

# Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 153/No. 14/April 8, 1987

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

## Messengers to explore discipleship, missions

By Marv Knox

ST. LOUIS (BP)— A focus on discipleship and missions — two historical themes of Southern Baptist life — will beckon messengers to the 1987 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting June 16-18 in Cervantes Convention Center in St. Louis.

"To Know Him . . . To Make Him Known" will be the theme for the meeting, announced Stan Coffey, chairman of the SBC Order of Business Committee, which is responsible for planning the event.

"We wanted a theme that would call Southern Baptists back to our main priority of missions and evangelism," said Coffey, pastor of San Jacinto Baptist Church in Amarillo, Texas. He explained the theme's first phrase, "To Know Him," highlights the importance of discipleship and personal spiritual growth, and the second phrase, "To Make Him Known," illustrates commitment to missions and evangelism — telling the world about the gospel of Christ.

The Scripture reference for the theme is Philippians 3:10: "That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death . . ."

The theme will be interpreted by four evangelists, Coffey said. The evangelists and their topics are Manley Beasley of Bedford, Texas, "Know Him in Prayer"; Sam Cathey of Oklahoma City, "Know Him Through the Word"; Eddie Martin of Lancaster, Pa., "Make Him Known"; and Billy Graham of Montreat, N.C., who will speak on the importance of missions and evangelism.

The St. Louis meeting will be the first one in which all theme interpretations will have been presented by full-time vocational evangelists, Coffey noted. He added the decision was made deliberately and is directed toward all vocational evangelists, "to affirm them and the work they do and involve them in the life of the convention."

Graham's sermon will be at 11:10 a.m.

Thursday, June 18, and Coffey said his committee expects a larger-than-average crowd to hear the internationally known evangelist during the convention's next-to-last session: "Any time Dr. Graham preaches, a lot of people want to hear him. It will be good for the convention to hear him and get his challenge for missions and evangelism."

In addition to the four speeches, the theme will be interpreted by a hymn writ-

ten especially for the 1987 annual meeting by John McKay, convention music director and music evangelist from Fort Worth, Texas. The song, "To Know Him . . . To Make Him Known," will be sung during each session of the meeting, Coffey said.

"We hope this theme will really put our hearts and minds back on Bold Mission Thrust," the SBC campaign to present the gospel of Christ to the whole world by the (Continued on page 2)

## C-N presents alumni award to Missionary Ruth Womack

JEFFERSON CITY — She has been called "the Mother Teresa of Southern Baptists" by William Gaventa, director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's medical services department.

In awarding her Carson-Newman College's Distinguished Alumni Award, C-N President Cordell Maddox said, "She personifies and exemplifies the reason for this institution's existence."

She is Ruth Womack, who for four decades served the people of Nigeria as a Southern Baptist missionary nurse. On March 20, Womack, a 1942 graduate of Carson-Newman, was honored at a dinner

at the college as the recipient of the school's Distinguished Alumni Award for 1987.

From 1955 until her retirement last year, Womack worked at the Kersey Children's Home in Ogbomoshos, Nigeria. Under her direction, the home, which had been established as an orphanage, became a center for the treatment of malnourished children and for nutrition education.

Mothers would go to live with their children for awhile at the Kersey Home. During their stay, they learned how best to care for the children. At the time of Womack's retirement, over 500 children were being treated at the home every year.

"Ruth's goal was to make children happy and healthy and to convey something (Continued on page 2)



**IN HER HONOR** — Ruth Womack, former missionary nurse, speaks to a crowd gathered at Carson-Newman College to honor her as the school's distinguished alumna.



**ST. LOUIS WATERFRONT** — Busch Memorial Stadium (left) and the gateway arch are main attractions along the St. Louis riverfront. St. Louis will be the site of the 1987 Southern Baptist Convention.

## Tennessee Baptist gifts exceed first five months of last year

After five months of the convention year, Cooperative Program mission gifts from Tennessee Baptists are running ahead of last year, but under the convention-adopted goal, according to Tom Madden, executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Messengers to the 1986 state convention approved a \$22.5-million budget-goal for the November 1986 through October 1987 convention year.

Cooperative Program mission gifts for the November 1986 through March 1987 period have reached \$8,809,447.88, according to Madden. That is 8.7 percent or \$704,728.10 higher than the \$8,104,719.78 given during the same months of the previous budget year.

However, the Cooperative Program mission gifts for the five months were 6.03 percent below the five-month goal of \$9,375,000 (five-twelfths of \$22.5-million). Receipts for the November 1986 through March 1987 period are \$565,552.12 under the five-month goal.

Madden noted that receipts for March were \$1,435,879.99. This amount is 11.81 percent above the Cooperative Program gifts for March 1986, which were \$1,284,216.75.

Last month's mission gifts through the Cooperative Program were 23.42 percent below the \$1,875,000 monthly goal (one-twelfth of \$22.5-million) for the current convention year.

## Roof collapses at Camp Carson

Part of the roof of the Activities Center at Camp Carson in Newport collapsed April 3 from the accumulation of a record-breaking snowfall, reported Jim McDonald, Tennessee Baptist Convention business office director.

About 30 inches of snow fell April 2-5. The roof on the lower level of the building, which covered the recreation room, caved in. The 6,000-square-foot structure is valued at \$288,750, said McDonald. He added that there is possible damage to the wall structure of that part of the building.

The roof on the upper level of the building, which includes the open-air stage and seating, three meeting rooms, office, and reception area, is intact and McDonald does not believe the area is damaged.

McDonald said that builders and engineers will be making repair estimates and that all groups scheduled to use the facilities in the next few months will be contacted about the effect on their camp plans.

More information will appear in next week's issue of the Baptist and Reflector.

## St. Louis hosts SBC . . .

(Continued from page 1)

year 2000, he noted. "We hope this will renew our commitment to Bold Mission Thrust and to what the Lord has called us to do."

Bold Mission Thrust will be the topic of another convention highlight, he added. The "Bold Mission Thrust Prayer Launch" scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, at 7:25 p.m., will "kick off an organized way to involve churches in consistent prayer for Bold Mission Thrust and missions," Coffey said. "We've asked people to pray, but this will be asking people to make a commitment, sort of like a prayer chain in a local church."

Other highlights Coffey listed include the convention sermon, by Jerry Vines,

co-pastor of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla., at noon Wednesday, June 17; the president's address, by Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church of Memphis, Tuesday morning; and two "mountain peaks" — the mission boards' reports — on Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

The June meeting also will feature what is scheduled to be the final report of the SBC Peace Committee, created in 1985 to help end theological and political controversy within the 14.6-million-member convention. The Peace Committee report is set for Tuesday night, from 8:50 to 9:20.

The Order of Business Committee considered several factors as it determined when to locate the Peace Committee report, Coffey said. "We felt we needed to have sufficient time for it," he explained, noting the report is at the end of an evening session, so time for discussion can be extended most easily. If it were conducted earlier in the day, pressing matters such as elections and fixed orders of business would make extension of time almost impossible.

Further, convention planners wanted to have the report on Tuesday, the meeting's busiest and most highly attended day, so as many convention messengers as possible can participate in the process. It also was placed immediately following the SBC Foreign Mission Board report, one of the meeting's most popular features. "We knew there would be a high interest for both reports, and placing them back-to-back, the Peace Committee can address the largest number of messengers," Coffey said.

As with the 1986 meeting in Atlanta, the 1987 SBC in St. Louis will feature a large percentage of its business on Tuesday, the Amarillo pastor said: "We're trying pretty well to get a lot of the major business done on Tuesday. We feel until we get a lot of those things out of the way, they'll be on people's minds. We also want the best participation possible."

The St. Louis meeting is not expected to be as large as the two previous annual meetings — both, with more than 40,000 registered messengers apiece, Coffey said. But SBC '87 is expected to be large and crowded.

"We have the capacity of seating about 30,000 messengers, and we expect that many. We expect it (Cervantes Center) to be filled to capacity," he said. The main hall of the convention site will seat 27,000 messengers, and two overflow halls will hold 1,500 each.

Because of the crowded conditions, access to meeting halls will be limited to registered messengers, program participants, and press, at least through Wednesday morning, Coffey said.



**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD** — Ruth Womack, former missionary to Nigeria, was the 1987 recipient of Carson-Newman's Distinguished Alumni Award. Among those honoring her at a dinner in Jefferson City were (left to right) guest speaker William Gaventa, director of the Foreign Mission Board's medical services department; Nelson Ross, C-N director of alumni relations; Womack; and C-N President Cordell Maddox.

## C-N honors Womack . . .

(Continued from page 1)

of the ministry of Christ," said Gaventa, who was guest speaker for the dinner. "Her tender, loving, patient care — quiet and unsung — has produced changes in hundreds of people's lives."

Gaventa, who worked with and was a neighbor of Womack for many years at the Baptist Medical Center in Ogbomosh, presented an overview of Womack's years of service accompanied by slides from the archives of the Foreign Mission Board.

When Womack first arrived in Africa in 1947, she worked at the Baptist Hospital in Ogbomosh. Her interest in caring for infants and children eventually led to her work at the Kersey Children's Home.

*'Her tender, loving,  
patient care —  
quiet and unsung —  
has produced changes  
in hundreds of  
people's lives.'*

At the home, Womack soon saw that malnutrition was the major health problem threatening the children of Nigeria. She began teaching Nigerian mothers about child care, nutrition, and proper food preparation. She also acquired foods which could be used to add protein to the traditionally starch-heavy Nigerian diet. A turning point in the struggle against malnutrition came in 1984, when Womack began to make milk from soybeans. Each day she and other workers at the Kersey Home converted 37 pounds of soybeans into a protein-rich milk which could help prevent kwashiorkor, a protein-deficiency disease which often strikes Nigerian children.

Although she had been scheduled to retire the next year, Womack chose to spend another year helping the Nigerian people to help themselves through use of the soybean. She set up classes both in Kersey Home and in remote villages to teach the Nigerians how to grow soybeans and to convert them into milk. She also demonstrated six different ways of cooking the beans themselves.

"Nigerians are very conservative in their eating habits," Gaventa observed.

"To get them to change (their diet) was a Herculean task, but she managed."

The Nigerians had great respect for Ruth Womack, Gaventa said. He found that if the people questioned his medical advice, he could best reassure them by saying "Ruth said so."

The Nigerians trusted her because they had seen the effects of her loving care on many of the "sickly, spindly-legged children" who came to the home. "Life began to come back to these children," Gaventa explained. "They became warm, playful, and affectionate."

In addition to her work with the children, Womack also held twice-weekly reading classes for the women who came with their children to the home. The text she chose for the class was the Gospel of Mark.

"I cannot say that I have done very much, because the Lord has done it through me," Ruth Womack told an audience which included her sister Mildred, who works with the Home Mission Board in Florida. Also attending the dinner were several of Womack's C-N classmates and members of the Ruth Womack Chapter of the Woman's Missionary Union at First Baptist Church, Jefferson City.

Following her retirement, Womack returned to live in her hometown of McMinnville, but her interest in the work of the Kersey Home continues.

"God has given us a little soybean," she said. "We believe if enough people use it, malnutrition can be driven from Nigeria."

### Correction

On page three of last week's issue of the Baptist and Reflector, in the story on the report of the Program, Personnel, and Planning Task Force, an incorrect word was used in a quote attributed to James McCluskey, pastor of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville.

The quote should have read, "Every year, due to good financial planning and budget control, we come to the end of a year with unexpended budget funds that average \$250,000."

Unfortunately, the word "unexpended" was used in place of "unexpended." We regret the error and any confusion it may have caused.

## Rugby Hills congregation calls Owens to pastorate

Rugby Hills Baptist Church, Memphis, recently called Mike Owens to serve as pastor.

Owens previously served as pastor of Munford Baptist Church, Munford, and Cloverport Baptist Church, Toone.

He also served as associate pastor/minister of recreation at Bartlett Baptist Church, Bartlett.



Owens

Owens is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

As a summer missionary for the Home Mission Board, he worked in Clarksville, Indiana.

## Miv Hickey to direct hospital volunteer work

NASHVILLE — Miv Hickey has joined Baptist Hospital as director of volunteer services responsible for the recruitment, placement, and evaluation of all the hospital's volunteers.

Hickey joined the hospital after serving as director of volunteer services at HCA Park View Medical Center in Nashville.

Hickey also served as director of volunteer services at Nashville's Vanderbilt University Medical Center for nearly 10 years. Under Hickey's direction the number of volunteer program participants more than doubled while Hickey was there.

## BTN plans coverage of SBC

NASHVILLE (BP) — The Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis, June 16-18, will be telecast live on the Baptist Telecommunication Network (BTN) for the third consecutive year.

Joe Denney, director of the telecommunications department at the Baptist Sunday School Board, said the convention will be carried gavel-to-gavel again this year. Denney estimated that more people saw the Southern Baptist Convention on BTN last year than saw it in person in Atlanta.

This year likely will be considerably larger than last year, however, because more than 1,050 Southern Baptist churches and other organizations now subscribe to the denomination's teaching and training network.

Gomer Lesch, senior BTN consultant and anchor for SBC NewScene, will work again with Richard McCartney, executive vice-president and chief operating officer of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, Texas, to help viewers understand the proceedings and keep abreast of developments.

Coverage will begin June 16, at 8:15 a.m. (CDT).

# HMB search committee nominates Larry Lewis

By Jim Newton

ATLANTA (BP)— Larry L. Lewis, president of Hannibal-LaGrange College in Hannibal, Mo., has been nominated for possible election as president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Lewis, 52, will be recommended to the position by a seven-member search committee during a called meeting of Home Mission Board directors on April 10.

Letters with a resume of Lewis were mailed March 30 to the 84 directors of the Home Mission Board and to editors of Baptist state papers by the chairman of the board and chairman of its search committee. The letters asked that the information be kept confidential until after the election April 10.

News of Lewis' nomination broke publicly in the April 1 issue of the Atlanta Constitution.

Troy L. Morrison, chairman of the search committee recommending Lewis for the position, confirmed the nomination, saying the committee was unanimous in its choice.

