

Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 153/No. 44/November 4, 1987

Newsjournal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention

Convention convenes Nov. 10 at Radnor

By W. Fletcher Allen

It is convention time again. The 113th Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention gets underway officially Tuesday, Nov. 10, at 9 a.m. when President Jerry Oakley gavels the messengers to order.

Radnor Church, 3112 Nolensville Rd., Nashville, is the meeting place and Paul Durham is host pastor.

As usual the convention will be preceded by several auxiliary meetings and many committee meetings and special meals will be staged during the week.

The Pastors' Conference begins at 9:30 Monday morning at First Church, Franklin, and ends that evening. Woman's Missionary Union will be held at Brentwood Church and continues through the evening also. Other adjunct

meetings and meals have been announced in the Baptist and Reflector.

Thursday's concluding session of the Annual Meeting runs from 9:00 to 11:45 a.m.

The Committee on Arrangements is chaired by William Owens, and Don Peek heads the Credentials Committee.

Some program highlights include a report with recommendations from the Program, Personnel, and Planning Task Force; presentation of a Cooperative Program 1987-88 budget of \$23,850,000; messages by Jerry Oakley, James Porch, John Bisagno, Katharine Bryan, Emmanuel McCall, Harold Carter, and Jack Stanton; discussion of several reports including Committee on Committees, Committee on Boards, resolutions; and possible miscellaneous business items.

The Task Force report will have recommendations for construction of a convention conference center, a new building to house Baptist and Reflector, WMU, Baptist Foundation, Baptist Children's Homes, and Baptist Adult Homes; and some renovation of the current building in Brentwood.

The report culminates two years of work by the committee, chaired by James Porch, during which it has made periodic reports to the Executive Board and followed the board's directives. The report comes at 10:05 Wednesday morning.

Each convention session will begin with music and a devotional period. Special music also is a part of the entire agenda.

Convention President Oakley is not eligible for re-election. Other current convention officers include Hoyt Wilson, vice-president; J. C. Parrott, second vice-president; Wallace Anderson, recording and statistical secretary; Pat Porter, registration secretary; and Tom Madden, treasurer.

Julian Suggs is music coordinator and Arthur Walker Jr. is parliamentarian.

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee will make four recommendations. It will recommend that the Committee on Arrangements recommend the time and place of the Annual Meeting five years in advance, instead of the present three years.

And, it will recommend that a member serving on the Committee on Committees or Committee on Boards shall not be eligible for election to either until having been

out of office for three convention years; and no person shall serve a collective tenure of more than seven years on either or a combination of both.

The committee also recommends the desirability of nominations for the two committees have a broader representation geographically, in background, age, and sex. The fourth recommendation deals with the name change "Business and Financial Plan" in the TBC Journal for "Financial Policy Manual."

(Continued on page 5)

CP misses budget goal

For the third consecutive year, Tennessee Baptists closed a record year in mission giving through the Cooperative Program with a near-record month, gaining \$55,791.19 over October 1986.

The 1986-87 convention-adopted goal was missed by about 2.14 percent, according to Tom Madden, executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Total gifts for the 1986-87 year amounted to \$22,018,222.02, Madden reported. This compared with the previous year's total of \$20,831,030.34. Madden pointed out the increase was substantial, giving Tennessee Baptists reason to rejoice.

The increase for 1986-87 is \$1,187,191.68, a significant rise in giving from the churches of 5.7 percent.

The convention last year adopted a budget goal of \$22,500,000. When the books closed Oct. 31 at year's end figures showed that the convention's goal was missed by a mere \$481,177.98.

The three special mission offerings increased significantly this year, Madden reported. The Golden State Missions Offering was up 14.6 percent, totalling \$817,049.02. The Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions was \$2,003,477.90, up 12.9 percent. And the Lottie Moon Offering for Foreign Missions was \$4,966,256.12, an increase of 6.9 percent.

Madden said Cooperative Program giving increased \$2-million yearly for the past three years.

A church-by-church listing of gifts to missions through the Cooperative Program and through designated offerings will be carried in the Nov. 11 Baptist and Reflector.

Telephones set for TBC meeting

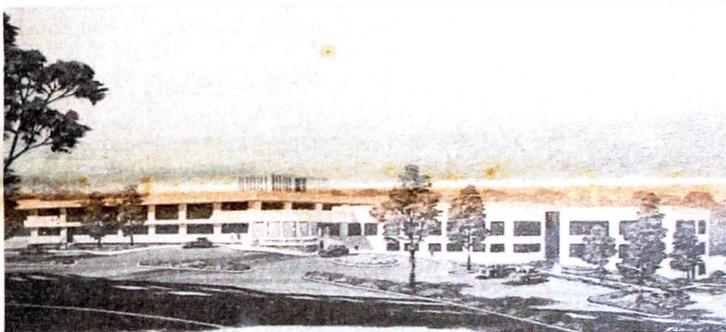
Two convention office telephones, a press room telephone, and a Baptist and Reflector telephone will be in operation next week during the Tennessee Baptist Convention at Radnor Baptist Church, Nashville.

The convention office telephones may be used by those needing to contact messengers and visitors attending the convention. The two numbers will be (615) 333-6019 and 333-6059.

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

The press room number is (615) 333-6182.

The Baptist and Reflector number is (615) 333-6143.



ARCHITECT'S DRAWING — The new TBC building (right side of drawing), along with the existing building (left side), is shown from the artist's perspective of how the finished project will appear.

Task Force plans report

The Program, Personnel, and Planning Task Force held its final meeting Oct. 27 before reporting to the Tennessee Baptist Convention in annual session Nov. 11.

Major recommendations from the Task Force as reported earlier in the Baptist and Reflector include some renovation of the current Executive Board Building in Brentwood and the construction of an adjacent building to house a multi-purpose conference center and the TBC agencies.

The Task Force, chaired by James Porch, pastor of First Church, Tullahoma, was authorized by the Executive Board on Sept. 11 to proceed with the design development of the conference center.

At the September meeting the Executive Board also adopted a Task Force recommendation for a conceptual plan for new construction and renovation.

The design development of the building concept was necessary in order to present a building plan, as required by the City of Brentwood, and for more specific cost projection, to the TBC.

The Task Force, since September, has been working with architects Gresham, Smith, and Partners to secure a building plan for the conference center building and Executive Board Building renovation — for presentation to the TBC Nov. 11.

