess" (v.15). Her change in name is parallel to that of Abraham, and is an early testimony to a high Biblical regard for women and of Sarah's partnership with her husband in the covenant.

The change of names is a frequent

Biblical occurrence and often indicates a profound change in ones character and/or relationship to God. In the Old Testament, Jacob is changed to Israel (Genesis 35:10) and Esau is called Edom (Genesis 25:30). In the New Testament, Simon received the new name, Peter (Matthew 16:17-18), and Joseph began to be called Barnabas (Acts.4:36).

In more recent times, modern disciples have taken on new names which are more descriptive of the new lives they have in Christ. Bill Lane, a Christian writer, took the surname Doulos, the Greek word for servant, and Ebbie Swink took the name Makarios meaning blessed. Converts to some religious groups are required to take names upon their induction into that faith and Christian missionaries often speak of the desire of their converts for new names.

New nations (vv.6-7) — It is important to note that Abraham is to be the father of many nations and not just a single nation. Through Ishmael, he shall be the father of the Ishmaelites or the Midianites; through Isaac and Jacob, the Israelites; and through Isaac and Esau, the Edomites. Through a later wife Keturah, he would father yet other nations (Genesis 25:1-6). No wonder that today Jews, Moslems, and Christians all look to Abraham as a father of their faithful.

A new land (v.8) — God promised also to settle Abraham's descendants in a special land, Canaan, which Abraham himself was to dwell in as a pilgrim. This covenant that God had made with Abraham would be renewed, however, with only one of them, Israel. Thus only to Israel is this promise of a land binding.

Abraham has nothing but reverence for God when he learns of the covenant and nations of descendants from himself. It is only when he learns of God's intention to give him these descendants through Sarah, who is well past menopause, that his doubt is expressed through laughter. This is expressed in Abraham's second prostration where his faith is seen to be flawed (v.17) and he proceeds to make a more personable suggestion to God (v.18) — that He use Ishmael instead.

God vetoes Abraham's suggestion and shows His steadfast love by persevering in His plan for a covenant and reveals His power by using a barren mother to raise up a covenant people.

Truett-McConnell elects Fulbright

CLEVELAND, Ga. (BP) — H. M. Fulbright has been elected president of Truett-McConnell College in Cleveland, Ga., a two-year Georgia Baptist school.

Fulbright, executive director of the Georgia Association of Educational Leaders, has been involved with education in Georgia for 37 years.

He is a graduate of Georgia Southern University, Statesboro; Peabody College, Nashville; and Georgia State University, Atlanta.

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LIFE AND WORK SERIES
Lesson for Sept. 21

Prayer of intercession

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

Basic Passages: Exodus 32; Ephesians 6:10-20; James 5:13-18
Focal Passages: Exodus 32:30-32; Ephesians 6:18-20; James 5:13-16

Many a minister can attest to the value of knowing that each time they stand to preach the gospel or minister to the needs of people, faithful Christians are offering prayers of intercession for them.

The kind of prayer of which we speak is not the off the cuff, glib kind that makes people say things like, "We are praying for you" when you suspect that their statements are about as common place as "Have a good day." Somehow many sincere Christians have fallen into sort of pop Christianity which requires minimal effort and a front that looks and sounds good.



Bush

Let's ask ourselves some probing questions.

How much time each day, each week, each month, each year do I pray with a burdened heart for unsaved people or for fellow Christians weakened by sin in their lives? Moses certainly had cause to be thoroughly disgusted with the people of God, as did God Himself. Notice in Exodus 32:30-32 the intercessory prayer for these people Moses demonstrated. He hated the sin but not the sinner.

How much time do I spend interceding for persons who are burdened with deep hurt, loss, or anxiety? Like prayer for the unsaved or weakened Christians, intercessory prayer for those who are hurting demands more than a "lick and a promise."

How much time do I consciously intercede for other people with intentions that seek to put Christ and His work through His people first? In Ephesians 6:18, Paul is not implying that we persist until God does what we want - a bigger church building, a higher paying job, the changing of the minds of others so they will fully agree with us.

It is often my impression that some Christians throw around the phrases, "I'm praying in the Spirit" or "I'm praying in the will of God" as though these statements elevate the superior status of their intercession. Prayer warriors I have been privileged to know did not parade the fact that they sincerely and agonizingly sought the will of God or possessed any particular blessing of the Spirit. They just poured out their hearts to God with humility and trust while in the privacy of home, with a close friend or two, and sometimes in church settings, but not often.