"We regret that the news was leaked to the secular press, but we have nothing to hide and want to be open and honest with Southern Baptists," said Morrison, director of church-minister relations for the Alabama Baptist State Convention in Montgomery.

Lewis, contacted in Hannibal, Mo., said he felt the secular press stories describing Hannibal-LaGrange as "a tiny fundamentalist college whose teachers are required to affirm their belief in the existence of a personal devil and a literal hell" were negative and "pejorative."

Lewis explained that the doctrinal

statement which faculty and staff at Hannibal-LaGrange are asked to support actually is a resolution that was adopted by the Missouri Baptist Convention, which owns the school, and includes certain minimum standards of conduct and morality.

"We ask our faculty and staff to refrain from use of tobacco, alcohol, and other harmful drugs, that they be active in the church of their choice, that they be clean, upright, Christian examples in daily life, and that they be born-again believers in Jesus Christ," Lewis said.

"We also ask that they support a resolution adopted by the Missouri Baptist Convention in 1978, which requested that faculty and staff of all four colleges owned and operated by the Missouri Baptist Convention adhere to certain Baptist doctrines," said Lewis.

The resolution requested that faculty members of the four Missouri Baptist colleges "believe in the inspiration of the whole Bible, the inerrancy of the original manuscripts, the existence of a primeval couple named Adam and Eve, the literal occurrence of the miracles as recorded in the Bible, the virgin birth and bodily resurrection, and the personal return of the Lord Jesus."

Lewis said that Hannibal-LaGrange takes seriously the resolutions of the Missouri Baptist Convention, but it is no more a "fundamentalist college" than any of the other three Missouri Baptist colleges which have been asked to abide by the same resolution.

Hannibal-LaGrange, said Lewis, employs about 30 full-time faculty and 40 staff members, has an annual budget of

about \$3-million, and an enrollment of 759 students.

Before assuming the college presidency in 1981, Lewis was pastor of Tower Grove Baptist Church in St. Louis. Previously, he had been director of religious education for the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey, pastor of a New Jersey church in suburban Philadelphia, and a church in Columbus, Ohio.

Morrison, chairman of the committee which is nominating Lewis, acknowledged that Lewis is not well known in the denomination. Lewis was one of 64 candidates for the position to succeed William G. Tanner of Oklahoma City, who resigned last June.

Morrison said the committee interviewed 10 candidates and felt Lewis was best qualified for the nomination.

"After an interview with Dr. Lewis on March 9, we became convinced that God was leading the committee to nominate him as president," said Morrison. He stressed the committee voted unanimously to recommend Lewis during its last meeting on March 27.

"Larry Lewis is deeply committed to missions and evangelism and comes with a background of both state convention experience and service as pastor of three fast-growing churches in urban settings," said Morrison. "We believe he can give creative direction to the Home Mission Board's emphasis on reaching America's great cities with the gospel."

Morrison pointed out that when Lewis was pastor of Parsons Baptist Church in Columbus, Ohio, the congregation grew from 16 to more than 600 members in five

years. It also started four new missions.

As pastor of Delaware Valley Baptist Church in Willingboro, N.J., across the river from Philadelphia, Lewis led the church in development of numerous ministries to meet the needs of urban people.

In St. Louis, he was pastor of the 5,000-member Tower Grove Baptist Church for seven years. The church sponsored a multi-ministry program including a bus ministry, day care, Christian day school, food and clothing distribution center, work assistance program, and job placement service. The church participated in a pilot project which led to development of the Continuing Witness Training program by the Home Mission Board. Lewis was a consultant in the project.

While pastor of the largest Southern Baptist church in Missouri, Lewis was first vice-president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference and president of the Missouri Baptist Pastors' Conference. At the 1985 Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas, he was chairman of the Resolutions Committee. He also was a member of the SBC Resolutions Committee in 1980.

A native of Missouri who grew up on a family farm near Centralia, Mo., about 50 miles from the college he now heads, Lewis said he understands both the problems of reaching the cities and the needs of rural people.

A graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, with bachelor of divinity and master of religious education degrees, Lewis also is a graduate of Hannibal-LaGrange and the University of Missouri.

## 'This is Your Life' event surprises Homer Cate

By Mona Collett

The evening was planned in cahoots with his wife, Edna Cate, and according to Homer Cate, he was unsuspecting of the program that had been planned to honor his 56-year ministry.

Cate arrived at Immanuel Baptist Church in Knoxville on March 29 expecting to deliver a sermon he had prepared at the request of Joe Chandler, pastor of the church. Cate had been asked to supply for Chandler, who had said he wouldn't be able to preach the evening sermon.

As Cate was escorted to the pulpit by fellow Immanuel churchmen, those who filled the auditorium stood and applauded. JoAnn Basic, chief instigator of the event, made the announcement, "Rev. Homer A. Cate — this is your life."

According to Cate, his dear friends Basic and Fay Murphy "had been planning this since way back" and had recruited his wife to help.

Hundreds of friends came in honor of the man who has spent his entire ministry serving Tennessee Baptists. Former pastorates include Immanuel, where he was pastor from 1952 to 1963 and is now a member of the church. He has served as pastor of Union and Stock Creek Baptist churches in Knoxville, First Baptist Church in Shelbyville, Thorn Grove Baptist Church in Strawberry Plains, First Baptist Church in Celina, First Baptist Church in Crossville, and Lakewood Baptist Church in Donelson.

Relatives and friends took turns recapping Cate's life. "We always loved our people," says Cate, referring to his former pastorates, "and they loved us." The mutual affection between the pastor and his churches is obvious from the fact that he served for more than 10 years in three of his pastorates, and for nine years in another.

Cate's sister, Billie Coppack, said she knew he would be a preacher. She told the gathering how he would "play-like" he was baptizing people when he was a little boy.

Cate grew up in Knoxville. He was graduated from

Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

One of the special surprise guests was John Kennedy, his roommate at Carson-Newman. Wray Smith, Cate's brother-in-law, and director of education for Knox County Association of Baptists, also attended.

A letter of tribute to Cate from University of Tennessee Head Football Coach Johnny Majors was read. Gary Baker, pastor of South Knoxville Baptist Church, addressed Cate, "You baptized me in that baptism and ordained me at this altar. You have been an inspiration to me."

During his years of serving as pastor, he also has been active in denominational life. He was on the first board of trustees for Belmont College in Nashville. He served on the board of trustees for Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy for six years and as chairman for two of those years.

He was moderator for New Duck River Baptist Association, served as first vice-president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and was on the TBC Committee on Boards and Committee on Committees. He also served on the board of trustees for American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville.

He also wrote for the Baptist and Reflector, acting as correspondent for middle Tennessee.

For the past 13 years, Cate has been retired. He has been an adult education teacher for the past 12 years. He also serves as supply and interim pastor for churches in the Knoxville area. Presently he is interim pastor of Northwest Baptist Church. Other interim positions have included Thorn Grove Baptist Church, where he had served as pastor, Riverdale Baptist Church, Lonsdale Baptist Church, Gayland Heights Baptist Church, and Union Baptist Church, all in Knoxville.

Both of the Cates' children, H. David and Susan Jane, live in Knoxville and were present when their father was honored. His son, who is chancellor for Knox County, reinforced the underlying theme of the evening when he said, "My father has devoted his life to the unselfish service of others."



**LAUGHING AT HIMSELF** — Homer Cate laughs heartily at one of the stories told on him during a "This is Your Life" event in his honor. Knoxville News-Sentinel Photo by Michael Patrick.

# 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.

## Terribly saddened

Dear editor:

Like many other Southern Baptists right now, I'm terribly saddened by what is happening in our convention.

The tongue has betrayed our purpose of reaching the world for Christ. Doesn't anyone remember what James had to say on the tongue during January Bible Study? It's no wonder our giving to the world hunger relief fund dropped in 1986 and growth rate over all has slowed down.

When you look at it closely, we're all extreme conservatives compared to the world and we're all liberals by 15th century Monk standards. So what's the deal? We are all equal in God's eyes. Billy Graham will be received as warmly as the man who gets saved on his death bed. That's what is so great about grace — no conditions anywhere on anyone.

Someone once said, "You can prove anything with the Bible." That's true if you ignore the rest of the Bible. However, God's Word is not to be ignored but applied and shared.

I believe all the Bible is God's Word and it is exactly the way He intended it to be. It is up to me as an individual, while reading, to be led by the Holy Spirit to do my Father's will, not to do what you think God's will is for me!!!

Now, what do you call me? How about a Christian with a burden for souls and lives.

Steven R. Pinkston  
P.O. Box 40784  
Nashville, TN 37204

## Tired of the mess

Dear editor:

After pastoring SBC churches for some 31 years, I now attempt to write my first letter to the Baptist paper.

I am tired of the mess we have allowed ourselves to get into. I cannot understand why anyone would be ashamed or not

want to be known as a fundamentalist.

Fundamentalism simply means that one's religious beliefs are based on a literal interpretation of the Bible. I am a fundamentalist and have been for 31 years.

The Bible is the Word of God. If God did not mean what He said, why did He say it? Why didn't He say something else?

If the Bible is not the Word of God, then by what authority do we preach? I have the Word of God which I preach without apology. If God said it in His Word, that settles it. I gladly preach it.

Lamar Dietz  
700 Ozark Ave.  
Cleveland, TN 37311

## Call an ambulance

Dear editor:

Our Southern Baptist Convention is very sick. Many "doctors" have diagnosed the disease during these days of fever, but none are able to bring healing. That's because they can't! No physician can accomplish what his patient doesn't want to receive. Do we really desire to be cured from this epidemic plaguing our denomination? Evidence says no.

Outward symptoms of our illness are easily identified and warrant a quick trip to the emergency room. However, it is our internal infection causing us major concern. Upon careful microscopic examination, we discover the inner source of our Southern Baptist malignancy is an absence of love. A couple doses of Christ-like humility is the medicine to cure us. After swallowing it, feverish Baptists can then respond in a spirit of openness, honest discussion, and forgiveness. If we refuse the cure, heart surgery will soon be necessary. Pre-med students are quick to point out that severe heart pain will always precede a cardiac arrest.

I am a sick Baptist, too, sick of brother killing brother in the name of the Lord, sick of judging others who don't instantly conform to our exact specifications on issues or beliefs, sick of selfish immaturity, sick of hypocritical attitudes, sick of political games, and sick of unwarranted controversy. I long for health again. And health resides in hearts of love. Remember, the world won't know we're His disciples by our traditions, systems, or even doctrines, but only by our genuine

love for each other. God's love is the antibiotic which can heal the leprosy in our convention.

Somebody please call the ambulance of prayer. When medical crises occur, it speeds to the hospital where repairs can be made. Jesus cures disease. He's the waiting Doctor we all need.

Daniel J. Martin  
700 Russell Street  
Nashville, TN 37206

## Issue muzzles

Dear editor:

I'm sure many a letter writer to your newsmagazine would not do so if they understood the hypocrisy of their own practice when it comes to the issue of women in leadership positions in the church.

The way this Baptist reads his Bible, there is not one Baptist church I know of who follows Paul's injunction in 1 Corinthians 14:34-35: "Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak . . . And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church."

Now, to my understanding, this means we are to fire all the women in our churches who teach Sunday School, beginning with the nursery and going on up. Also drop the soprano and alto sections from the church choir — all the church choirs! Replace the women on the church committees with the other gender. And then, to insure strict faithfulness to the Bible, issue muzzles to each and every female who enters the door of the church building.

I dare any church to follow literally the New Testament "teaching" about women in church. It wouldn't survive the insurrection!

Marc Mullinax  
1711 Massachusetts Ave., NW  
#713  
Washington, D.C. 20036

## TBC arranges trip for senior adults

Spots are still available for the April 26-30 Tennessee Baptist Convention trip to the first Southern Baptist Senior Adult Convention in Fort Worth, Texas.

The convention features include an address by Jess Moody, pastor of First Baptist Church, Van Nuys, Calif.; a media presentation; senior adult choirs from Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; and Jerry Clower, Baptist humorist from Yazoo City, Miss.

The TBC trip, which is coordinated by All Seasons Travel Inc. in Chattanooga, includes the conference registration fee, round-trip bus fare from the TBC Executive Board building in Brentwood, two nights lodging in Little Rock, Ark., three days and two nights lodging in Fort Worth, and one afternoon of sightseeing.

The senior adults will tour Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, the Stockyards on Chisholm Trail, Sundance Square, all in Fort Worth, and the J. R. Ranch in Dallas.

The cost, which does not include meals, is \$331 if one per room, \$236 for two to a room, \$206 for three per room, and \$191 for four to a room.

Interested persons should contact TBC church training department, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027.

## AIDS and sin

Dear editor:

Mr. Black's reasoning (letter - March 25) concerning homosexuals and AIDS is totally inconsistent with God's teaching against sin. Deuteronomy 28 is very clear about the curses that come through disobedience and it speaks to every human being (Deuteronomy 29:14-15).

How can one compare lepers (who contact a disease through no fault of their own) and AIDS carriers (except those innocent victims) who get the disease through perverted, immoral lifestyles? AIDS is not new; "and receiving in themselves (curse) that recompense of their error which was (is) meet" (Romans 1:27).

The only cure for this plague will come when sinful human beings turn to Almighty God in confession and repentance. His wrath is certainly poured upon the earth (as it always has been against sin) and Revelation 16:11 states: "men would blaspheme the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores and repent not of their deeds."

The Christian can take heart and know that the Lord's return is imminent, and I long for it with all my heart (Matthew 24:15).

It was the theme of judgment on iniquity which was in the mind of the Jew or Christian who, sometime before the eruption of A.D. 79, scribbled on a wall in Pompeii "SODOMA GOMORRA" (Zondervan Pictorial Bible Dictionary).

The handwriting is certainly on the wall in America (see Revelation 22:11-12).

Mrs. Dexter L. Woods Jr.  
1811 Indian Hills Rd.  
Lebanon, TN 37087

## Seminars to deal with new tax law

Three tax seminars for churches, ministers, and related institutions and workers will be led by Frank Schwall, regional marketing director at the Annuity Board in Dallas, Texas, and Vern Powers, Tennessee Baptist Convention protection plans department director.