TBC program directors have reviewed the plans, offered invaluable suggestions, and assisted in the development of floor

plans for their work areas, according to Porch.

Chief executive officers of the five involved agencies and auxiliary, WMU, Baptist Foundation, Baptist Children's Home, Baptist Adult Homes, and Baptist and Reflector, have been involved, he said.

Construction of the proposed Baptist center will be a practical and challenging response to space needs well into the 21st century, Porch added. He said the conference center will offer a focal point for training opportunities and inspirational meetings, complimenting "all phases of Baptist life."

Porch said the Task Force feels that the proposed structure and renovated facilities will aid in implementing the new organizational plan for Executive Board programs and accommodate the ministries of the institutions and auxiliaries.

Others on the Task Force include Raymond Boston, Marshall Gupton, Mrs. Richard Hawkins, Calvin Harvell, Ronald Hicks, Fred Isaacs, James McCluskey, Fred Steelman, and Mrs. Jerry Trivette. Nobel Brown and John Lee Taylor, original members of the team, resigned when they accepted pastorates in other states.

As the recommendations and report are presented to the Convention for vote, the

(Continued on page 5)

Editorials

Looking for a momentous 113th Annual Meeting

The 113th Annual Session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention begins with the gavel sounding at 9:15 next Tuesday morning as President Jerry Oakley calls the meeting to order.

This is at least one meeting which is eagerly anticipated. From the time a convention closes until a year later when another convention begins — there is keen anticipation.

This year's annual meeting at Nashville's Radnor Church promises to be exciting, inspiring, and perhaps record-setting.

In addition to reports and actions that are taken each year, the 113th session will include a report with far-reaching recommendations from the Program, Personnel, and Planning Task Force.

The report of that group will be given at the 10:05 time slot Wednesday morning, along with a portion of the Executive Board report. The Task Force will recommend, with approval by the Executive Board, construction of a multi-purpose conference center and office space for WMU and four TBC agencies and institutions, as well as some renovation of the existing Executive Board building, all on the Brentwood site.

A model of the proposal, a rendering of the building, and informational brochures will be available at the outset of the Convention — and members of the Task Force will be on hand to answer questions and to supply information. Messengers have opportunity to be well-informed of the proposals by Wednesday morning when Chairman James Porch makes the presentation for the Task Force.

The additional building, while housing the conference center, will also accommodate office space for the Baptist and Reflector, Baptist Children's Home, Baptist Adult Homes, Baptist Foundation, and WMU.

The Task Force, authorized by the Executive Board in September 1985, "for the purpose of reviewing program organization and building (space) needs" presented recommendations to the Board at the September 1987 meeting.

The work of the Task Force paralleled a

similar study of 1958-59 which determined TBC organizational needs through 1980. The 12-member team was named by then Executive Board President Jerry Oakley and Executive Secretary Tom Madden.

The new Task Force held its first meeting December 11, 1985, to organize, plan its procedures, set up guidelines, and then noted that it was ultimately responsible to the Tennessee Baptist Convention, though it was created by the Executive Board.

So Convention messengers next Wednesday will have opportunity to hear and vote on recommendations involving a long-discussed conference center, additional new office space, and renovation of the current building. The Task Force will present, at the Executive Board's direction, a design development plan for the structures, and cost projections — not to exceed \$4-million. The team will also discuss plans for financing the entire project.

Though the Task Force recommendations seem to loom larger than other items, everything on the proposed program is of utmost importance. Before President Oakley's gavel sounds adjournment at mid-day Thursday, reports will be given from every phase of work done by the Tennessee Baptist Convention and its Executive Board staff.

Messengers will vote on a 1987-88 Cooperative Program budget of \$23,850,000, new officers, reports of the Committee on Committees, Committee on Boards, and reports from the treasurer and the Executive Board. They will hear inspirational and devotional speakers, top musicians, they will sing and pray, and they will have had opportunity to attend a score or more of other meetings during the week — including the WMU session and the Pastors' Conference.

Pastor Paul Durham and his staff at Radnor Church have prepared adequately and have everything in order to make messengers comfortable and "at home."

Tennessee Baptist churches should have elected the maximum number of messengers — and Radnor Church should be filled to over-capacity. At each section of the approved program, messengers should fill the pews, taking part in one of the most important events they have access to.

We believe this will be a good convention for Tennessee Baptists. What we do here will be historic and have long-lasting effects. There may

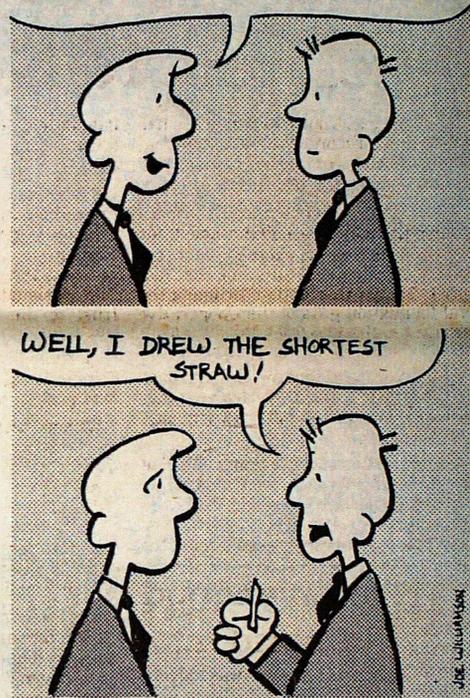
be resolutions or other actions concerning the expulsion of Prescott Memorial Church by Shelby County Association, pari-mutuel betting, or other moral, doctrinal, or distinctive issues.

So be it. When Baptists gather for annual sessions or associational meetings, democracy is at work. Baptist polity gets a good workout, and every group needs a knowledgeable parliamentarian at hand.

We challenge each messenger, each speaker and musician, each program participant, each leader — to remember that we are a large and persuasive body of people. Others in Tennessee watch us.

More importantly, we are supposed to be models of the Master's life. — WFA

WE ELECTED HAROLD TO BE OUR MESSENGER BECAUSE OF HIS KNOWLEDGE ON BAPTIST ISSUES. HOW 'BOUT YOUR CHURCH?



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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 Harwell, 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.

Loss of true leaders

Jack Harwell is a first class journalist. More than that, he is a great Christian and a sincere "dyed-in-the-wool" Southern Baptist.