Recently, I heard Robert Schuller deliver a series of sermons on prayer during early Sunday morning telecasts. In one of those worship services, he offered something I found insightful and easy to

recall. His emphasis was that God always answers prayer. God sometimes says "go," sometimes says "slow," sometimes says "no," and sometimes says "wait." Since Christians are to operate according to God's timetable and conditions, then His answers to our prayers depend on events, circumstances, and our readiness as He views them.

When I was a youngster, I had the joy of attending a church that was graced periodically by the presence of the father of noted evangelist Billy Graham. "Mr. Frank" was not a member of our church but he knew members of our congregation and liked the pastor of our church. He would attend Sunday evening services. Usually our pastor would call on "Mr. Frank" to pray.

Never will I forget this saint of God as he poured out his soul to the Heavenly Father. He would pray for the sick, the unsaved, our church, his church, all of the people of God, his evangelist son, other family members, and more. His talk with God was so real, I would open my eyes, peeking to see if I could see God. God was so personal to him that it challenged me to be more aware of the reality and care of God.

At the close of the evening service "Mr. Frank" would slip away, greeting a few as he left. His humble attitude did not allow him to be gloated over as the father of a great evangelist. No doubt the prayers of that faithful servant of God availed much (ref. James 5:16b).

It is difficult to be angry with someone for whom you are praying. It is impossible to hate someone for whom you are praying in love to the loving Father of love. It is probable that your intercessory prayer will help you to be a vehicle through whom God can do His work.

It is possible to become so absorbed with the love of God that your life will

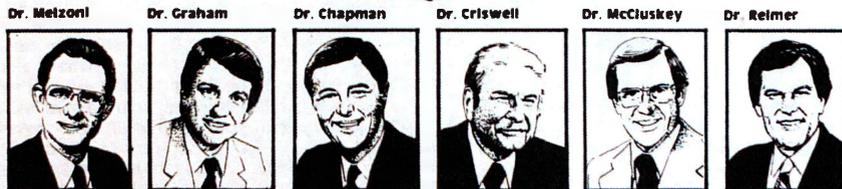
become noticeably Christlike as you minister to others (ref. James 5:13-16a).

Intercessory prayer is evidence of a life more concerned for others than self. What a marvelous change will come in individual Christian lives, in churches, and in denominations when intercessory prayer is the rule rather than the exception!



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Music Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra, Central Baptist Church, Oak Ridge, TN

Sunday, October 6, 7:00 P.M.
Speaker Dr. Jack Graham, Pastor, First Baptist Church, West Palm Beach, FL
Music Chapel Choir and Orchestra, Central Baptist Church, Oak Ridge, TN

Wednesday, October 8, 7:00 P.M.
Speaker Dr. James McCluskey, Pastor, Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville, TN (President of Tennessee Baptist Convention)
Music Sanctuary Choir, Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville, TN

Monday, October 6, 7:00 P.M.
Speaker Dr. Morris Chapman, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, TX
Music Sanctuary Choir, Central Baptist Church, Fountain City, Knoxville, TN

Thursday, October 9, 7:00 P.M.
Speaker Dr. James Reimer, Pastor, Second Baptist Church, Springfield, MO
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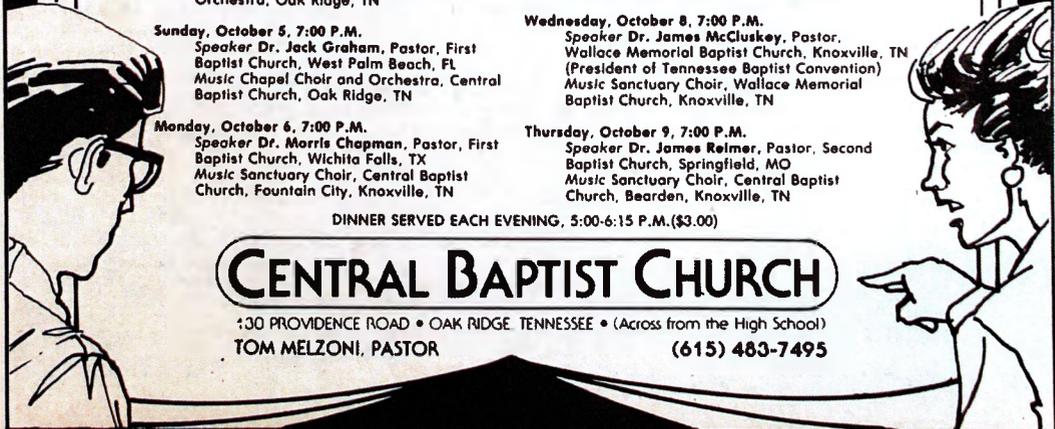
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Baptists seek responses to U.S. farm crisis

Editor's note: This is the third of a three-part series on Southern Baptists and the American farm crisis. It is adapted from the July-August issue of MissionsUSA, published by the Home Mission Board.