The seminars are scheduled for April 22 at Belmont College in Nashville, April 23 at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, and April 24 at Union University in Jackson. They will meet from 10 a.m. to noon.

The purpose of the seminars is to help churches, associations, ministers, and church-related institutions and employees understand how the Tax Reform Act of 1986 will affect them.

Persons wishing more information may contact the TBC protection plans department, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027.

## Riner begins ministry with Corinth Baptists

Jimmy Riner is now serving as pastor of Corinth Baptist Church in Loudon.

He comes to this pastorate from Friendship Baptist Church in Lenoir City, where he was pastor for 13 years.

Other former pastorates include Bays Mountain Baptist Church in Knoxville; Mount Olive Baptist Church, Clinton; McMahan Baptist Church, Sevierville; and French Broad Valley Baptist Church in Kodak.

A native of Strawberry Plains, Riner has served as evangelism chairman for Loudon County Baptist Association, as well as a member of the committee on committees.

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 71,456

Charlie Warren  
Associate Editor

Connie Davis  
Assistant Editor

## Baptist and Reflector

Doris Elliott  
Advertising

Mona Collett  
Church News Assistant

Established in 1835  
Post Office Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027  
Telephone: (615) 373-2255

**Baptist and Reflector** (USPS 041-780) is published weekly except New Year's week by the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention at Brentwood, Tennessee 37027. Subscription prices: \$6.55 individual; clubs of ten or more, \$6.25; church budget, 10.9¢ per family per week when sent to 50 percent or more of church homes. Second class postage paid at Brentwood, Tennessee, and at additional mailing office.

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

Member of Baptist Press (BP) news service of the Southern Baptist Convention.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Baptist and Reflector, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027.

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Fred Isaacs, chairman; Paul Bryant, vice-chairman; Paul Barkley, David Drumel, Ray Fowler, Marshall Gupton, Calvin Harvell, Mrs. Richard Hawkins, James Hutson, Murray Mathis, Calvin Metcalf, Perry Michel, Jerry Oakley, Jere Plunk, Dennis Pulley, James Robertson, Lon Shoopman Jr., and Fred Steelman.



**STUDENT PREACHER** — C-N senior Steve Edmonds preaches during a student-led revival on campus March 24-26.

## C-N students lead revival

JEFFERSON CITY — Carson-Newman College students ministered to their campus during a student-led revival in C-N's Gentry Auditorium March 24-26.

Five public decisions involving salvation and rededication were made at the revival's five services, which were attended by an average of 250 people.

A different C-N ministerial student preached at each service. The student preachers included seniors Arnold Farr, Bill Booth, Tim Noe, Charles Johnson, and Steve Edmonds.

C-N seniors also served as music leaders, accompanists, and musical soloists and gave testimony at each service.

## Tennessean offers ways to avoid teen suicide

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (BP) — Teen-age suicide is not primarily a teen-age problem or even a family problem, but "a crisis of society," a family Tennessee counselor told a Southern Baptist seminar on family issues.

John Q. Baucom, a Southern Baptist layman from Chattanooga who has written and spoken extensively on teen-age suicide, said today's children are growing up in "a hurried society" filled with pressure yet "generally absent of significant adult relationships."

Baucom addressed the annual seminar of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission held March 23-25 in Charlotte, N.C.

The hurried society, where "the value is hurry up and grow up," is a society created by adults that thrusts that value upon children, Baucom said. The problem is that children can be "hurried up" physically and intellectually but not emotionally, he said.

That kind of environment, he said, builds anxiety and stress while sapping self-esteem. The consequences are often destructive, including suicide.

Baucom noted that in 1986 more than 2-million teen-agers attempted suicide — 6,300 of them died. Both figures, he added, are expected to rise this year.

The key to coping with the growing crisis is the caring involvement of adults in the daily lives of children and youth, he

# Hinson sees 'divorce' in SBC

By Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BP) — A Southern Baptist seminary professor called for a "divorce" between the two factions within his own denomination during a lecture at a Catholic university in the nation's capital.

E. Glenn Hinson, professor of church history at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., said he sees no way to resolve the controversy in which the Southern Baptist Convention has been engaged for more than 25 years.

"Two groups are hopelessly polarized," Hinson said. "We have a marriage that is broken down irretrievably, and I'm now convinced it would be more Christian and serve Christ's kingdom better if we got a divorce. If we do not, we will merely continue to violate one another's conscience and to blaspheme Christ and darken whatever light shines within us."

Hinson made his remarks while delivering the Wattson Lecture at the Catholic University of America, where he has taught during the spring semester while on sabbatical from Southern Seminary. In addition to being selected for the annual lecture, Hinson was awarded the school's Johannes Quasten Medal for excellence in scholarship and leadership in religious studies.

In the lecture, Hinson discussed an assigned topic, the influence of fundamentalism on ecumenical dialogue. "The major division among Christians today is not between but within denominations — between fundamentalists with their separatist and absolutist mentality and other persons who have a more inclusive and tolerant mentality," he said.

Hinson said one strategy is to "infiltrate denominations" and "by active political effort to assert control." He pointed to the

Southern Baptist Convention as an example.

"The fundamentalists began their quest to control the Southern Baptist Convention the same year Moral Majority was born, in 1979," he said. "They spoke of parity and fairness in representation on boards and in agencies; they wanted a few professors who would teach fundamentalism, a few agency heads who represented their outlook, missionaries and other denominational workers who held their views. Now that they've established control, they have no inclination whatever to share their power."

During a question-and-answer session following the lecture, Hinson described "divorce" within the denomination as an "incredibly complex problem."

"Ideally, Christians might simply recognize that here are two different approaches to Christianity and in conscience there is no way for us to relate to one

another," he said. "It would mean essentially agreeing in some way to divide up the control of property, the support of programs, and all of the other things that we have."

Hinson said another possibility would be to take the dispute to court, citing three court precedents involving congregations. In each case, Hinson said, the "courts awarded everything to the minority who represented the Baptist tradition and denied the fundamentalists anything."

The Quasten Medal which Hinson received is named for Johannes Quasten, a leading historian of the early church who taught at Catholic University of America from 1938 to 1977. During the ceremony, Hinson was cited as "a man of many gifts, a man of excellence. His scholarship and theological interests are many: New Testament, patristics (the study of the early church), ecclesiology, spirituality, liturgy, Baptist history."

## CLC executive testifies on lottery advertising

WASHINGTON (BP) — The head of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission urged a House subcommittee to reject proposed legislation that would loosen federal restrictions on advertisement of various forms of gambling.

CLC Executive Director Larry Baker, testified April 2 before the House Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations on the proposed Lottery Advertising Clarification Act of 1987 (H.R. 1568). The bill — sponsored by subcommittee chairman Barney Frank — would amend federal law to allow additional advertising of state-operated lotteries, casinos, and charitable gambling.

"The most troublesome part of this legislation is its removal of interstate advertising prohibitions," Baker testified. "The argument that the federal government should not be concerned about regulation fails to acknowledge the possible entanglements which would result if gambling activities in one state could legally advertise their activities in other states which do not have legalized gambling."

Baker said present federal law provides the best assurance of neutrality since it strikes a balance between allowing states that want legalized gambling to have it and providing states that do not want it the opportunity to avoid the consequences associated with legalized gambling. Interstate advertising of legal gambling operations also could influence laws in other states, he added.

"Advertising for state-operated lotteries could become a powerful force for changing the laws of other states," he testified. "This advertising, conducted by an agency of one state, would become a form of government-subsidized propaganda in another state. The neutrality required by present law better serves the interest of state self-determination."

Baker described casino advertising as "even more troublesome." Noting state after state has refused to legalize such gambling, he said. "Some of the consequences of casino gambling can cut across state lines and contribute to problem concerns for other states."

He also mentioned problems with charitable gambling, which he described as "troublesome activity for states to regulate."

In concluding his testimony, Baker pointed to a resolution adopted during the 1986 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Atlanta. The resolution voiced opposition to legislation that would eliminate lottery advertising restrictions.

After the hearing, Baker said: "This legislation is a high priority for the gambling industry. It would open the doors for a tidal wave of lottery and casino advertising even in states where those activities are illegal."

"Immediate opposition by Southern Baptists and other concerned citizens is needed before the bill is acted upon by the subcommittee."

## Men rob missionaries at gunpoint

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (BP) — Two men who gained entrance on the pretense of asking for food robbed Southern Baptist Missionaries Jimmy and Peggy Bartley of money and other items valued at \$1,600.

The Bartleys were in their home in Montevideo, Uruguay, preparing to leave for their church's Wednesday night service March 18, when the robbers appeared.

After gaining entrance, the men displayed a gun and a knife, demanding all the money in the house. Included in the money taken was \$75 in offerings from the previous Sunday service which Bartley was taking to the church treasurer and \$250 in funds from the Baptist Theological Seminary where he is the administrator.

The robbers also took Bartley's car and house keys, two tape recorders he uses to record a daily radio program, four pairs of tennis shoes, and Mrs. Bartley's jewelry. Then they locked the couple in the bathroom.

# Refugee discovers more than new home in U.S.

Stories by Connie Davis

Photos by Janet Herriman

Though his country had endured dictators, take-overs, and communist insurgencies, when the Vietnamese communists took control of the government of Cambodia in 1975, every Cambodian faced the possibility of death.

Touch Ieng was 29 years old in 1979. He had never been away from his family, which included nine brothers and sisters. But his parents told him, their oldest child, to try to escape.

They wanted me to "have a better life in the future," said Ieng, who entered Vietnam and then tried for two years to cross the border of Vietnam into Thailand. After returning to Cambodia, he eventually was able to enter Thailand.

Ieng spent seven months in a Thailand refugee camp and six months in a refugee camp in the Philippines waiting to get a sponsor in a new home.

Finally Ieng was informed that the United States Catholic Churches agency would sponsor him. He had heard of California and Texas — never Tennessee — but he was sent to Memphis.

On Sept. 1, 1981, he arrived in Memphis with six other Cambodians. The only clothing he had was an extra pair of pants and a shirt.

Ieng spoke some English. He had studied it in high school in Cambodia and had served as a translator in the refugee camps. He also had taken a cultural orientation class at the camp, but his new home was "different," he explained.

"I had no friends, no where to go. I missed my homeland, food," he remembered.

His sponsors provided an apartment for Ieng and two other single men. He began taking classes to prepare for the high school equivalency test.

Some Cambodians came to visit him and took him shopping, but "they were

just friends, not relatives," said Ieng.

Soon members of Highland Heights Baptist Church in Memphis visited Ieng, who lived near the church. Also James Kellum, director of missions programs for Shelby County Baptist Association and a former missionary to South Vietnam, visited him.

The people brought food and clothes. They took him and other Cambodians to the church to let them try on and choose clothing the church had collected.

He remembers that these people would often drive their own car instead of the church van when helping him. The clothes may not have been "in fashion, but they keep me warm," he added.

"Later on they just invite me to come to church," he pointed out, noting that he was one of the first Cambodians to attend Highland Heights Baptist Church.

After his apartment was robbed, he decided to move to a more desirable location. After checking at the church and with his sponsor, Ieng could not find anyone to help him move. He even thought about trying to carry his few things to his new apartment, but he knew he could not carry a mattress about seven miles to his new apartment.

Then an older man from the church offered to help him and Ieng and the man moved all of his belongings. "He's old. I'm sorry," said Ieng, noting that the man helped him even though he might not be able to continue to attend the church because he did not have transportation.

His new friend said that he might be able to take him to church some time. The next Sunday he did just that.

"I want to learn more about that kind of people," said Ieng. "They showed love and concern and care to me."

Soon he was regularly attending the single adult Sunday School class at the church. He was learning about God, but he realized later that the gospel is not easy to understand without the Holy Spirit.

The church started a separate worship service in the chapel, which initially had 10-15 Cambodians. Ieng and another friend translated the message of an English-speaking preacher.

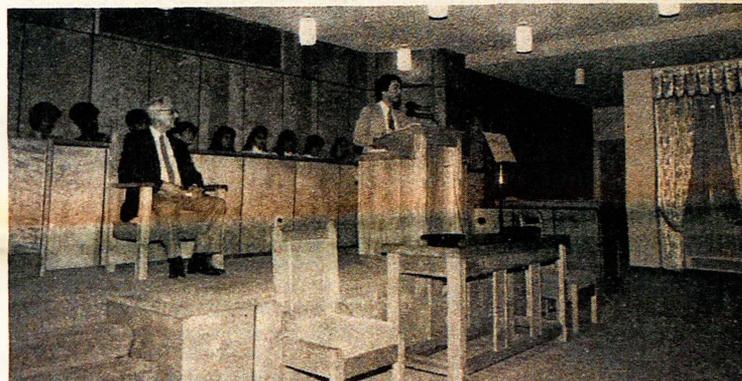
"I meet my people and have some American friends that care and love me," observed Ieng. Persons like Hilldred Phillips, a church member he identified



**AWARD-WINNER** — Rath Chum (center), a member of this youth Sunday School of the mission, was the national grand prize winner of the **Junior Scholastic** magazine's essay contest on liberty in conjunction with the centennial celebration of the Statue of Liberty last year. He and his parents were honored by President Ronald Reagan in Washington, D.C., last year.



**MEN STUDYING** — Touch Ieng (right) co-teaches a men's Sunday School class for the mission with a member of the church.



**NEW LEADERSHIP** — The mission's new pastor, Ieng, leads during the Sunday morning worship service which meets in the chapel of Highland Heights Baptist Church in Memphis. L. S. Stevens, former pastor, looks on from the platform. Stevens still assists with services.

## Vanderbilt BSU wins campus event

**NASHVILLE** — The Vanderbilt University Baptist Student Union swept top honors in the campus' annual "Athenian Sing," winning first place in both the mixed group and overall categories.

Thirteen groups competed in the musical competition sponsored by the Athenians, an honor society for juniors. The annual event was established by entertainer Dinah Shore in 1941.