Most who have faithfully read his words for more than 20 years as he has edited *Georgia Baptists' distinguished Christian Index*, would agree that his had been a prophetic voice.

The voice has been silenced. When December is over, Jack Harwell will close out a singular career as perhaps Georgia's most prophetic voice. Harwell is a victim of the conflict that has sowed discord in Southern Baptist life for a decade.

For several months he has lived and worked under the eye of a review board that carefully read and re-read each issue of the *Index*. He has been "under the gun" since 1979 when the first attempt to fire him was attempted. That effort was turned into acclamation for the editor.

But finally he departs from the Baptist scene, at least as an editor of one of our state papers. An

editorial following the June Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis brought his review board to issue a stern warning: one more like that and you will be terminated.

Harwell is retiring early, he said, because he could no longer live with the restrictions and censorship placed on the *Index* "and be true to my God." (See separate story this issue.)

What we have said about Harwell, we can say about Randall Lolley. An impeccable Baptist leader and Christian gentleman, Lolley has announced plans to resign as president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. While his plans are not yet known, like Harwell, he is a casualty of Southern Baptist strife, and we will miss his leadership.

This is a sad day, and we mourn the loss of these leaders. The times are more than troubled when the voice of prophecy is silenced by turmoil and conscience is not allowed to speak. — WFA



PASSING THE CHECK — Earl Deusner (center left), chairman of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation trustees, presents a check from foundation funds designated for the Cooperative Program to Tom Madden (center right), executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Also pictured (left to right) are Earl Wilson, foundation president; John Ellis, trustee; Hollis Johnson, president of the Southern Baptist Foundation; and Don Early, trustee.

Foundation gifts to CP reach record \$255,000

The Tennessee Baptist Foundation has contributed a record \$255,000 to the Tennessee Baptist Convention Cooperative Program during the 1986-87 budget year.

E. Earl Deusner, chairman of the foundation's trustees, presented a check for \$122,472.52 on Oct. 23 to Tom Madden, executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, bringing the total foundation gifts to the Cooperative Program to the \$255,000 total. In May, a check for \$133,527.48 was presented.

"We are grateful that we could surpass last year's gifts, especially in a year that has seen interest rates fall 2 to 3 percent," said Deusner.

The foundation contributions represent earned interest from funds given by Tennessee Baptists for missions. The funds are being held in trust by the foundation.

Earl Wilson, president-treasurer of the

foundation, said the majority of the income is earned from trusts established in the wills of people who are now deceased.

"It is my hope and prayer that more and more Tennessee Baptists will follow their example by preparing a Christian will and leaving a portion or a percentage of their estate to the Tennessee Baptist Convention, designating the income from their trust to the Cooperative Program for world missions.

"I would like to see, in my lifetime, the Foundation giving \$1-million a year for world missions," Wilson added.

Wilson also noted that the stock market's 508-point "crash" on Oct. 19, had little effect on the foundation's financial position.

"The foundation's primary purpose is to produce income for Christian causes, therefore, less than 6 percent of the foundation's assets are invested in stocks," Wilson explained.

The Southern Baptist Foundation serves as the investment advisor for the Tennessee foundation's stock portfolio, according to Wilson. "Under this arrangement, the foundation has invested primarily in blue chip stocks in which we still have a sizable gain."

Lucille Livengood dies in accident

Thelma Lucille Livengood was killed in an automobile accident that also injured her husband, Charles T. Livengood, director of missions for Alpha Baptist Association and Judson Association of Missionary Baptists.

Two other persons in another car also were killed in the accident which occurred Oct. 26 in the Centerville area. Lucille Livengood was 59 years old.

Charles Livengood is in Hickman County Hospital in Centerville recovering from internal injuries.

Mrs. Livengood's funeral, Oct. 30 at McDonald Funeral Home in Centerville, was conducted by Lawrence Steiner, director of missions for Indian Creek Baptist Association, and Thomas Mayberry, pastor of Fairfield Church in Centerville, where the Livengoods held their membership. She was buried in Nickell Cemetery in Centerville.

She is survived by sons, Roger and Mark of Centerville, Ricky of Linden, Philip of Williamsport, and Allan of Nashville; daughter, Judy Bentley of Lyles; mother, Cora Hulen of Centerville; brothers, Charles Ray Hulen and J. E. Hulen of Savannah; sisters, Ruby Godwin and Sue Hendrix of Savannah; and seven grandchildren.

Harwell sets retirement from Georgia state paper

ATLANTA (BP)— Jack U. Harwell, editor of the Christian Index for 21 years, has announced his early retirement effective Dec. 31.

The Christian Index, newsjournal of the Georgia Baptist Convention, is the oldest state Baptist paper in the Southern Baptist Convention and the second-oldest religious publication in America, founded by Luther Rice in 1822.

Harwell, 55, has been editor longer than any other person in the paper's history. He was associate editor for nine years before becoming editor Nov. 1, 1966.

The Index board of directors named Jack P. Lowndes acting editor beginning Jan. 1. Lowndes is director of the church-minister relations department of the Georgia Baptist Convention. He was executive director and editor for the Baptist Convention of New York from 1975 to 1982.

Harwell has been under fire from conservative groups in Georgia and Southern Baptist life for years. They charged him with favoring moderates and abusing conservatives in the ongoing Southern Baptist theological/political controversy. An effort to fire him was made at the state convention in 1979, but he was supported by messengers.

In 1986, another effort to oust Harwell resulted in creation of the Christian Index review board, to review all editorials and articles in the paper and with power to recommend dismissal of the editor if members felt such action was appropriate. In August of 1987, that review board told Harwell the editorial he wrote about the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis in June was a violation and said, "One more violation and we will recommend your termination."

At a called Index meeting Oct. 26, Harwell told the board: "With the creation of the review board I almost felt it necessary to submit my resignation. Hundreds of people across this state and nation advised me to resign at that time; they felt the integrity of the paper had been so compromised that resignation was unavoidable. But in my private prayer life, God did not tell me to resign."

But he added, "All the terrible (SBC) events of the past few weeks made me take a new and harder look at my own ministry. I saw that I had not written my conscience in a single one of those recent issues. I had written what I knew would pass muster with the review board, not what I felt to be true and honest and prophetic. I could no longer live with the

restrictions and censorship placed upon this newspaper and be true to my God, my heritage, my denomination, or my conscience."