By Sherri Anthony Brown

ATLANTA (BP)— The American farm crisis is such an interwoven tangle of problems — from overproduction to tax inequities — that solutions seem almost impossible. But Southern Baptists, coming face-to-face with the crisis, are finding some remedies and a few elements of hope.

Suggested responses include: — Let the hurting family talk. People who live in farming communities can be available to listen. Sometimes farmers

need to air their feelings, frustrations, and humiliations.

— Provide food and clothing for families. "I may not take something for myself, but I don't mind taking things for my children," says one Iowa farm wife. When neighbors bring hand-me-down clothes for her children, she accepts them. But she also likes to do something in return. "Even if you're flat broke you've got something to give," she says.

Another suggestion is to trade babysitting hours with other mothers. "Husbands and wives need to get away with each other so they can remember why they love each other," one person noted.

— Offer feeding ministries. Many churches and associations are using food pantries to assist farm families in emergency situations. Hunger funds from the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board have been used to buy seed for family gardens.

"We're trying to help them be self-sufficient," says Don Evans, Southern Baptist rural-urban missions director in Missouri.

— Lobby for gleaning ministries. Some legislators have proposed tax breaks for farmers who allow gleaning of fields. The 1985 Farm Bill permits gleaning but provides no incentives. If gleaning legislation passed, farmers and U.S. hungry would benefit, since gleaning by churches would increase stocks in local food banks.

— Sponsor local farm-market outlets. In Knoxville, Broadway Baptist Church opened its parking lot to farmers for a twice-weekly market. Direct sale to consumers raises farmers' incomes. The church helped promote the markets.

— Help resettle farmers. Once a farmer sells or loses a farm, he must find other income. Gary Farley, associate director of rural-urban missions for the Home Mission Board, suggests churches and/or associations of churches set up a network of potential employers in other cities. A church also can help set up families with temporary housing. Often this is done in cooperation with churches in metropolitan areas where jobs are more plentiful.

Farley also notes farmers may lose their farms but find farm-management jobs opening up in other areas. "Someone has to farm the land now moving into ownership by the lending agencies," he says. Churches can help farmers job-search.

— Sponsor "adjustment" events. First Baptist Church in Oklahoma City sponsored a weekend for farmers. Seminars told about the changing marketplace, banking practices and career opportunities, and presented ideas on agricultural directions in the next decade. The weekend was free to all farmers and their pastors.

"It was a chance for non-farmers to demonstrate their concern for farmers," explains Pastor Gene Garrison. "We're in this together, whether we live on a farm or not."

— Help churches be places of love and support. One bankrupt farmer was asked to step down as church treasurer — a humiliating experience for him. Many farmers fear they will be rejected when they lose their farm. "Church should be a place you feel loved no matter what," says one farmer's wife.

— Be armed with knowledge. Letters to state and national representatives and senators can help determine the direction of farm legislation. Yet it may be difficult to decide a position on so complex a topic.

During mission education meetings of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Commission, county cooperative extension agents can supply local background on the crisis. Check at county courthouses to arrange meetings.

Another source for speakers is local agricultural colleges which often have

instructors willing to explain the farm crisis and its effects.

Missouri's Don Evans has produced six videotapes on the farm crisis — an education/awareness tape on the farm crisis, a tape on self-esteem for farmers in crisis, a tape on marriage/family relationships, a tape for pastors relating to farmers, a tape on finding the benefits of stress, and a tape giving the perspective of the lending agent.

For individual study, the following list of books which may be helpful.

Breaking the Land by Pete Daniel, University of Illinois Press, is a historical review of the farm crisis.

The Family Farm: Can It Be Saved? by Shantilal P. Bhagat, Brethren Press, is an analysis of American agriculture and gives helpful ideas for actions churches may take in response to the crisis.

Gaining Ground by J. Tevere MacFadyen, Ballantine Books, explores solutions for the family farm crisis that are drawn from interviews with family farmers.

The Gift of God by Wendell Berry, North Point Press, is a tribute to farming values.

— Sponsor rallies. Giving farm folks a chance to get together can be therapeutic.

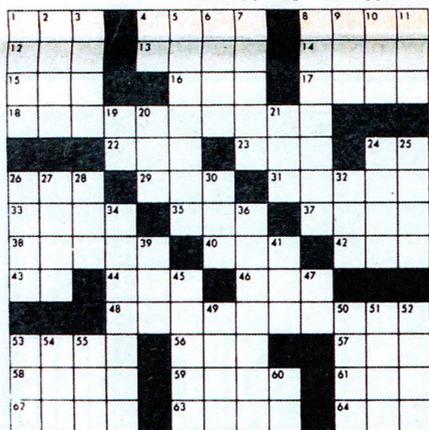
— Pray for yourself, for understanding, guidance, and for God's strength and courage for all those whose lives are being disrupted by the crisis.