The BSU presentation, "The Commodore Blues," shed a humorous light on problems Vanderbilt students face and concluded with a more serious song which suggested that despite earthly problems, everything comes from God and we should be thankful for what God has given us.

## Stewardship Commission elects John Wallace

A Tennessean has been elected vice-chairman of the trustees of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission.

John Wallace of Morristown, president of King Wallace Hardware Inc. and Sevan Wheels Inc., a trucking business, was selected as vice-chairman by his fellow trustees. A member of First Baptist Church, Morristown, he also is a trustee of the Baptist Health System of East Tennessee and Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City.

as his godmother, "provide me some needs, encourage me, and make me feel more confident," he continued.

Phillips led Ieng to accept Christ. After the baptismal service for him and several other Cambodians, the church had a surprise party for the first Cambodian members of their church.

"After I'm baptized, I feel some change in my mind and in my heart," testified Ieng, noting that he had less fear, loneliness, and fewer worries.

As more Cambodians arrived in the city and joined the church, other church members and Kellum helped the congregation begin a long process to "grow up the church," explained Ieng.

He began to teach a single adult class for Cambodians. Then his students became teachers in other Sunday School classes, assisting and replacing English-speaking teachers.

Ieng was working as a groundskeeper and attending State Technical Institute at Memphis, studying computer operation. During this time, he met Kim Bin from Cambodia. But he did not ask her to marry him until his father responded to his letter, giving him permission to marry.

Then God answered his prayer by allowing him to change jobs. Since 1984 he has been a native language teacher at Sheffield High School. When Ieng completed his associate of arts degree at the technical institute, Kellum helped him

enroll in a course at Mid-South Bible College in Memphis and later at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis.

In September 1986, the congregation was constituted as a mission.

Ieng began preaching after translating for about five years, and on Feb. 1, 1987, Ray Fowler, pastor of Highland Heights Baptist Church, and Kellum, presented Ieng a license to preach.

On March 18, the church recommended him and his congregation called him as pastor.

Ieng explained that when Kellum first encouraged him to prepare for the ministry, he was not ready to serve the Lord. "Since, I realize that God need me to help carry His message to my people."

"I feel like it's a big job for me. I trust in Him that He will be with me."

Currently a student at Mid-America Theological Seminary, Ieng explained that many of the Cambodian people, now totaling 400-500 in Memphis, do not even know how to read their own language. Also, he knows that they will more readily accept the preaching of a person from their own country. The mission currently has 320 members and is believed to be the largest Cambodian mission in the United States.

"Since God choose me as His servant, then I can help them understand what God wants them to do."

# BJCPA study committee works on final report

By Marv Knox

NASHVILLE (BP) — The report on a study of Southern Baptist participation in the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs is almost complete, the chairman of the special committee that is conducting the study said.

The nine-member fact-finding committee was appointed in September by the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. It has been charged with studying the relationship between the denomination and the Baptist Joint Committee, a religious liberty advocacy organization composed of representatives from nine Baptist bodies in the United States and Canada.

The fact-finding committee was formed in response to an effort at the 1986 SBC annual meeting to sever ties between the convention and the Baptist Joint Committee and establish an "exclusive Southern Baptist presence" in Washington.

The study committee drafted its final report during a meeting March 27 in Nashville and a three-member writing team worked on the final version March 28, said chairman Gary Young, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Phoenix, Ariz. As soon as the report is typed, a copy will be sent to each member of the fact-finding committee, and that group will hold a telephone conference call to secure its final approval, Young said. Then the report will be sent to members of the Executive Committee and released through Baptist Press, the denomination's news service, he added.

"We hope this final release will take place before May 1, which is 45 days before the SBC annual meeting," he said.

The final report "will include an introduction, a description of our meetings and procedures, the scope of our

research, information relative to the SBC Public Affairs Committee and our recommendation concerning the revision of Bylaw 18, a report of our committee findings, and our committee's recommendations," Young said.

The SBC Public Affairs Committee is the 15-member group through which Southern Baptists relate to the Baptist Joint Committee. Bylaw 18 of the SBC Constitution governs the formation of the Public Affairs Committee.

The proposed bylaw revision would increase the size of the Public Affairs Committee in accordance with a recent Baptist Joint Committee restructuring plan. Consequently, the SBC representation on the Baptist Joint Committee would increase from 15 to 18 members. The revision also would decrease the number of SBC agency heads who hold permanent seats on the Public Affairs Committee from seven to six, do away with two other seats available to agency heads on a rotating basis, and increase the number of at-large positions from five to 12.

The bylaw revision already has been approved by the Executive Committee and will be presented to messengers to the SBC annual meeting June 16-18 in St. Louis.

The fact-finding committee's report is the result of three commissioned research studies, hundreds of pieces of information submitted to the committee by individuals, two public hearings, and two brainstorming sessions, Young said. Documentation for the study fills a large suitcase.

As custom dictates, messengers to the SBC annual meeting will receive only the committee's recommendations, as approved by the Executive Committee June 15, Young said. He noted cost and logistics

of printing and distributing the lengthy report to all SBC messengers is prohibitive. However, the full report will be the basis of the Baptist Press account of the fact-finding committee's research and recommendations, he said. The full report also will be available to individuals by requesting it from the Executive Committee, 901 Commerce, Nashville, TN 37203.

Of his committee's work, Young said: "I believe the document (final report) has

accomplished our objective, which answers the question, 'How can the Southern Baptist Convention have the most efficient and effective voice possible in Washington, D.C.?' We have worked diligently, conscientiously, and prayerfully to reach this common objective. All of our committee votes thus far have been unanimous, and I am hopeful our final vote on this report will also be unanimous."

## Smith joins PTL board

ST. LOUIS (BP) — Former Southern Baptist Convention President Bailey Smith has accepted a position on the board of directors of the PTL television ministry following the resignation of evangelist Jim Bakker.

Smith, a full-time evangelist, said he was offered the post after Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta, and immediate past president of the SBC, declined appointment to the board.

Smith told Word and Way, news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention, that he accepted the position, in part, because he did not want to see the "PTL giant fall into the wrong hands." He said this was an opportunity for Southern Baptists to influence the future direction of the PTL television ministry.

"We should be grateful to Jerry Falwell for giving Southern Baptists this opportunity," he said. Falwell is chairman of the PTL board after being given the ministry in a private meeting by PTL founder and former President Bakker.

A change in PTL programming is in the

works if Smith has his way. "I don't want to say too much," he said, "but I agree with Jerry Falwell that anything takes on the stance of its leaders." After noting it will take time to make the changes, Smith added, "If Baptists have questions about this, I hope they will just be patient."

He said that he and Falwell "have the same things in mind" for the future of PTL. "If they don't work out, I'll be gone," he added.

Smith noted the new PTL board represents a wide range of evangelical leaders including Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians. Only one new board member comes from the Assemblies of God, the denomination of the former PTL leader. Each director was hand picked by Falwell, Smith said, adding "Now it is his (Falwell's) ministry. He is in total charge."

This change marks a "historical step in ecumenical relations," Smith pointed out, because it is "the first time in history that a Pentecostal ministry has been put in the hands of Baptists."

# Couple represents many members of church with love for Cambodians

Emphasizing that this is not a "one couple operation," L.S. and Louise Stevens point out that many members of Highland Heights Baptist Church in Memphis make the ministry to the Cambodian mission possible. (See accompanying story on page 6.)

One lady plans all of the fellowships, dinners, and celebrations like weddings, said Louise Stevens.

Another lady directs the clothing room. And many others teach in the Sunday School classes, which are available for Cambodians of all ages.

Wayne Hastings, who helped begin the ministry, still teaches the men's class with Touch Ieng, the mission's new pastor.

Mrs. Stevens, who was church secretary when the church's ministry to Cambodians began in 1981, felt led to devote her time to the ministry when she left her job the next year. Her husband, L. S., soon began preaching the message for the Cambodian worship service on Sunday morning.

He had felt the call to preach early in his life, but did not "follow through," he said. Even though he often worked five

days a week in Chicago, he prepared his sermons in his hotel room.

He has been preaching for the congregation about five years. Ieng and others have translated the messages.

The Stevens, who are retired, explained that nearly all of the Cambodian members have their phone number. They try to meet the everyday needs of the people, who often do not speak English and are poor.

A car accident or going to a hospital is confusing, even to a Cambodian that has lived in the United States for a long time, said Mrs. Stevens.

The Stevens also indicate that this ministry has been a "joint effort" between the established Americans and Cambodians. The church's missions committee and now an advisory committee, which includes three Cambodian mission members and three other church members, direct the mission.

Especially excited about Ieng and other Cambodians who are becoming leaders in the mission, Mrs. Stevens added, "They need leadership that will continue."



**NO HANDICAP** — Jane Bayer (right) does not find that her wheelchair keeps her from teaching the Cambodian children a song of thanks for God's different animals.



**THROUGH AN INTERPRETER** — English-speaking Hazel Martin (left) teaches this Sunday School class for Cambodian women through an interpreter.



**REFLECTIONS** — The sunlight seems to reflect from this child in a preschool Sunday School class.

# Actors, puppeteers, clowns — learn, worship —

Stories and photos by Mona Collett

Faces in the ministry, numbering about 600, gathered this past weekend to learn, share ideas, and improve their drama, puppet, and clowning ministries. They also worshiped — creatively — under the leadership of professionals in their craft.

In spite of snow in the eastern part of the state that resulted in 275 cancellations, the festival still drew the largest crowd ever in the seven years it has been offered

*“Worship is not something you go to, it’s something you go through.”*

by the media ministries department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The festival of “Faces in Ministry” was held at Crievewood Baptist Church in Nashville.

As many as eight different classes were offered during each session in the divisions of drama, puppetry, and clowning. On Saturday, teams performed for evaluation by the faculty.

## Drama

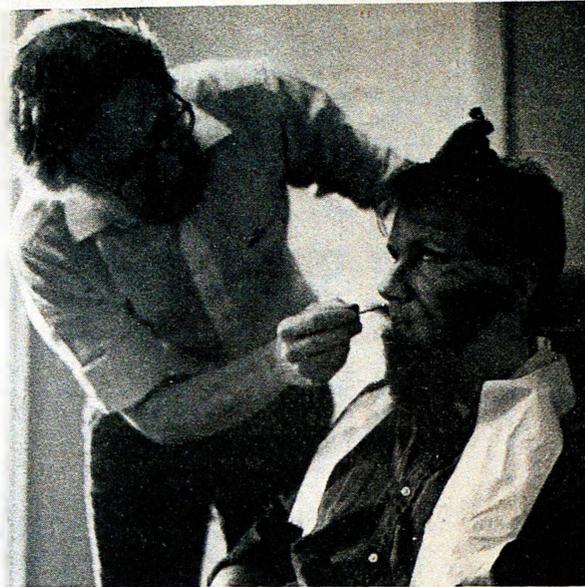
Basic mime students stood in a circle. One by one they walked to the middle, said their name, and walked back. The class simultaneously imitated each one.

Acting class participants began by taking their shoes off and learning to relax. Contrary to what most novice actors would assume, the character is built from the feet up. Facial expression and voice are the final touch.

## Puppetry

The puppet character is an extension of the person working it according to Beverly Parker Smith, a professional ventriloquist from Chesnee, S.C. Smith emphasized the importance of developing a puppet personality with Christian character.

Telling how her own puppet’s character, Alfred, evolved, she explained that the ventriloquist character is a mixture of child and adult. Alfred thinks like an



**KEEP A STIFF UPPER LIP** — John Lee Welton applies stage make-up in one of his drama classes. He also gave instruction in beginning and advanced acting. Welton is on sabbatical from Carson-Newman College, where he is professor of drama. His activities include presenting his own material in churches.

adult and reacts like a child, she explained.

## Clowning

Making props out of foam rubber was one of the ideas shared by Joanna McDaniel and June Meschendorf, directors of the clowning ministry at Glenwood Baptist Church in Powell.

Susie Toomey advises those who are just beginning a clowning ministry to “keep it simple” when it comes to make-up. Hospitals and nursing homes are good places for beginners to build confidence, she says, because they are so receptive.

## Worship

“Worship is not something you go to,” says Joe Morrell, “it’s something you go

through.” Morrell is minister of music at Woodmont Baptist Church in Nashville. He led the music at the festival and taught classes in puppetry.

Creative worship Friday evening began with a recording of Sandi Patti singing “Love in any language,” while slides of faces in the drama, puppetry, and clowning ministries were shown.

Doug Berky continued the spirit of worship through mime — a “language” with no words. The job of the artist is not just to present art, Berky said, but the art should reflect on who we are.

The professional mime from Wake Forest, N.C., proceeded to present a collage of six characters conveying hectic everyday life. With a set consisting of a table, a candle, and a Bible, the skit ended on a note of peace and tranquility.

The drama team from Shades Mountain Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., presented the story of Christ with a contemporary flare by portraying a courtroom scene. Those on trial were convicted of the sins of snobbery, gossip, disrespect for authority, drug use, alcoholism, etc. They were sentenced to death after testimony by “Christian” peers. The defendants were set free when their defendant “Mr. Emmanuel” offered to take their punishment.

## Closing celebration

Making a powerful statement on the



**NO WORDS NEEDED** — The message on sharing, presented by Bellevue Baptist Church clowns, was clear. The Memphis team needed no words.

materialism in our society that gets in the way of hearing the cry of the hungry, Berky proved again, that he could reach the heart of his audience, without using a single word.

Using clownish antics to captivate the group, he began pulling out all sorts of things from a big box. He pulled out food (and juggled it), clothes, headphones, a football, and other so-called toys — an army hat and gun — priming the group for the final blow when he pulled from the box the resemblance of a skeletal child with out-stretched arms.

The intensity of the message left the group silent, pensive, tearful.

“We’ve been given a world and you’ve been given talents and abilities to change it,” said Eleanor Yarborough in her closing remarks.

Yarborough is recreation consultant for the TBC. “Business as usual won’t hack it anymore,” she said, encouraging them to tap creative resources.

Being the largest event of this type in the Southern Baptist Convention, the festival attracted people from Alabama, Mississippi, and other states. People from other denominations were welcomed also.