Harwell said many people had advised him to make a floor fight over his situation at the upcoming Georgia Baptist Convention annual meeting Nov. 9-11 in Savannah. But he said: "Dozens of trusted advisers counseled that . . . it would result in a terrible division in our convention, one that would be a long time healing. I love this convention too much to participate, or allow someone else to initiate, such a rupture over my personal circumstances."

So he asked the Index board to hold the special session to accept his retirement and to make plans for a transition toward another editor. The board voted to give Harwell one year's salary and title to the Index automobile as a retirement package.

"The board of directors of the Index wish Dr. Harwell, his wife, and his family the best of everything in any future endeavors," said Index chairman William A. Smith. "May they be assured of our prayers and interests. The board of directors was generous and fair and just in granting a retirement package for Dr. Harwell."

Smith is pastor of Sherwood Baptist Church in Albany, Ga., and chairs the five-member search committee named to seek a new editor.

Harwell is native of Mobile, Ala., and a graduate of Samford University in Birmingham, Ala. He has been on the board of trustees of Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission and president of Southern Baptist Press Association.

Central gathers

McMinnville was the site of the annual meeting of Central Baptist Association on Oct. 19-20, meeting at Westside Church and Madison Street Church.

Dan Long, pastor of First Church in Smartt, was re-elected as moderator. The new assistant moderator is John Padgett, pastor of First Church in Campaign. The clerk, which is a non-elected position, is Wynette Ballard, a member of Shellsford Church in McMinnville.

Ralph E. Hoover is the association's director of missions and McMinnville is the site of the next annual meeting, which is scheduled for Oct. 24-25 at Bethel Hill Church and Providence Church.

SBC Housing Bureau makes assignments

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (BP)— All downtown hotel rooms have been assigned to messengers who will attend the 1988 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas, reported Convention Manager Tim A. Hedquist.

"Almost 4,000 hotel rooms in the downtown area have been filled," said Hedquist, vice-president for business and finance of the SBC Executive Committee.

The assignments were made Oct. 14 by the San Antonio Housing Bureau, an organization unaffiliated with the SBC, Hedquist said. All 4,000 rooms were assigned to people whose housing requests forms were mailed to the Housing Bureau and postmarked Oct. 1, he added.

The Housing Bureau currently is feeding all assignments into a computer and sending an acknowledgement to each applicant who received a room, he said. The downtown hotels later will confirm the assignments and request room deposits.

However, applicants submitted about 1,000 more requests than rooms available in the downtown block, he said, noting the majority of the unfilled requests also were mailed Oct. 1.

These requests have been sent to the Executive Commit-

tee in Nashville, Hedquist reported: "We're notifying them immediately. People who did not get rooms will know before the people who got rooms receive their confirmations. Each applicant who did not get a room will receive a list of the other 41 hotels in the city, as well as a list of travel agents who have blocked rooms."

San Antonio has about 9,000 hotel rooms in addition to the downtown block of 4,000, Hedquist said. "Housing is going to be very, very tight," he reported, noting several groups already have blocked out rooms from the pool of 9,000, and others are attempting to block more.

Many of the blocked rooms are being reserved by people or groups who will attempt to funnel them to convention participants who are affiliated with their faction within the SBC theological/political struggle, he said.

"What concerns me is that when we come to the convention, we will have rooms available (from these blocks) all over the city," Hedquist said. "But it will be very difficult to get messengers who need the rooms connected with hotels that can help them."

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.

Agrees with Shelby

In Oct. 23 issue of *Baptist and Reflector*, I read five letters to the editor expressing "negative" views about the Shelby County Baptist Association's decision on the "electrically charged" issue of women pastors.

Perhaps these letters were written from a "liberal" approach to the teachings of scriptures. Usually God's inerrant, authoritative Word, on this subject, is accepted by more conservative interpreters.

It seems that the "negative" side of the presentation was "top heavy" — with letters to the editor — in regards to the Shelby County Baptist Association's 75 percent majority of messenger votes which surely was made with prayerful forethought. (Many of the voters were women).

Every preacher I know, appreciates, honors, respects, and dignifies women (of all ages and Spiritual maturity) in their various leadership roles, but this does not change the way the LORD planned for them to use their talents, gifts, and abilities in His service as dedicated "servants" of Christ in His church.

With over 40 years in the ministry, I am aware of how pulpit committees are chosen and also positive that NO church has a 100 percent vote of EVERY member when they call a pastor, therefore it might be possible that "some" of the members of Prescott Memorial may even agree with the association's, prayed about, decision if given a chance to be interviewed privately.

Perhaps the writers of these letters should consider that there MUST be some spiritually mature Christians among the large majority of messengers who made such a biblically-based decision.

It occurred to me that at least one "positive" letter, in support of the Shelby County Association's overwhelming decision, should be voiced in agreement with their, I think, very biblical interpretation.

Roger L. Oldham, Pastor
Little West Fork Baptist Church
Clarksville 37042

Freedom to follow

Standing outside the sanctuary after Shelby Baptist Association's vote to oust Prescott Memorial Church, I heard a man try to tell Rev. Hastings-Sehested not to take the vote personally. How can she take it any other way? The action taken directly challenges God's calling of Nancy Hastings-Sehested to be a pastor.

Shelby Baptist Association has said to her, "You are a second-class Christian because you are a woman. You are free to follow the Holy Spirit's guidance of your life, but only if it leads you in a way we deem acceptable." If Rev. Hastings-Sehested wants to be accepted by Memphis Baptists, she has two choices: stop being a woman or stop following the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Both are impossible.

Let there be no mistake. The issue is not the autonomy of a church or of an association. The issue is the freedom of each per-

son to follow God's leadership. The issue is whether we will say to a fellow Christian, "Your prayers are not real. God has not spoken to you. I know the Holy Spirit's will for your life better than you know it yourself." Or will we say "Whether we agree or disagree, I respect your right to pray, to interpret scripture, and to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit as best you can. God may speak to us differently, but God speaks to us both."

God has not given me the gift of knowing when He is and when He is not speaking to one of His children. I am sorry so many of my brothers and sisters in Memphis feel God has given this gift to them.

Chris Caldwell
633 East Dr.
Memphis 38112

Longtime Baptist reacts

I have been a Baptist for over 50 years. There have been Baptist preachers in my family for at least a hundred years, but I am beginning to be ashamed to be called a Baptist.