— Give to the Home Mission Board's farm relief fund. The farm relief fund aids Southern Baptist farm families who need emergency food supplies. "Many of our farmers can't put food on their tables," says Evans.

To give to aid farmers, send a check to the Home Mission Board, designated for "farm relief," to Accounting Department, Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30367-5601.

BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR brings you news first.

Bible Puzzle



DOWN

- 1 He lives (Psa. 18:46)
- 2 Arrow poison
- 3 River in Scotland; poss.
- 4 Right side; abbr.
- 5 Moses was angry with him (Lev. 10:16)
- 6 "and — the door" (2 Sam. 13:17)
- 7 "laying —" (Acts 9:24)
- 8 The Word of God (Rev. 19:13; 2 words)
- 9 Boundary; comb. form
- 10 Kind of curl
- 11 Feminine suffix
- 19 The Wizard of —
- 20 "The — of truth" (Prov. 12)
- 21 Faroe Islands windstorms
- 24 Cirdle material (Mark 1:6)
- 25 Penny
- 26 Aide; abbr.
- 27 "for — shall be waste" (Jer. 46:19)
- 28 Philippine peasant
- 30 Dog sound
- 32 State; abbr.
- 34 "— of churches" (Acts 19:37)
- 36 "after his —" (Acts 1)
- 39 Famous general
- 41 Relative pronoun
- 45 Bela's land (Gen. 36:32; poss.)
- 47 Man's nickname
- 49 Benin negro
- 50 Israeli city
- 51 Genuine
- 52 Views
- 53 Dope
- 54 Vine
- 55 Born
- 60 Part of the Bible; abbr.

ACROSS

- 1 Hole was bored in it (2 Ki. 12)
- 4 Midianite king (Num. 31:8)
- 8 Faith's partner (1 Pet. 1:21)
- 12 "there is but — God" (1 Cor. 8)
- 13 "and — of heart" (Luke 24:25)
- 14 Spring flower
- 15 Arikara
- 16 Guido's high note
- 17 We were dead in them (Eph. 2)
- 18 "brought to —" (Luke 11:17)
- 22 Cliff (2 Chron. 20:16)
- 23 Oolong
- 24 State; abbr.
- 26 Carpenter or soldier
- 29 Word with master or load
- 31 "— and brimstone" (Rev. 9:17)
- 33 Glide upward
- 35 Famous sleeper
- 37 Emerald Isle
- 38 Small wood cylinder
- 40 "— of the lion" (1 Sam. 17:37)
- 42 Gate or door; abbr.
- 43 Thorium; symbol
- 44 Line, of a kind
- 46 Urial
- 48 "Let his habitation —" (Acts 1)
- 53 Number missing (Luke 17:17)
- 56 Kimono sash
- 57 Show sorrow
- 58 Word with take or throw
- 59 Celestial body
- 61 Regret
- 62 Colors
- 63 Dispatched
- 64 Electrical engineers; abbr.

CRYPTOVERSE

L X Q U Q U Q D E V T Q L X L X Q U Q O R U Q
E U Q A L L R L X Q W Q R W Y Q R O B R F
Today's Cryptoverse clue: W equals P

Thai Baptists top 2,000 members

BANGKOK, Thailand (BP) — Membership among the 98 congregations associated with Southern Baptist work in Thailand has just topped the 2,000 mark.

"This might not sound like much, but considering the fact that the very first missionaries to Thailand worked for 19 years without a convert, this is something to report," said Maxine Stewart, missionary press representative to Thailand since 1976.

Growth during the 37 years of work has come hard, and missionaries have perceived the people to be worldly minded and resistant to the gospel. But increasing numbers are beginning to seek answers to some of life's toughest questions.

"Evangelical work, and Catholic work as well, has been extremely slow there (in Thailand)," said Terry. "Thailand is considered one of the strongest Buddhist countries. Not only has it experienced very little political crisis, but it doesn't seem to have been subject to natural disaster as many other countries. These things have made the people very passive."

But Thai Christians are encouraged about what God has done in recent years. Influential leaders in Bangkok and less urban areas have begun to ask about Jesus Christ. Now seven home missionaries are working to reach their own people, and more are expected to be sent out before year's end.

Last week's Bible Puzzle answers



"The wicked plotteth against the just" (Psa. 37:12).