Locations for the event each year are rotated from eastern, middle, and western parts of the state. Next year’s festival will be at First Baptist Church in Milan April 15-16.



**VOLUNTEERS** — Those wanting to learn about putting on clown make-up were demonstrated on and to.





**INSTRUCTING PUPPETEERS** — Joe Morrell gives direction to those who want to have successful church puppet ministries.



**'AAH, WHO NEEDS THOSE HYPOCRITES'** — Grievewood drama team members portray a custodian and a bag lady critical of churchgoers.

## Doug Berky . . . a mime of action

Doug Berky instructed those interested in learning mime at this year's drama, puppetry, and clowning festival that the character begins in their feet.

Berky's character as a person begins in his heart.

He explained to his beginning mime students at the Nashville festival that you have to study something — experience it — before you can imitate it.

Being a mime before he became a Christian, Berky describes himself not necessarily as a Christian artist, but as an artist who is a Christian.

Berky considers carefully and spends a lot of time in practice and study before he introduces something new into his act, like the unicycle he used in the Friday evening performance. His decision to make a commitment to Christ was carefully thought out and he took a lot of time to consider it.

Coming from what he termed a military Protestant background, Berky grew up attending non-denominational chapel services. By the time he completed high school, he was angry with what he saw in the church.

While traveling with a partner in upstate New York, he met a high school teacher working with Young Life, a Christian organization for high school students. Berky and his partner performed for the school and left.

"The Lord does not deal with all of us in the same way," says Berky, adding that a series of "coincidences" finally convinced him to make a commitment.

The same teacher in New York invited him back to teach as an artist in residence. The following summer Berky was offered a job teaching in parks. He was "adopted" by some of the families in the area. They invited him to Bible study, he attended church with them, and they opened their homes to him. The women in these families ministered to Berky. "They put me on their prayer hit list," he says.

Spending a long period of time with these people allowed Berky to come to Christ in a way that felt natural to him. "It makes me think God knows who I am," he reflects.

Through the presence of these people in his life, through their patient witnessing, and gentle words, Berky came to know Christ. "I was at a point of searching," says Berky, "when God dropped these people in my life."

Berky stopped in the middle of the woods one day and said, "God, I'm lost, if You are real, please reveal Yourself to me," and He did so through these families.

After making a commitment to Christ, Berky was uncertain of what that meant in regard to his profession as a mime. He was put in situations where he could share his faith through what he does. Now over 50 percent of his performances are with Christian-oriented groups.

Much of Berky's material is "just clean, honest, humor," something unfortunately lacking in our society. When given the opportunity, he shares his faith.

In more restrictive situations, he can still share Christian values. Berky feels it is important to use his craft outside the church setting.

Berky began his professional training at the Dell'Arte School of Mime and Comedy in Blue Lake, Calif. He first began performing with the Two Penny Circus, a New England touring theatre. Later he became apprentice to mime artist Tony Montanaro and performed with the Montanaro Mime Theatre of South Paris, Maine. For one year Berky toured with Sunshine Too, the touring theatre of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

In 1983 he began working as a solo artist. He performs and teaches in schools for the deaf, public schools, and colleges in the United States and Canada. At the Commedia School, a professional training school in Copenhagen, Denmark, he taught mime, masks, and storytelling. For serious students of mime, he is planning a one-week workshop in his home.

Berky lives with his wife and manager in Wake Forest, N.C. Marian Osborne Berky is a graduate of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest. She plans to pursue her doctorate and teach ethics and theology in a college or seminary. The couple is expecting their first child in July.

Berky has worked with the drama conference for North Carolina Baptists and also the BSU convention in North Carolina.

Performing several times on the campus of Carson-Newman College, Berky's

invitation to the Tennessee festival was instigated by John Lee Welton, professor of drama at Carson-Newman College, and fellow faculty member at this year's festival.

As the festival came to a close and everyone went their separate ways, Berky returned to the platform to gather all the "stuff" he had pulled out of his box for his last piece (see related story). Several program personalities and those who had attended his classes came to say goodbye.

"That last piece you did was a zinger," said Welton. He paused, and then offered a bit of constructive criticism. Berky encouraged the critique, stating his desire to grow in his craft.

Welton commented that Berky may get negative feedback from the powerful piece. "I'll be disappointed if I don't," Berky responded, adding that even if people don't agree with what he does, if he can make them think, he has done his job.

"I want to present a balanced gospel," explains Berky, "not only the idea of salvation, but what that means to us in our lives." Being a Christian means we need to reflect God in our world, says Berky.

"I can't justify going into churches and telling people who have known Christ for 20 years how to be saved," Berky emphasized. "We need to be more Christ-like."

Solemn — many tearful — faces in the crowd after Berky's final piece indicated that he had provoked thoughts that reached their hearts. He had done his job.





Hill

McWhorter

Gray

Smith

## Teen-age girls across state to meet for summit at Opryland Hotel

About 1,800 girls in grades 7-12 and their leaders will gather to attend conferences and general sessions at the annual Acteens Summit April 16-18 at Opryland Hotel in Nashville.

Missionaries on the program include Beverly Gray, Baptist center director in Oklahoma City, Okla.; Mildred McWhorter, Baptist center director in Houston, Texas; Rhonie Black, former missionary journeyman in Brazil who is a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.; Bill Eason, former summer missionary in Myrtle Beach, S.C., who now studies at Vanderbilt University in Nashville; Victoria Sadler, former summer missionary in Zimbabwe and currently a nurse in Jackson; and Georgia Hill, former missionary in Brazil who is associate director of the Foreign Mission Board's Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Va.

Kay DeKalb Smith, a Nashville musician, and the Belmont Reasons of Nashville's Belmont College, will perform.

The Acteens may also participate in Activator training and commissioning, Student recognition, and a report from the State Acteens Advisory Panel.

Conferences on the program include "My Life, A Light?" "By Body ... His Temple," "Gifts For Me?" "The Parents You Love to Hate," "StuDiact, What's In It For Me?" "Is There Life After High School?" "The Mystery of Cults," "My Book of Answers Causes Me Problems" and "Effective Communication Through Mission Action."

Leaders of Acteens may attend the following conferences: "The Wounded Leader" and "What Do I Do Now?"

Cindy Reed, WMU intern for the TBC, noted that pre-registration is not required and that the cost is \$5 per person.

The meeting begins at 8 p.m. on Thursday and ends at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Persons may obtain more information from Tennessee's WMU, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027.

## Church Media Library Convention celebrates 25th anniversary

The 25th anniversary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention's church media library ministry will be celebrated at the May 1-2 annual Church Media Library Convention.

The convention site is Judson Baptist Church in Nashville.

Lloyd Elder, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, and Mancil Ezell, director of the BSSB church media library department, will present major addresses. John and Patti Thompson of Franklin will lead a session followed by an autograph party for their book, *Dance of the Broken Heart*. Patti Thompson is the former daughter-in-law of Oral Roberts. John Thompson is a composer.

Leading sessions in the three-track conference plan, which includes an experienced workers' track, beginning workers' track, and technical track, will be Jean Adkinson, BSSB church media library department consultant, and Kathy Sylvest, media services associate director, Louisiana Baptist Convention, Alexandria.

Additional conference leaders will teach about 20 available conferences.

Eleanor Yarborough of the TBC media ministries, noted that the convention is using the three-track approach for the first



Thompsons

time. Another new feature is the addition of child care, for which reservations are needed by April 15.

The cost of the convention is \$30, which includes a banquet and lunch on Saturday. Preregistration for the meals is required.

Brochures on the convention are available from the TBC media ministries department, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027.



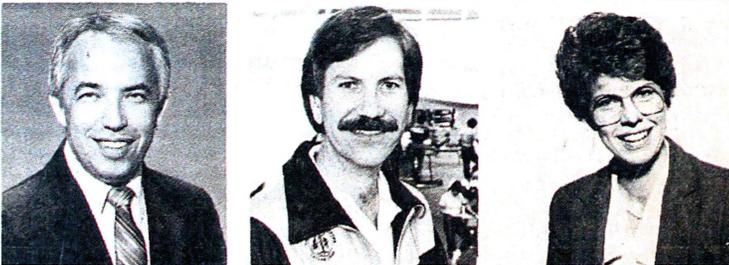
Ezell

Adkinson

Sylvest

Elder

## Recreation association, TBC offer 'growth' retreat in May



Newman

Florence

Beltz

A "Growth in Ministry Retreat," sponsored by the Tennessee Baptist Recreation Association and the Tennessee Baptist Convention media ministries department, is "for anyone who feels that it could meet some of their needs," reported Eleanor Yarborough of the TBC media ministries department.

The May 4-6 retreat will assemble at Fall Creek Falls State Park near Pikeville.

Church staff and denominational workers and laypersons who lead recreation or other activities are encouraged to attend. Spouses of participants may attend free of charge.

The following persons are on the program. Bettie Helen Beltz is a licensed professional counselor and consultant in Fort Worth, Texas. Wendell Newman is field services coordinator and consultant in the church recreation department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. Also of Nashville, Jim Florence is director of the center for health promotion at Baptist Hospital. Geraldine Ragan, a ventriloquist of Chattanooga, will entertain.

The \$20 registration fee and a lodging deposit are required by April 20. Bro-

chures on the retreat can be obtained from the TBC media ministries department, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027.

## Reynolds sets retirement

Harlan F. Reynolds, pastor of First Baptist Church in LaFollette, is retiring effective April 1.

He has served as pastor of the church for the past 11½ years. For the past 32 years he has served in churches across Tennessee.

Denominational service includes having served as moderator and chairman of evangelism and stewardship on the associational level. He also served as president of the Shelby Baptist Association's Pastors' Conference.

He has served on the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, as well as the Committee on Committees.

Presently, he serves on the Board of Trustees for Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and the Baptist Homes for Retarded Adults in Caryville. He is also pastor-adviser for Campbell County Baptist Association.

## Conference to assist preachers

Two Baptist Sunday School Board representatives, three pastors, and a Baptist seminary professor will lead the Mid-South Conference on Preaching, May 11-13 at Southland Baptist Church in Memphis.

The conference is one of 28 planned by the church administration department of the BSSB in Nashville and the state conventions of Arkansas, Missouri, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

Harold Bryson, professor of preaching and chairman of the division of pastoral ministries at New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary; Brian Harbour, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock, Ark.; Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church in Jackson, Miss.; Charles Page, pastor of First Baptist Church in Nashville; and James Barry and Joe Stacker of the BSSB church administration department are speakers for the conference.

Barry is author and compiler of the book, *Preach the Word in Love and*

Power, which is also the theme of the conference.

Persons interested should contact the TBC church training department, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027.

The registration fee of \$10 includes a copy of the book written by Barry.

## Meetings in Singapore draw 50 teen-agers to Christ

SINGAPORE - Fifty teen-agers decided to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour during seven meetings at International Baptist Church recently.

American evangelist Jay Strack preached at the meetings and also spoke in area schools. Strack talked to students at the Singapore American School against drugs, and many of the same students came to hear him preach again.

Twenty-eight decided to follow Jesus. Twenty-two other youth accepted Christ and 48 persons made other decisions.

## Moscow youth make music

HEERENVEEN, Netherlands - Music has become a key avenue of involving youth in the Moscow Baptist Church, reports Anatoly Sokolov, director of the press service of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the Soviet Union.

The church's youth choir now numbers 80 members. It also has a 30-member youth orchestra.



Bryson

Barry

# Nevada prepares witnessing effort

RENO, Nev. (BP) — Statewide simultaneous revivals, Scripture distribution, house-to-house witnessing, and sponsorship of 25 church-type missions are some activities projected for implementation prior to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nev., in 1989.

More than 30 pastors from across Nevada met March 12-13 with representatives of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board to discuss plans for evangelistic and church-starting efforts and to highlight positive results of the SBC's decision to hold its meeting in Las Vegas.

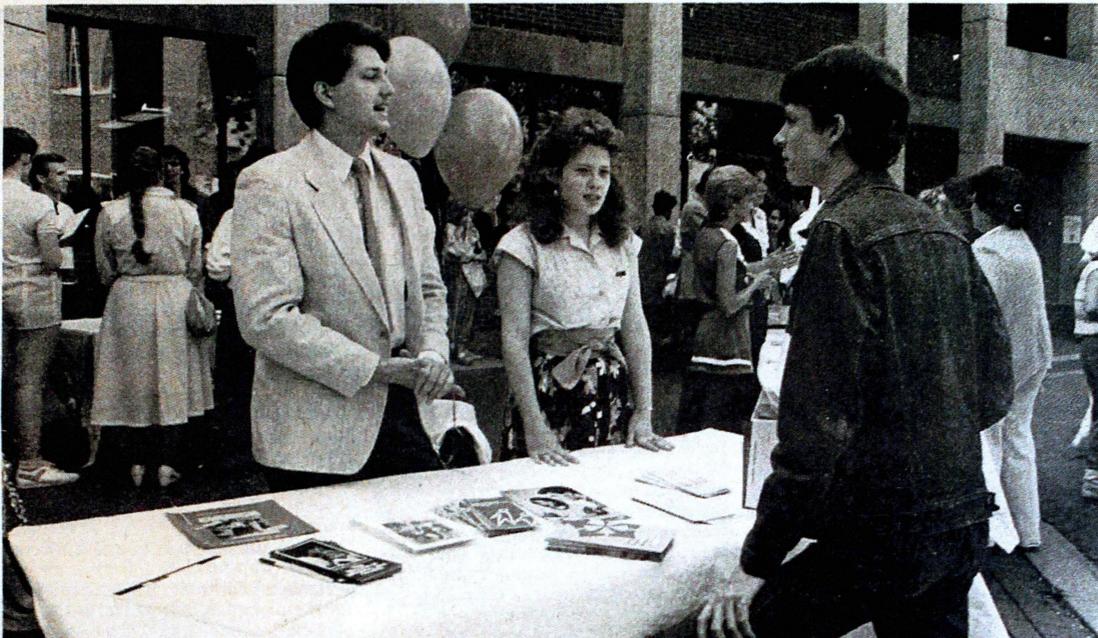
Messengers chose Las Vegas as the 1989 SBC meeting site during the 1983 annual meeting in Pittsburgh. An evangelistic emphasis in connection with the annual meeting was included in the vote to go to Las Vegas.