This dispute over women in the church shows a woeful lack of knowledge of the Bible. Eve was NOT responsible for the fall. Romans 5:12-21 BY ONE MAN ... ADAM'S TRANSGRESSIONS.

Eve was deceived, Adam sinned willfully: Genesis 2:15-17. Eve was not yet created. Genesis third chapter: Eve's punishment was to be under subjection to her husband but she was also given the promise of the Savior. BUT TO ADAM WAS GIVEN DEATH.

In Christ the penalty of sin is abolished. In Christ there is neither male nor female, Galatians 3:28. Is this a lie?

As for women not being in authority over men, what are you going to do about Huldah, Anna, or Phillip's daughters? Did God make a mistake?

As for 1 Timothy 2:9-15, Paul was talking to Asians who then, as today, had strict laws about women. To tell them to disobey these laws would have got them killed just as it would today in Iran or other Moslem countries. If you are going to apply this chapter to women today, what about the jewelry? Why omit verse 15? Hypocrisy, don't you think?

1 Timothy 3:2: Men in those countries were allowed several wives just as some of them do today. Women were allowed only one husband.

Some, in reading Genesis 2:20, say that Eve was an "helpmeet." That is NOT what it says. That is two words, Help Meet. In the Bible the word "meet" means, worthy of or equal to.

2 Timothy 2:15 is the most neglected verse in the Bible. I suggest asking when studying the Bible: Who is speaking? To whom, why, under what circumstances? This is the only way to study the Bible intelligently.

Edna W. Taylor
222 Dividing Ridge Cem. Rd.
Soddy-Daisy 37379

Stop abortion now

It is hardly surprising to note that permissive abortion in our country began with a lie. I am referring to the recent admission by Norma McCorvey, the woman who used the name Jane Roe in the lawsuit that led to the 1973 Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion on demand.

In her original lawsuit, she claimed that she was a victim of a gang rape. But now she has admitted to columnist Carl Rowan that the story was a complete fabrication designed to bolster her claim that anti-abortion laws were unjust. She is obviously not very repentant, inasmuch

as she is today an abortion rights activist.

Over 20 million infants in the womb have been killed since 1973. The most basic function of government is the protection of innocent life. Since abortion is the taking of innocent life, murder, if you will, then ending it must be a function of government.

In 1973 the Supreme Court completely avoided, in a very cowardly way, any discussion of the scientifically sound principle that life begins at conception. There is no justification for abortion other than convenience, which is certainly not acceptable justification in a civilized society. When fraud is admitted, restitution is proper. But how does anyone go about restoring life to the 20 million infants that have been snuffed out? Are we any better than the Nazis or the Communists who have also shown disdain for human life? No, the lives can't be brought back, so the very least we can do is to put a stop to abortion — now!

R. Allen Hughes
P.O. Box 1
Rohan Mountain 37687

Thanks from Venezuela

On behalf of our Venezuelan Baptist Convention and the missionaries of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in Venezuela, I want



BSSB AWARD — Carolyn Blevins, a youth Sunday School director at First Church, Jefferson City, receives the Career of Excellence in Writing Award from Max Caldwell, director of the Sunday School youth-adult group of the Sunday School Board.

BSSB acclaims Carolyn Blevins

ROGERSVILLE, Ala. — Carolyn Blevins, a youth Sunday School director at First Church in Jefferson City, is one of four veteran youth Sunday School curriculum writers to be the first inductees into a Youth Sunday School Writers Hall of Fame.

Blevins received a Career of Excellence in Writing award during a writers conference banquet at Joe Wheeler State Park near Rogersville, Ala.

The Hall of Fame and accompanying award are designed to recognize long-term significant achievements of youth Sunday School writers, said J. William Thompson, senior design editor in the youth curriculum section of the board's Sunday School division.

Inductees along with Blevins are David Jenkins, pastor of First Church, Gilmer, Texas; B. J. Dean, a youth Sunday School worker at Trinity Church, San Antonio, Texas; and Ann Cannon, a youth Sunday School director at Wieuca Road Church, Atlanta.

to take this opportunity to thank Tennessee Baptist for what they have done in Venezuela during the Partnership Evangelism Campaigns of August and September. First, I want to thank Clarence Stewart and Mrs. Doris Haynes for the fine enlistment, orientation and planning that their department has done. It was not an easy task but God used them in a great way.

I also want to thank the 230 August volunteers and the 128 September volunteers (total 358) for their coming and sharing their lives and faith with our Venezuelan people. During these two months there were 6205 professions of faith, 1444 rededications, and 228 surrendered to special service. God truly had the victory. I would like to say to each one of these volunteers how much our people appreciate their coming and to ask them to continue to pray for the follow up work here in Venezuela.

Billy (Joe) Powell
Los Teques, Edo. Miranda
Venezuela, S.A. 1201A

Arab seminary faces trouble

LARNACA, Cyprus (BP) — The Arab Baptist Theological Seminary has been denied official recognition by Cyprus, creating a problem for students applying for visas. However, government officials have agreed to provide two-month renewable visas for the students to continue their training, at least temporarily.

Seminary training will continue for the current academic year, but long-range plans for its location are uncertain. Ten students from Lebanon, three from Syria, and two from Jordan are being affected by the visa restrictions, said Bill Trimble, a Southern Baptist missionary and dean of students.

The seminary moved from Beirut to Cyprus in March after the U.S. government ended passport privileges for Americans in Lebanon. Three Southern Baptist missionaries are the nucleus of the faculty: Trimble, Emmett Barnes, and David King.

The seminary operated in Cyprus by renting classroom space and housing for 16 students at an interdenominational conference center near Nicosia. Two students, one from Lebanon and the other from Jordan, graduated in June.

The fall semester already had been delayed more than three weeks while the seminary waited for word of the Cypriot Ministry of Education's decision, Trimble said. Space has been rented in a hotel in the port city of Larnaca.

A revised application for the seminary to operate on the Mediterranean island was submitted in August. The government turned down an initial application earlier in the summer.

Radnor provides TBC child care

Preschool children whose parents are attending the Tennessee Baptist Convention, Nov. 10-12 at Radnor Church, Nashville, will be cared for, at no charge, during the morning and afternoon sessions in the church's regular day care program. Lunch will be provided for the children.