The central evangelistic emphasis will be simultaneous revivals held across the Nevada Baptist Convention, using the theme, "Here's Hope: Jesus Cares For You."

Pastors and evangelists from across the SBC will be enlisted to lead in the revivals, scheduled for the week prior to the June Las Vegas convention.

Additional evangelistic plans include a door-to-door canvass of Las Vegas. This project will be linked with prospect discovery and Scripture distribution.

Prayer partners enlisted by the board will pray for non-Christians living in Nevada and for messengers who attend the convention. The Las Vegas phone book will be divided up, and every name will be mailed to prayer volunteers across the SBC, with a request that they pray for those people to accept Christ as their Saviour. A mass rally also is projected for Las Vegas during the weekend prior to the SBC.



**PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS** — Belmont College students, Jeff Harris and Melissa Durham, give high school students information about church-related vocations during College Day in Nashville, March 21, which drew 425 students from 17 states. Students and their parents also gained information about admission procedures, financial aid, academic programs, and other items of interest. Belmont President William E. Troutt spoke and the Belmont Reasons performed.

# Baptist and Reflector

## 60 DAYS FREE TRIAL

1. Under this plan, a *FREE* subscription to the **Baptist and Reflector** will be sent to the home of each resident family in your church for 60 days.
2. During that time your church is requested to vote in business meeting whether or not to continue the **Baptist and Reflector's Every Family Plan**.
3. If your church decides to continue the subscriptions, **Baptist and Reflector** will bill the church on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis — whichever the church prefers.
4. Unless our office is notified to stop the **Baptist and Reflector** subscriptions at the end of the trial period, your church will be billed at the end of the next month.

# INTERESTED?

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

CHURCH NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

### To change or correct your address . . .

Attach in this space your address label from the front page of your latest copy of the **Baptist and Reflector**. Please print your new address in the space provided below — including your ZIP code.

When changing your address, please give two weeks' advance notice.

Please send this information in written form, to insure accuracy.

All correspondence relating to your subscription should be accompanied by your address label from the **Baptist and Reflector**. If a label is not available, please write the 12-digit code from the top of your label here:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Address all requests to  
**Baptist and Reflector**  
Post Office Box 728  
Brentwood, TN 37027

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Please Print

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## Baptist and Reflector

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

Serving Tennessee Baptists  
since 1835

## About 1,200 hear missionaries, leaders call for response to needs

By Karen Bibbens

GATLINBURG — Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union hosted about 1,200 Baptist Women Friday evening, March 27, at the Park Vista Hotel in Gatlinburg. The annual get-together continued through Sunday morning with programs and services reflecting the theme, "Inasmuch ... Unto Me."

General sessions were conducted by Judy Trivette, state WMU president, and WMU Associate, Carrol Kelly. Joel Duncan, minister of music at First Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala., coordinated the music. He was assisted by Mike Dell, organist/music associate at the Huntsville church, and David Valenzuela, a music student at Samford University in Birmingham from Brazil.

Susan Ingouf, who grew up in Indonesia where her parents were missionaries, presented dramatic theme interpretation monologues. Each "Encounter" was a challenge to take the needs of humanity more personally and to develop a keener sense of responsibility toward meeting those needs.

The director of the Stewart Baptist Center in Atlanta, Ga., L'Nola Laminack, related that for several years her plans for service were in foreign missions. She decided instead to work with Home Missionary Mildred McWhorter in Texas. Funding for Laminack's position ran out, so she was without employment and dreamed once more of serving in Africa.

She accepted another "temporary" home mission job at the center in Atlan-

ta, expecting to be there four months. That was four years ago. She is still at Stewart Baptist Center and eagerly assured listeners that, "God is responsible for lives that are given to Him."

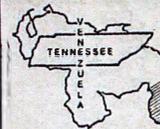
Clyde Tilley, professor of religion and philosophy at Union University in Jackson, taught the Bible study. Tilley suggested that the way we accept or reject other people can be an indication of whether our acceptance of Jesus is real.

Prayer emphasis was directed by Cathy Williams, Baptist Women director of Nashville Baptist Association and Two Rivers Baptist Church in Nashville, from Hermitage. She previously had written to missionaries who had birthdays during the meeting, informing them of when the women would be praying for them. She also provided addresses, stationery, and aerograms so participants could write notes to the missionaries during the conference.

In addition to the general sessions, guests could choose from 10 conferences, including those led by missionaries serving in Kentucky and Japan, and by Foreign Mission Board representatives.

On Saturday a prayer retreat was held and a quilt was planned to commemorate Tennessee WMU's centennial celebrations in 1988.

In the closing session, John Mills, Foreign Mission Board area director for West Africa, reminded attendees that we often "give our offering to the Lord on Sunday and vote on Wednesday how we will spend it on ourselves." He challenged the group, "We are doing business as usual and calling it Bold Mission Thrust."



### Tennessee/Venezuela Prayer Net Partnership

—Missionary Rebecca Worley, who is presently in language study in Costa Rica, has a birthday April 12.

—Pray for Esteban Cifuentes as he begins serving as co-pastor with Missionary James Crawford at Primera Iglesia Bautista in San Antonio.

—Pray for the completion of the church at San Antonio de Los Altos by mid-June and for the continued growth of that congregation.

—Pray that Iglesia Bautista Nueva Jerusalem in Valencia will receive permission to buy land to build a much-needed church.

## Belmont seniors hear Caulkins

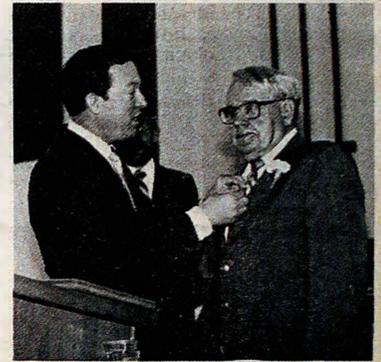
NASHVILLE — Winning isn't everything, four-time Olympic gold medalist Tracy Caulkins told Belmont College students on April 1.

Speaking in "senior orientation for the marketplace" in Belmont's Harton Concert Hall, Caulkins urged the seniors to seek balance in life by devoting equal time to career, community, family, and friends. She also urged them to make a commitment.

"You've got to want to do it in order to succeed," Caulkins said. "You must commit your heart, soul, mind, and body. Then your dreams will come true."

Caulkins said she pictured herself swimming in the Olympics "hundreds of times" before she did, and told the students to visualize themselves as successes.

"We only fail when we set our sights too low," she said, urging students to "set your sights very high, and reach for your goals."



**DEACON FOR 50 YEARS** — Bufat Heights Baptist Church recently honored Lawrence Edwards, senior deacon, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the deacon ministry. Pictured on the left of Edwards is James Malcolm Henry, pastor of the Knoxville church.

## Workshops focus on discipleship

Two simultaneous workshops designed to train leaders for the MasterLife and MasterBuilder programs will be offered April 20-24.

The MasterLife workshop will meet at the Tennessee Baptist Executive Board building in Brentwood and the MasterBuilder will be held at Judson Baptist Church in Nashville.

MasterLife, is a sequential, developmental, group discipling process that teaches persons how to master life through practicing some basic disciplines. It is a prerequisite to the MasterBuilder program, which leads into disciple-making and ministry. Both programs are implemented in groups of eight to 10 persons who meet in 26 weekly sessions.

Leading the workshop on MasterLife are Mike Madewell, pastor of First Baptist Church in Byrdstown, and Ken McMillen, pastor of First Baptist Church, Byhalia, Miss. Joe Chandler, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Knoxville, is teaching the MasterBuilder workshop.

The MasterLife workshop includes 28 hours of training and the MasterBuilder workshop includes 30 hours. They will begin with an evening session and conclude at noon on the final day.

The \$82.50 fee for MasterLife covers the materials cost and is \$72.50 for an accompanying spouse. The cost for MasterBuilder is \$50 for 1-4 persons from the same church. There is no additional charge for a spouse.

Contact the TBC church training department, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027, for information on materials for the MasterBuilder program and for preregistration information.



**NOTE BURNING DEDICATION** — First Baptist Church, Whitesburg, held a note burning and dedication service on March 15. The church burned a \$40,000 note and dedicated their sanctuary and education building. Pictured from left to right are: Grant Greene; Harvey Dalton; Kenneth Braxton; Paul Tomlinson; Tom Rush; Ralph Turner; Sturm Lawson; Duane Evans, pastor of the church; Glenn Toomey, director of missions for Nolachucky Baptist Association; Clifford Haynes; Frank Everhart Jr.; John Turner; Roe Eldridge; and C. W. Lowry.

## Court refuses to restrict cable

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U.S. Supreme Court has limited the power of states to restrict "indecent" programs on cable television, by affirming a lower court ruling overturning Utah law.

The Utah statute, which was struck down on grounds it violated the First Amendment, confined cablecasting of indecent programming — material displaying specifically described sexual activity, but not considered legally obscene — to the hours between midnight and 7 a.m.

By its 7-2 vote to affirm, the Supreme Court gave the lower court ruling precedential effect throughout the United States rather than only in the circuit in which it was decided. Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justice Sandra Day O'Connor voted to hear Utah's appeal.

## Personal Perspective

By Tom Madden  
TBC Executive  
Secretary-Treasurer



There is a forward thrust that runs throughout the Bible.

I am grateful that God always gives us some meaningful blessings and experiences which are always before us.

When God established His covenant with Abraham, there was a forward thrust contained in it. God said, "I will bless you and you will be a blessing." God, in moving the Israelites out of Egyptian bondage, encouraged them by a constant reminder that ahead of them was the promised land.

The Old Testament, beginning in Genesis 3:15, looks forward to the coming of Christ and His death on the cross. Many of the prophets emphasized the hope contained in the coming of the promised Messiah.

Not long after our Lord began His public ministry, He began to talk to His disciples about His death on the cross and the assurance He would not stay dead but would rise again.

As we are coming to the Easter season, I find myself thinking about His promised return and with that the assurance of the rising from the dead of those who are in Christ and the transforming of those who are alive and remain unto His coming.

I am utterly confident that throughout all eternity, we will have many blessed things to which we will always be looking forward.

God still shares an Exodus experience for each of His children. We are marching to Zion.

# TenneScene

## LEADERSHIP...

Edgemont Baptist Church, Shelbyville, has called Scott Allen Burton as youth director. He began March 1 at the church where David Philyaw is pastor.

J. Harold Stephens is serving as interim pastor at Smyrna Baptist Church in Chapel Hill.

Philip Cash has joined the staff of First Baptist Church, Jackson, as minister of youth and activities. He comes from First Baptist Church, Columbus, Ga., where he has been serving as minister of youth and education. A native of Trenton, Cash is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He began March 29, at the church where Trevis Otey is pastor.

Resigning as minister of youth/activities at First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tom Cantwell has accepted the pastorate of Westbrook Baptist Church in Roswell, Ga. He assumed his new position April 1. Gary Carver is pastor of the Chattanooga church.

Henry Roberson is serving as interim pastor of First Baptist Church, Gainesboro.

Shiloh Baptist Church, Kingston, has called Effert Snodderly as interim pastor. Now retired, Snodderly served as pastor of Spray Baptist Church, Eden, N.C., for 18 years. He is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Former minister of music and youth at Rugby Hills Baptist Church in Memphis, Terry Walters, is now serving as pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Marked Tree, Ark.

## CHURCHES...

Glenwood Baptist Church, Kingsport, celebrated their centennial anniversary March 18. Herman Norton, moderator for Sullivan Baptist Association, presented the church with a plaque from the Tennessee Baptist Convention commemorating their 100 years.

Celebrating their 50th anniversary, Sullivan Baptist Church, Kingsport, was presented a plaque from the Tennessee Baptist Convention on March 15. Clyde Simms, former pastor of the church and former director of missions for Sullivan Baptist Association, made the presentation. Jesse Wooten is pastor of the church.

## REVIVAL PRAYER REQUESTS...

First Baptist Church, Englewood, will have revival services April 19-26. Don Womack, evangelist from Memphis, will lead the services. Larry Thompson is the pastor.

Beginning April 12 and closing with an Easter sunrise service, Harsh Chapel Baptist Church, Nashville, has scheduled revival services for that week. James Gregg will be the evangelist, with Robert Holt, minister of music at the church, leading the music. Robert LeMay is the pastor.

First Baptist Church, Jasper, has scheduled revival services for May 3-8. Don Womack, evangelist from Memphis, will speak. Ron Alley, with the church music department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, will serve as music director for the week. Billy Ellison is pastor of the church.

## REVIVAL...

Results of March revival services at Trace Creek Baptist Church include 37 professions of faith, 14 rededications, and one joining the church by letter. John Humphrey, from Dandridge, was the evangelist. Keith Sanderson, from Lexington, Ky., led the music. Charles Gibbs is pastor of the New Johnsonville church.

## TBC plans nine PGGE seminars

From April 30 to May 16, nine locations across the state will host Planned Growth in Giving - Evangelism seminars to help church leaders develop a 15-year growth plan in giving and evangelism in churches. "Churches are experiencing a spiritual renewing, a strengthening of the fellowship, a deepening understanding of our convention, and an almost immediate increase in giving," said O. M. Dangeau, Tennessee Baptist Convention Cooperative Program/stewardship department director.

Director of Missions Charles Earl of Holston Valley Missionary Baptist Association, Jerry King of the TBC evangelism department, and Dangeau will lead the seminars.

The Thursday and Friday meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and the Saturday meetings are from 9:30 a.m. to noon. No reservations are needed.

The schedule follows: April 30 at Beulah Baptist Association office in Union City, May 1 at First Baptist Church in McKenzie, May 2 at Madison-Chester Baptist Association office in Jackson, May 7 at Unaka Avenue Baptist Church in Johnson City, May 8 at Loudon Baptist Association office in Lenoir City, May 9 at Hamilton Baptist Association office in Chattanooga, May 14 at First Baptist Church in Cookeville, May 15 at First Baptist Church in Tullahoma, and May 16 at the TBC Executive Board building in Brentwood.