Parents will be asked to pick up their children by the close of the day care hours. The church also will provide a nursery during the evening sessions.

Texas association drops church for 'heterodoxy'

LUMBERTON, Texas (BP)— Pastor Richard Vaughan and three other messengers from Fletcher Emmanuel Baptist Church in Lumberton, Texas, arrived at the annual meeting of Emmanuel Baptist Association in Kountze, Oct. 19, only to learn their church had been dropped from the association's membership rolls.

The association's executive board voted Sept. 17 to withdraw membership from Fletcher Emmanuel Church and deny messengers from the church to participate in the annual meeting.

The executive board found the church to be "heterodox in the faith and disorderly in practice" in withdrawing fellowship from the church, the largest in the

association and a perennial leader in baptisms in Southeast Texas.

Association Moderator Carter Elmore, pastor of First Baptist Church of Silsbee, said the executive board action was final and no mention of it was made at the annual meeting.

Vaughan told the Baptist Standard, Texas Baptists' weekly newsjournal, he was unaware of the action although he was told a letter had been written to him regarding it. The letter was sent following the Sept. 17 action. He said the church was not doing anything contrary to the Baptist Faith and Message Statement of 1963.

The church's practices have been a topic for debate for months in the association. The association's credentials committee reported last spring that Fletcher Emmanuel Church had become "heterodox in much of their doctrine" and

recommended the church be placed under watchcare until the "doctrinal differences" could be resolved.

The church was notified in May that if it did not correct the "inconsistencies" that its messengers would not be seated at the annual meeting. The church's beliefs, the watchcare committee said, were "not consistent in Southern Baptist interpretation of Scripture."

Among "heterodox" positions of the church, the committee said, were statements regarding healing, casting out demons, speaking in tongues, and allowing dual membership.

Vaughan said Fletcher Emmanuel is a "full gospel church" and there should be room among Baptists for such churches. The association action will not affect the church's participation in Texas and Southern Baptist conventions.

Vaughan said he did not question the association's right to exclude the church from membership but protested the way it was handled by the executive board rather than the messengers at the annual meeting.

Pastor of the church for 11 years, Vaughn said he received the "gift of tongues" in 1964 and that the church had been "full gospel" since a "miracle healing" occurred there about seven years ago.

Task Force ...

(Continued from page 1)

Task Force completes two years of work. The group began meeting in December 1985 at the Convention's direction.

In addition to approving the Task Force's recommendations on construction and renovation, the Executive Board also has strongly affirmed its previous recommendation to move toward a three-division organization structure.

Out of that decision, said Porch, it was recognized that the challenge of space had to be addressed, and, he said, "a wide range of options was reviewed."

Space for expanded ministries will come along with the conference center concept, and renovated quarters will provide needs for current programs.

"We feel the convention messengers will have adequate information to make their decision," said Porch. "We have carried out the assignment from the Executive Board."

The Task Force report comes Wednesday at 10:05 as part of the Executive Board report.

"In essence, three needs emerged as we studied," said the Task Force chairman. "We saw the need for a conference center, more space for ministries of the auxiliaries and agencies, and the necessity to renovate some of the existing space to accommodate the expanded work of our programs. The growth of Tennessee Baptists' ministries, the heartbeat of the local church, must be addressed." Projected cost will not exceed \$4-million. At least half that amount will be on hand, according to Task Force information.

Members of the Task Force stressed that they would have descriptive brochures and a scaled model of the proposed conference center building readily accessible at the Nov. 9-11 meeting at Radnor Church, Nashville. Task Force members will be available to discuss the recommendations and answer questions for messengers.

Copper Basin meets

New Zion Church in Farmer and Maple Grove Church in Turtletown were the sites of the Oct. 22 annual meeting of Copper Basin Association.

Elected during the meeting as officers for the next year were Mitchell Taylor, pastor of Bethlehem Church in Copperhill, as moderator, succeeding Charles Cheatham, pastor of Coletown Church in Copperhill; Grady Chastain, pastor of Maple Grove Church, as assistant moderator; Glen Hughes, a member of Zion Hill Church in Turtletown, as treasurer; and Vernon Kennedy, a member of Bethlehem Church, as clerk.

The next annual meeting will be at Isabella Church in Isabella and Pleasant Hill Church in Copperhill on Oct. 20, 1988.

First Church, San Antonio dismisses Walker as pastor

DALLAS (BP)— First Baptist Church of San Antonio, Texas, voted 623 to 614 Oct. 25 to dismiss David C. Walker as pastor of the 126-year-old church.

Citing problems with the pastor's "leadership style" that resulted in divisions in the church, the deacons voted Oct. 18 to ask for Walker's resignation. When he failed to resign, the deacons sent a recommendation to the church's personnel committee that Walker be dismissed, effective immediately. Joyce Williams, chairman of the personnel committee, presented the motion to the church.

After the vote was taken, Walker led the church in a hymn and invited anyone interested in forming a new congregation to meet with him in the church's chapel. Observers reported more than 300 people attended that meeting. Participants were invited to attend the first service of the new congregation at 11 a.m., Nov. 1, at the San Antonio Econolodge.

Walker was unable to be reached for comment on the church's decision or on his plans for the future.

The 34-year-old Vicksburg, Miss., native went to the San Antonio church in 1984 after being pastor of San Jacinto Baptist Church in Amarillo, Texas, and First Baptist Church of Hobart, Okla. He also had worked on the staff of Sagamore Hill Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas; First Baptist Church of Houston; and Garden Oaks Baptist Church in Houston.

Walker is a graduate of Houston Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, where he earned master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees.

First Baptist Church of San Antonio led Texas Baptist churches with 1,182 baptisms in 1986. The church ranked 15th statewide in Cooperative Program missions giving with \$262,000 contributed.

The church, which had an average Sunday School attendance of 2,153 in 1986, has averaged 1,465 in recent months. Weekly receipts have run about \$38,000, or 10 to 15 percent below offerings at the same time last year. Offerings have been almost \$6,000 per week behind requirements for the amended church budget.

Jim Stone, chairman of the deacons at First Baptist Church, described the church's action as traumatic and painful for everyone involved. "We wish David nothing but the best and pray God's richest blessings upon him," he said.

A pastor search committee is expected to be named "in a few weeks when things calm down," Stone noted. He said William B. Tolar, dean of the School of Theology at Southwestern seminary, is scheduled to fill the pulpit at First Baptist Church several Sundays through the end of the year.

"We want to keep marching on. We don't have a pastor, but we still have a Lord," said Stone. "We just want to heal our wounds and go on with being a church."

NOBTS alumni to assemble

The annual New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Luncheon will be held during the Tennessee Baptist Convention meeting Nov. 11 at Haywood Hills Church in Nashville beginning at noon.

Bart Neal, registrar at the seminary, will speak and Larry Martin, minister of music and youth at College Heights Church in Gallatin, will present special music.

The \$6 tickets will be available at the convention meeting at Radnor Church in Nashville Nov. 10-12.



Tennessee/Venezuela prayer net partnership

—Ed Jump, general evangelist in Valencia, is in need of a telephone to enable him to work more effectively.

—Missionary Ron Adams is working with the mud slide victims in Maracay. Many needs still exist for those who lost homes.

—Visas are still needed for missionaries who have completed language school because the paperwork was lost and the process had to be started again.

—A team from First Church in Lewisburg will be working at the new camp site near Valencia.

Convention ...

(Continued from page 1)

After the convention is organized and James Owen Jr. leads in a devotional period, the first item of agenda business is the Treasurer's Report and presentation of the budget by Tom Madden, executive secretary, TBC.

There is a time for miscellaneous business at 10:45.

Oakley, pastor of Springfield Church, gives the President's Address at 11:30. The Springfield church choir precedes the message with special music.

Madden will recognize new pastors and church staff members at 2:25, welcoming Tennessee Baptist Convention newcomers. A second miscellaneous business period comes at 2:50.

Jack Knox, Memphis businessman, at 3:40 will give a report from the Church Staff Compensation Study Committee. Katharine Bryan, executive director, Tennessee WMU, speaks at 4:15.

Other items during the Tuesday afternoon session include a welcome to fraternal messengers, items concerning the Constitution and Bylaws, a report on Tennessee Baptist schools, and special music by an ethnic choir from Hamilton County Association.

Several departments from the Convention Ministries Division report on Tuesday evening — and others report all through the sessions. Other convention work, from agencies and departments, will be heard by messengers during the week.

The Convention Sermon, by James Porch, pastor of First Church, Tullahoma will be given Tuesday night at 8:55.

Wednesday's sessions include more from the Constitution and Bylaws (9:25) Committee and election of officers (9:45 and 10:55). The Executive Board reports at 10:05, presenting the budget and the report of the Program, Personnel, and Planning Task Force.

John Bisagno, pastor of First Church, Houston, is scheduled to speak Wednesday at 11:20. Clarence Stewart gives a report at 2:55 on the Venezuela Partnership.

Reports from the Committee on Boards and the Committee on Committees, TBC, come at 3:35 and 3:55. Harold Carter, pastor of New Shiloh Church, Baltimore, speaks at 8:45 p.m.

The Committee on Resolutions reports at 9:30 Thursday morning, and incoming and outgoing officers will be presented at 9:50. Jack Stanton, director of the Institute of Evangelism, Bolivar, Mo., speaks at 11:15 to conclude the Annual Meeting.

A. C. Creel dies

A. C. Creel, father of Bennie Creel who is director of missions for Sweetwater Baptist Association, died after an extended illness in his home in Hattisburg, Miss.

The funeral was Oct. 30 in Hattisburg. He is survived by his wife in addition to other family members.

Robertson County admits church

Robertson County Baptist Association honored Jerry Oakley, president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, was recognized by Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes Inc., and added a church during its annual meeting. It met Oct. 19-20 at Orlinda Church in Orlinda and Oak Grove Church in Springfield.

Oakley, who is pastor of one of the association's churches, Springfield Church in Springfield, was given a plaque. The recognition by TBCH was to note the association's support of TBCH by 90 percent of its churches.

Grace Church in Pleasant View was admitted to the association. Its interim pastor is Jerry Hurley.

The officers, who were re-elected, include James W. Owen Jr., pastor of Mt. Carmel Church in Cross Plains, moderator; Emery O. Farmer, pastor of Flewellyn Church in Springfield, assistant moderator; and Thomas Ray Cooper, a member of North Springfield Church in Springfield, clerk. Jo Nelle James, associational office secretary, serves in the non-elected position of treasurer.

The 1988 meeting is set for Oct. 17-18 at Ebenezer Church in Greenbrier and Barren Plains Church in Springfield. The association's director of missions is Frank Evans.

Workers to prepare for adult work in Sunday School

Five remaining Sunday School Adult Growth Conferences will be held across the state during November to train church staff and Sunday School officers, adult workers, and members to conduct "Adult Growth Week" in their churches.

The schedule follows: Nov. 5 at Ooltewah Church in Chattanooga; Nov. 16 at Calvary Church in Kingsport; Nov. 17 at Central Church, Bearden, in Knoxville; Nov. 19 at Englewood Church in Jackson; and Nov. 30 at First Church in Memphis.

The conferences will begin at 3 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. except the Memphis conference, which will begin at 5 p.m. The 3 p.m. meeting is for church staff and general officers and a 7 p.m. meeting will involve everyone. At the Memphis conference, everyone will gather at 5 p.m.

For more information, persons should contact TBC Sunday School department, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024.

Carson-Newman outlines plan

JEFFERSON CITY — The verse, "He which soweth bountifully, shall reap also bountifully," from 2 Corinthians 9:6, introduces a bold new strategic plan announced last week by Carson-Newman College.

The plan, outlined in a publication, "The Decade Past, The Century Ahead," sets forth an ambitious goal.

Carson-Newman, a four-year, liberal arts institution operated by the Tennessee Baptist Convention, intends "to become the finest small Baptist college in the United States by its 150th anniversary in 2001."

Developed in cooperation with educational consultant George Keller of the Barton-Gillet Company of Baltimore, Md., the plan calls for Carson-Newman to take a number of innovative initiatives in four basic areas: higher quality; greater service to Baptists; more distinctiveness as a college; and a stronger financial base. Each area targets specific, measurable goals.

Under "higher quality" goals are installation of an improved liberal arts

curriculum, addition of endowed professorships, increases in faculty salaries, renovation and enlargement of the college library, construction of a new student center, and construction of a new field house/convocation center.