Persons may obtain further information from TBC evangelism department, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027.



**BROTHERHOOD TRAINEES** — Five of the 17 Brotherhood leaders from Tennessee attending a Regional Skills Conference for seven states at Camp Rabro, Bagdad, Ky., March 13-14 were (from left to right) Bob Davison, TBC Brotherhood department program associate, Brentwood; Vernon Siler, associational Brotherhood director, Clinton Baptist Association; Claude King, a conference leader from the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; Bill Palmiter, pastor, First Baptist Church, Smithville; and Gene Williams, associational Brotherhood director, Holston Valley Missionary Baptist Association. The conference focused on new programs effective October 1987.

Ministry direction for your  
**REC FACILITY!**  
Attend Recreation Facility:  
"Program and Operation" Seminar  
Sept. 14-17, 1987. For info, write  
8558 Rec, MSN 166, Nashville 37234

**Chattanooga Church Furnishings, Inc**  
Manufacturers of Quality  
Pews, Pulpits, Tables and Accessories  
Existing pews upholstered  
P.O. Box 128  
Signal Mountain, TN 37377  
(615) 886-2087

Call for Free  
BROCHURE  
**BAPTISTRIES**  
HEATERS, PUMPS  
FACTORY DIRECT  
TOLL FREE 1-800-251-0679  
TN CALL COLLECT 615-875-0679  
FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRY CO  
3511 HIXSON PIKE - CHATTANOOGA, TN 37415

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

**VAN WINKLE  
CHURCH  
FURNISHINGS &  
PEW UPHOLSTERY**  
Box 501, Fulton, MS 38843  
In MS TOLL FREE 1-800-624-9627  
Outside MS TOLL FREE 1-800-821-7263

You are invited  
to experience the musical drama  
**"Come and See His Glory"**  
April 14-15 at 7 p.m.  
at First Baptist Church, Lewisburg

presented by the combined choirs of three Lewisburg churches:  
First Baptist Church, Parkview Baptist Church,  
and East Commerce Baptist Church  
directed by David Brown, minister of music at First Baptist Church

**Pine Mountain Jamboree**  
Entertainment Complex

A great addition to your Great Passion Play/Eureka Springs trips. Now in our 13th consecutive season of providing great family entertainment. Stay an extra day to see historic Eureka Springs and the Pine Mountain Jamboree. Air-conditioned. Comfortable cushioned theater-style seating. Plenty of bus parking and special attention for groups. For reservations or more information, write or call: Pine Mountain Jamboree, Rt. 1, Box 283, Eureka Springs, AR 72632.  
**(501) 253-9156**

## BIBLE BOOK SERIES

Lesson for April 12

## Job's search for answers

By Marvin P. Nail, pastor  
Whitsitt Chapel Baptist Church, Nashville

Basic Passage: Job 3:1 to 14:22

Focal Passages: Job 3:2-3; 8:3-8; 9:1-3; 13:18-24; 14:13-15

If you have ever been around someone who was going through an experience of grief or what some might call "a string of bad luck," then you can understand that Job is not a very unusual man at all.

Even very good, God-fearing people can become so overwhelmed with the circumstances of life that their vision is blurred and they see only the negative things around them.

From the depths of his grief and pain, righteous Job cries out. He wishes he had never been born. Why would such a man as Job make such a startling statement? Why would a man who has enjoyed the blessings of God for so long become so embittered that he wants to die?

These are the groanings of a soul who has lost all that he values. These are the murmurings of a man whose ideas about God have begun to crumble in the face of harsh reality. These are the times when life's great questions confront us. These are the times that shape us and our beliefs in the depths of our souls.

At the end of the previous chapter of Job, three of his closest friends come to share in Job's grief. For seven days they do for him what he needs most. They sit with him in silence. They grieve with him and allow him to express his grief. However, like most of us, they begin to feel the need to provide Job with some answers to his tragedy.

## Is it God's will?

One of their answers is provided by Eliphaz. What Eliphaz has to say might be summed up by the phrase, "We must accept this as the Lord's will and not question it."

Though this may sound like a lack of faith, we must understand that a lot of things happen in this life which are not in accordance with the Lord's will. Peter tells us, for instance, that God does not want anyone to perish but to come to repentance.

This "grin and bear it" attitude is thought to be the correct response of a Christian to suffering — not for Job. He has questions to ask, even of the Almighty. Job's God is not afraid of questions any more than a parent is afraid of his child's questions. If there is an answer, surely the Maker of heaven and earth would have it.

Job's faith does not keep him from asking questions. Instead, it gives him. Someone he can always go to for answers. Job's faith enables him to accept God's answer, no matter what it may be. His question of God's reason leads to the comment from Bildad.

## Why has this happened to me?

Bildad comes to the point that all sufferers and their friends come to. He decides that Job surely deserved all this trouble. After all, everyone knows that the good are blessed and the evil are punished. That reasoning was typical of that day and would be today as well.

Though Job always appeared to be a righteous and blameless man, Bildad suspects that this may only be a front to hide a more sinister life unseen to all but God. Isn't this question often in our minds when we see a devoted Christian brother or sister going through a time of tragedy? Perhaps you have used or heard others use the expression, "He's finally getting his due." Surely this is part of Bildad's notion about Job.

In verse two of chapter nine, Job makes a remark of tremendous insight which is also a rebuff to Bildad. "How can a man be in the right before God?" Job confesses that even at his best, a person cannot argue with God's decision to bless or to punish. Job realizes that God is all-powerful and none can second-guess His decisions. He sees his only hope as being the mercy of his Judge (verse 15).

At this point the third friend, Zophar puts in his two cents worth. He submits that the solution to the whole problem is that Job needs to repent. If he would simply accept this series of tragedies as the judgment of God upon his sin, and then repent of that sin, everything would be back to normal.

## Why is God silent in my troubles?

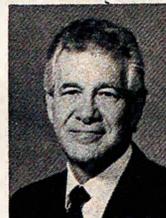
The overwhelming hurt Job experiences in the midst of all this horrible ordeal is that he feels God has left him to face all of it alone. He has cried out to God. He has done everything he knows to do to hear a word from God about this situation. But none of his petitions seemed to receive an answer.

There are few souls which have not felt the silence of God in the midst of their hurt. Jesus Himself uttered such a cry from the cross, which has puzzled Bible students for centuries. Truly we would be without hope if God were to leave us alone.

Because of the depth of his grief and pain, Job is not aware of the presence of God. At this point in his story, he feels that even God has deserted him and he has no hope. Only later will Job discover that God was with him each step of the way.



Nail



Kendall

## UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

Lesson for April 12

## Death on the cross

By W. Fred Kendall II  
vice-president for religious affairs  
Belmont College, Nashville

Basic Passages: Luke 23:26-49

Focal Passages: Luke 23:32-48

One day at 2 a.m., a nurse called to request that I rush to the hospital. When I arrived, the nurse told me a patient she had known for many years was dying. She said he had lived a wicked life. In his last hours, he had become hysterical from fear and guilt.

When I entered the man's hospital room, I attempted to calm him. Then, I witnessed to him about the saving power of Jesus Christ. He asked me, "Do you think God could forgive a person as bad as me?" Using Scriptures, I assured him of God's love. He asked the Lord to forgive him of his sins and save him.

The medical staff was amazed at the transformation of the man. He died peacefully in the early morning hours. As I walked across the hospital parking lot, I thanked God for the passages of Scripture this lesson focuses on, because what had occurred in that hospital room had something to do with what happened on a hill outside Jerusalem 2,000 years ago.

## Three prayers (23:32-43)

Jesus died between two criminals. Both addressed statements to Jesus, which in essence were prayers.

One of the criminals said to Jesus, "If Thou be Christ, save Thyself and us." This was not a prayer of faith, but one of magic. He did not want to be changed, he wanted to use Jesus for an escape from the consequences of his sins. He did not want to be transformed from what he was — just transformed from where he was. He sought an escape from judgment on earth and hell in eternity, but he cared nothing for Jesus Christ or His kingdom. Note that Jesus never answered that prayer.

Initially, the criminal on the other side of Jesus "railed" on Him. He was under the domination of Satan. As the criminal observed Jesus' actions and heard Him speak, his attitude toward Him changed. Because he experienced the transforming power of Jesus, he prayed to Him, "Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom." He was referring to Jesus' messianic return to earth in the distant future to establish His kingdom on earth. Jesus promised that he would experience His fellowship and the joys of heaven, not on a distant day, but that very day.

It has often been said that this man did not have opportunity to serve Jesus. This is a false statement. In a hostile environment, he defended Jesus and is a witness to the world of the saving power of Jesus Christ.

Jesus prayed, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." This prayer was both compassionate and comprehensive, "... we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:14). However, the prayer is not a promise of blanket forgiveness. God's grace calls for a human response.

## The centurion (23:44-48)

Nature could not remain unaffected when the divine Agent of creation was dying on the cross. Darkness and an earthquake ensued. The veil in the Temple that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies was rent from top to bottom, proving that God caused this — not man. Every person can now enter the presence of the Lord. A sacrifice or the presence of a priest is no longer required (Hebrews 4:16).

Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Into Thy hands I commend My spirit." He was in control.

A Roman centurion who had supervised the crucifixion of Jesus shouted a testimony to the world concerning Jesus Christ. This seasoned officer would not have been easily impressed by a dying man. He had seen many men die. Also, there is nothing that reveals human frailty more than death. But the centurion glorified Jesus Christ. The testimony of this man is important because he witnessed the entire crucifixion.

The Lord was praised while dying on the cross. What person would have expected a Roman soldier to be the one to praise the Lord? The imperfect tense is used meaning that he glorified the Lord over and over again. The word in the Greek, translated "glorified," is the word from which we get our word "doxology." The centurion shouted, "Surely this is a righteous man." Mark recorded that he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God" (Mark 15:39).

The verdicts of the transformed criminal and the Roman centurion are powerful testimonies. But the key question that each person must face who comes to the cross and looks into the face of the dying Saviour is: "What is my verdict concerning Jesus Christ?" On that question hangs our eternal destiny.

Shelton receives  
SBTS scholarship

NASHVILLE — Belmont College alumnus Mike Shelton has received one of six Clyde T. Francisco scholarships at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Established in honor of Francisco, the John R. Sampey professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southern before his death, the \$1,000 scholarships are designed to assist students committed to the ministry of preaching.

Shelton, the son of Roger Shelton, pastor of Nashville's Haywood Hills Baptist Church, is the only Tennessee recipient of the scholarship for the 1987-88 academic year.

RETREAT FACILITIES  
for all Seasons

Foothills of Great Smokies • 30 minutes from Gatlinburg • Campus facilities available • Daily rates \$17.50 per person (lodging and three meals). • Guests provide own linens/blankets/towels • It is suggested churches make reservations early

For More Information and Reservations — Write —

Jackie Carpenter, Business Manager  
Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy  
Seymour, TN 37865

(615) 573-8321

Chilhowee is an educational institution of the  
Tennessee Baptist Convention

ADD-A-PAD  
PEW UPHOLSTERING  
REVERSIBLE CUSHIONS  
PEW REFINISHING

Our installers have upholstered over 1,000 churches. 15 year wear warranty. We can upholster your pews on site for less than loose cushions! Call us for a FREE estimate.

Church Interiors Inc.  
CHURCH FURNITURE & STAINED GLASS

800 Eastchester Dr. • P.O. Box 5346  
High Point, NC 27262-5346  
NC (919) 889-0197 COLLECT

BOWLING UNITED INDUSTRIES

Lights Manufacturers Baptistries Signs Steeples

Call Toll Free 1-800-446-7100

Box 2250, Danville, VA 24541  
In VA (804) 822-2000

## CHURCH FURNITURE

Pews, Pulpits, Altars, Communion Tables  
Free Brochures - Free Estimates  
Write R.G. Ketrion Church Furniture  
or 3401 Montlake Dr.  
Call: Knoxville, TN 37920  
Phone (615)577-8716

Bus for Sale: 1978 Chevrolet bus,  
48 passenger, Model C56, Body B1,  
Color: Blue and White, Price  
negotiable. Contact First United  
Methodist Church, Franklin, Ten-  
nessee — 794-2734 or 776-2687.

**LIFE AND WORK LESSON SERIES**

Lesson for April 12

# Rejecting God's authority

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

Basic Passage: Luke 18:1 to 23:49  
Focal Passage: Luke 20:9-10, 13-16a; 23:20-25

One of the biggest problems people have in personal relationships is the matter of how to handle authority.

In one of the most popular plays of several centuries ago, one character expresses our modern frustration and ludicrous response. She complains, "Man, proud man, dressed in a little brief authority . . . plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven as makes the angels weep."



Samuel Butler said, "Authority intoxicates . . . and makes men giddy, proud, and vain." James Russell Lowell said, "He who is firmly seated in authority soon learns to think security, and not progress, the highest lesson of statecraft." In other words, when one power structure unseats another, the immediate problem becomes how to keep power.

We Southern Baptists need to study history more closely. One wise man said, "Those who refuse to learn from the mistakes of history will repeat them!" The lesson this week deals with the importance of accepting God's authority over our lives and the folly of rebellion against it.

A parable about authority (Luke 20:9-16)

The best approach in interpreting parables is to find one main truth and dwell on it in exegesis. Too much pressing of details can result in faulty interpretation. This story, however, presents the characters so plainly that an allegorical identification is almost obvious. God chose Israel to be the channel through whom His redemptive program would flow. The nation made many contributions to the world, but the highest

was when Israel gave us the Saviour.

As a nation, however, she rejected Him, though many individuals received the salvation He brought. Israel, however, refused to be the great missionary to the Gentiles God had intended. Even many of those who became Christians wanted to make the Gentiles become Jews before they became Christians.

Matthew's account of this parable (21:33-44) spells out Israel's punishment even more explicitly than Luke. Writing more specifically for his fellow countrymen, he included the words of Jesus, "Therefore say I unto you, the kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof."

Though God used the crucifixion of Jesus in His redemptive plan, the Jews' rejection of Him represented a terrible and inexcusable tragedy. It represented the greatest rebellion against authority in the world's history. The literal Greek translation says, "He came into His own things, but His own people received Him

not" (John 1:11).

An event in history (Luke 20-25)  
How fitting that on the Lord's Day before Easter we study the rejection of Jesus by both the Jews and the Gentiles. According to law, the Jews could not condemn a man to death. Only a Roman official had that authority. Pilate tried by several maneuvers to escape the decision, but Jewish pressure made him yield. The cruel deed was sanctioned by both Jewish religious authorities and Roman political authority.

Most of us feel as Clovis, king of the Franks, felt when he, as a newly converted Christian, heard the story of Christ's crucifixion. He drew his sword

and shouted, "If I and my Frankish soldiers had been there, they would not have done it."

Rebellion against authority is a terrible sin! To kill the best Man who ever lived was an infinitely stupid thing to do. In the mystery of God's grace, however, this became the act by which we find redemption.

When we look at Pilate's hall and Calvary, we can only shout with Paul, who on another subject said, "O the depths of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord?" (Romans 11:33-34a).

## 12-DAY NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC HOME MISSION TOUR

July 3 - 14, 1987

Visit Home Mission fields, meet missionaries, tour historical sites by Regal Tours Bus.

- Niagara Falls
- Waterfront Ministries
- Historical Williamsburg
- Baptist Joint Committee, Washington D.C.
- Independence Hall, PA
- Boston Freedom Trail
- Inner City Missions

Leave Atlanta after a visit with the Home Mission Board on July 3.

COST: \$799.00 double  
\$999.00 single

Send \$50.00 deposit today to:

Regal Tours Christian Travel  
8351 Roswell Rd.  
Atlanta, GA 30338  
Telephone: 404-393-1373 or  
1-800-255-4386

A cooperative venture of the Mission Service Corps, Home Mission Board and Family Ministries Department, Baptist Sunday School Board.

**A.B. Culbertson and Company**  
invites your  
INDICATION OF INTEREST TO  
**\$960,000**  
OF FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS TO BE ISSUED BY  
**MOFFETT ROAD  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
MOBILE, ALABAMA  
EARN UP TO:

# 9.00%

These bonds may be placed in a self-directed Culbertson IRA. Transfers and rollovers accepted, in most cases.

Interest Payable Semiannually By Check  
Anticipated Issue Date: April 15, 1987  
Interest Rates Will Range from 8.00% to 9.00%  
Depending Upon the Bond Maturity Selected

Bond Maturity Range	Annual Interest Rate
10-15-87 to 4-15-88	8.00%
10-15-88 to 10-15-89	8.30%
4-15-90 to 10-15-91	8.50%
4-15-92 to 10-15-92	9.00%

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy. The offer is made by prospectus only.

**A.B. Culbertson and Company**

Investment Bankers  
1250 Continental Plaza  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102  
Member: Midwest Stock Exchange

For more complete information about this bond issue, obtain a prospectus which describes all of the particulars of this undertaking. Read it carefully before you invest or send money. All bonds are offered at face value plus accrued interest, subject to prior sale.

**CALL COLLECT OR RETURN THIS TO:**  
Elizabeth (Betty) Martin, Account Executive  
2109 Brookview Drive  
Nashville, TN 37214  
Call Collect: (615) 889-5211

Please send me information on the bonds to be issued by Moffett Road First Baptist Church, Mobile, Alabama.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

## Stewardship worker sets retirement date

NASHVILLE — Fred M. Chapman, executive vice-president of endowment capital giving promotion for the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission, has announced his retirement, effective June 30.

Chapman joined the commission in 1971 as a Together We Build consultant. The TWB program is designed to assist churches in providing capital funds for their current and on-going building needs.

Prior to joining the staff of the Stewardship Commission, the Nashville native was pastor of Glenwood Baptist Church in Nashville.

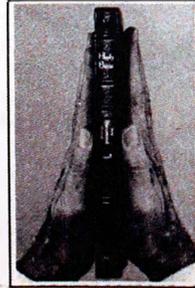
Chapman plans to enter into private business in Madison.

**PROFESSIONAL PLANNING**  
for  
New Church Buildings — Additions  
Worship / Educational / Multi-Purpose  
**CHRISTIAN BUILDERS, INC.**  
P.O. Box 571 • Brentwood, Tennessee 37027  
Telephone (615) 373-3084

SERVING CHURCHES SINCE 1964

WRITE FOR FREE BROCHURE

DESIGN • CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT



## NEW Ultrathin Modern Translation Bible

**NIV ULTRATHIN BIBLE**  
1200 pages of Scripture and study helps, yet only 3/8" thick. Includes concordance, presentation page, color maps, and remarkably large type. Slender, handy, useful. Bonded leather. Black, Brown, Burgundy. (Holman)  
Each, \$32.95

PLEASE NOTE: On all cash mail orders add state sales tax if applicable and the following for delivery and handling — \$1.50 on orders for \$15.00 or less, \$2.50 on orders \$15.01-\$50.00, \$3.50 on orders \$50.01-\$100.00, or \$4.50 on orders over \$100.00

Visit us today or order from your Baptist Book Store or Mail Order Center where satisfaction is guaranteed.

**BAPTIST BOOK STORES**  
Touching Lives - Growing Churches

# Terrorism stymies Christian response

By Marv Knox

**Editor's note:** Following is the last of a three-part series exploring the relationship between terrorism and religion.

**NASHVILLE (BP)**— How should a Christian in America respond to terrorism?

Newspapers and television newscasts chronicle the carnage of what seems to be random horror. For most people, especially Americans who have not witnessed terrorism in their own communities, the violence seems almost as remote and bizarre as it is horrible.

The common response is the Ostrich Syndrome — refuse to look, and maybe the whole mess will go away. Unfortunately, terrorism refuses to disappear. Its persistence begs the question: What can be done?

"There's no one answer," admits

## Survey reveals support for CP

**DALLAS (BP)**— Ninety-nine percent of Texas Baptists who responded to a statewide survey said their individual church's contribution to missions through the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program should increase or remain the same.

Fifty-five percent of respondents to the survey felt their church's contribution should go up and would like to see a sizeable increase.

The study by the marketing department of the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, included an analysis of 20 selected church budgets, six focus groups at six dissimilar churches, and a mail survey using a random sample of 750 Baptist Sunday School leaders in Texas. Responses were received from 210 Sunday School leaders.

Cooperative Program giving by Texas Baptists grew from \$10.8-million in 1964 to \$56.3-million in 1985. But while giving increased almost six times in dollar amount, the percentage of total receipts Texas churches gave from their budgets to the Cooperative Program declined consistently, hitting 7.44 percent in 1985.

In 1926, the first full year of the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptist congregations as a whole averaged giving 10.86 percent of their receipts through the Cooperative Program. That figure rose to 11.02 percent in 1927. In 1985, the average was about 8.5 percent.

Respondents to the Texas survey said they felt economic factors were the main cause for the percentage decrease in Cooperative Program giving. Other major factors in the decline, they said, are need for education, denominational factionalism, and too much power among large churches.

The study showed that while there is overwhelming support for the Cooperative Program, declines in church percentages for the Cooperative Program have resulted because of other priorities in churches that force the Cooperative Program to a lower funding level.

Also, when money is short, the Cooperative Program is sometimes reduced, the survey said. Another reason for the decline, according to the Texas study, is lack of a group or a person in the church who is distinctly responsible for maintaining or increasing Cooperative Program support.

George Braswell, professor of world religions at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. He points to a Gordian knot of issues — religious, cultural, psychological, economic — that seems almost impossible to untie.

"Terrorism cannot be looked at rationally," adds Larry Braidfoot, director of Christian citizenship development for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. "Almost by its nature it has an irrational motive, except by those who pursue it and think they can make certain points or achieve certain concessions."

That irrational aspect puts off most American Christians, Braidfoot notes: "Most of us think of it as something foreign to us. We think of it as a social problem to be controlled."

But despite prevailing attitudes, observers of the world situation suggest some actions that can be taken by individuals and churches to improve the situation:

- Learn more about the situations involved.

If Christians in the United States were briefed about the religious and political dynamics of people in hotbeds of terrorism — such as Northern Ireland, Lebanon, and India — and if Christians became sensitive to people in these regions, "it would affect the whole national attitude toward those people," predicts George Sheridan, regional interfaith witness coordinator for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"It's important, because the world is so entwined, close, small that people who care for world missions become more cosmopolitan and care for what goes on in the world," Sheridan stresses.

- Try to understand.

"The real test would be to try to practice empathy, discover what we would do ... in a similar situation," Braidfoot asserts.

Empathizing forces outsiders to "deal with the dignity of human life" in every situation, he explains, asking: "What would we have done if Nicholas Daniloff had not been released? What if the Alatollah had executed those Americans? These pose very different problems."

- Seek alternatives to terrorism and to the conditions that breed terrorism.

"Responsible moral action may be to try to find a new alternative that has not been explored" for alleviating the suffering and/or hatred fueling a particular act

of terrorism, Braidfoot says. Sometimes people can be helped by "opening up a new course of action."

He offers a scenario for the consequences of not seeking alternatives: "America will not be unaffected in the long run by a world that is starving. ... At a point in time they will come for our food. If they can't get it, acts of terrorism will be practiced to try to get us to share our wealth."

- Affirm non-violent resistance to social evil.

Americans witnessed successful non-violent methods of achieving social change during the civil rights movement, recalls Glenn Iglehart, Southern Baptists' former interfaith witness director and now state director of missions for New York.

Such models need to be supported because they apply appropriate action to achieve the desired results, he contends: "If you're serious about your standards, then how much force is appropriate to make your results come about? The cure for that is to determine a real rationale for what you do, then mutually challenge whether this activity is Biblical, then apply the appropriate means to an end."

Non-violent methods often have achieved social change where violence has failed, Iglehart notes. This approach has preserved the integrity of the people involved, because it has not forced them to break governmental or spiritual laws.

Alternatives to current situations and non-violent approaches to reform can be affirmed in a number of ways, including public letters to newspapers and magazines, letters to the people pushing for

change, letters to governmental and other public officials and, most specifically, individual practice of non-violence.

- Be realistic.

"You have to have very realistic expectations," Braidfoot cautions. "You have to be conscious about risk-taking. Be careful of provoking another group, nation, or ruler (to react with terrorism) on another somewhat-related issue."

Also, "some situations probably are just crazy — social pathology — and there's nothing you can do about it," he adds.

- Do not react blindly.

"One thing about dealing with terrorism is that you cannot resolve the problem by squishing the terrorists," Braidfoot says. "When there is that much energy, resolve, and hatred, then when you move in — perhaps in other, less-discernable ways — it crops up again."

"Movements grow out of social conditions. If conditions remain unchanged, you've not solved the problem. Power will inevitably fill a vacuum. When there's a conflict of ideology and a voice is silenced, it is very likely there'll be another that picks up."

- Pray.

In the face of such an overwhelming problem, the most immediate weapon available to the individual Christian is prayer, observers say.

The "ordinary" Christian can pray for the terrorists as well as their victims, police and other officials whose job it is to protect the public from terrorists, and leaders working to bring about change in conditions that lead to terrorism and those conditions themselves.

## SBC Fellowship of Baptist Men adopts measure of effectiveness

**MEMPHIS (BP)**— The general council of the National Fellowship of Baptist Men, meeting March 20-21 at the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission in Memphis, voted to establish a measure of effectiveness for their organization.

Bill Gurley, a businessman from Memphis, challenged the council to adopt witnessing for Christ as that measure.

"One of the yardsticks to measure the effectiveness of this organization has to got be how many people come to know Christ because of us," said Gurley.

"I hope this organization has witnessing as its utmost priority."

Gurley shared his efforts, through a foundation he and his wife, Betty, have formed, to help finance Southern Baptist churches in new work areas with interest-free loans.

"God has given me the ability to make money, and I'm trying to channel it back," said Gurley. "But that isn't the real story. No amount of money can buy a soul. (One-on-one witnessing) is the greatest joy of my life, and you don't delegate that to anyone."

The council responded to his challenge by adopting a resolution that witnessing be the measure of effectiveness for the organization.

"We are on the threshold of direct action rather than planning," said Ed Price, president of Fellowship of Baptist Men in commenting on the growing vitality of the new organization. Price is a businessman from La Grange, Ga.

The National Fellowship of Baptist Men was formed in 1983 and is sponsored by the Brotherhood Commission. Ed Bullock is executive director. Its purpose is to help laymen discover ways of utilizing their vocational skills, hobbies, and interests in home and foreign missions through their state Baptist conventions.

In other actions, the council affirmed reports of ongoing activities and agreed to sponsor a national softball tournament in mid-September and to host the first triennial meeting of the national fellowship Nov. 20-22. Both events will be held in Memphis. The triennial meeting will convene at Bellevue Baptist Church.

## Women befriend AIDS victim

By Evelyn Knapp

**BUKOKA, Tanzania (BP)**— When Betty Whitson befriended a malnourished, poorly dressed woman seated in the rear of Bukoba Baptist Church, the prospect of AIDS never crossed her mind.

But when the woman accepted Whitson's invitation and attended the weekly Baptist women's meeting, she was identified as an AIDS patient by a woman who worked at the local government hospital.

Whitson, a Southern Baptist missionary, appealed to the women to receive the visitor with love and compassion. Such action would go against the typical response of both Tanzanians and Americans who fear contact with AIDS victims.

But at Whitson's urging, the women gathered around the woman, laid their hands on her and prayed for her recovery. They collected \$5 to buy her a new dress, and a group visited her later at home, bringing her food and inviting her to come back to future meetings.

The woman was in Bukoba to receive the 40 tuberculosis shots which is the recommended treatment for AIDS patients in that hospital. The Baptist women's group feels God sent the woman to them that they might minister to her for as long as she remained in the area.

—Knapp is the press representative for the Baptist Mission of Tanzania.