"Greater service to Baptists" targets enhancement of Baptist studies to make the college the leading undergraduate center in America for the study of Baptist history, sociology, and religion; establishment of centers of excellence for church music, family studies, and children's literature; and establishment of more areas of study in Christian ministries.

Goals for achieving "more distinctiveness as a college" include establishment of wellness and life-long health programs in athletics, creation of an Appalachian studies program, and development of more innovative non-traditional educational programs including: a weekend college for working adults and an inward bound program similar to the outward bound programs, but with components emphasizing religion and values. To achieve a stronger financial base, the

school will launch a new major capital campaign for new facilities, needed renovations, and increasing the endowment.

"In many ways, we have already begun our drive to national excellence," said Cordell Maddox, who recently completed his 10th year as president of the institution. "In the past year alone, Carson-Newman has established a new graduate program in education, a new associate of arts degree in Christian ministries, and a Chinese Cross-Cultural Institute, launched a nationwide television program, and won a national football championship.

"Although we recently attained an enrollment of 1,901, the largest in the institution's history, we want to maintain our identity as a small, principally undergraduate institution," he said. "In the future, Carson-Newman's growth will be targeted toward higher levels of excellence. The strategic planning process has both intensified and clarified the purpose of the college and provided specific direction for the momentum that we already have."

Proposed changes to TBC bylaws

I. BYLAWS

Bylaw 2. Standing Committees

9. Duties A. Committee on Arrangements.

Proposed:

(e) Recommend to the Convention the time and place of the annual meeting FIVE years in advance.

Present:

(e) Recommend to the Convention the time and place of the annual meeting THREE years in advance.

II. In response to a motion made during the 1985 Convention (Convention Proceedings, Item 27), and after further study the Constitution and Bylaws Committee recommends:

Proposed:

Bylaw 2. Standing Committees

(5) Succession.

A member of a committee who has served a full term shall not be eligible for reelection until having been out of such office for one Convention year. A member serving on either the Committee on Committees or Committee on Boards shall not be eligible for election to either the Committee on Committees or Committee on Boards until having been out of office THREE Convention years. No person shall serve a collective tenure

of more than seven years on either the Committee on Boards or the Committee on Committees or a Combination of the two committees.

Present:

Bylaw 2. Standing Committees

(5) Succession

A member of a committee who has served a full term shall not be eligible for reelection until having been out of such office for one Convention year. A member serving on either the Committee on Committees or the Committee on Boards shall not be eligible for election to either the Committee on Committees or the Committee on Boards until having been out of office one Convention year.

III. That Item 8 under Committee Guidelines be reaffirmed: These two committees should keep in mind the desirability of the following principles in making nominations: a broader representation from churches in geographical areas, differing sizes and types of churches, a variety of professional and educational backgrounds, different age groups, with both lay men/women and ministers included.

IV. That the name "Business and Financial Plan" be substituted for the present "Financial Policy Manual" as printed in the TBC Journal.

SPECIAL MINISTRY AWARENESS MEETING

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 1987

1:00-2:00 P.M.

concerning

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Fellowship Hall

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Knox County sets new ministries

Action taken at the Knox County Association of Baptists' annual meeting included approving two new ministries and plans to support the sister-state relationship with Michigan, and adding a church. It gathered in Knoxville at First Church of Concord and Lincoln Park Church on Oct. 19-20.

The two new ministries adopted are a good will center and language missions work. Support of the Macomb Baptist Association in Michigan was increased to \$11,000 and 15 lay evangelism teams were scheduled for work in Michigan.

Chilhowee Hills Church, which was formed by the merging of McCalla Avenue Church and Bell Avenue Church in Knox-

ville, was added to the association.

The 1987-88 officers elected by the messengers are Robert Sharp, pastor of Gillespie Avenue Church in Knoxville, moderator, succeeding Guy Milam, pastor of North Knoxville Church in Knoxville; Howard Cockrum, a member of Cumberland Church in Knoxville, vice-moderator; Anna Marie Bolt, a member of Chilhowee Hills Church, treasurer; and Eugene Fleming, associate pastor/minister of education at Cumberland Church, clerk.

The 1988 meeting will also gather in Knoxville at Central Church, Bearden, and North Knoxville Church on Oct. 17-18. Ted Huckaby is the director of missions.

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Virginia Baptist board discusses BJCPA, PAC

By Robert Dilday

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The Virginia Baptist General Board dealt with two matters concerning the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and the Southern Baptist Public Affairs Committee during its pre-convention meeting in early October.

The 68-member board unanimously approved a motion opposing the "recent action of the Southern Baptist Convention Public Affairs Committee in its public endorsement of a nominee to the Supreme Court."

The board also "received as information" a report from the Baptist General Association of Virginia budget committee which includes a line item in the proposed 1988 budget appropriating \$3,000 for the BJCPA.

The motion regarding the action of the SBC-PAC says: "Our Baptist heritage is to avoid official support of a political candidate or nominee to the judiciary and we affirm that heritage. We further note that no committee can speak for all Baptists because of our belief in the priesthood of the believer and freedom of conscience."

The SBC Public Affairs Committee urged the confirmation of Robert H. Bork as a U.S. Supreme Court justice during its meeting Aug. 20-21 in Nashville.

When Anne P. Rosser, associate pastor of Hampton Baptist Church in Hampton, made the original motion to the general board, some members expressed concerns over the motion's specific mention of Bork's name. Others wondered if Bork were in fact a "candidate for political office" or if the PAC action were a "violation of the Constitutional principle of separation of church and state," as her motion stated.

Amendments to delete Bork's name and to change "candidate" to "nominee" passed easily but members soundly defeated an effort to refer the motion to the resolutions committee of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, parent body of the general board.

Ted W. Fuson, pastor of Lake Ridge Baptist Church in Woodbridge, then made a substitute motion, which incorporated the earlier amendments and which

passed on a voice vote with no opposition.

The PAC's endorsement of President Ronald Reagan's nominee to fill a vacancy on the nation's highest court has heightened controversy surrounding the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, a coalition of nine Baptist bodies in the United States and Canada.

The Southern Baptist Convention participates in the Washington-based BJCPA through its Public Affairs Committee, whose members serve as the Southern Baptist representatives on the BJCPA's board. Traditionally, the PAC has met only in conjunction with the BJCPA and only in recent years has it met separately.

During the PAC's Oct. 6 meeting in Washington, the committee voted 8-4 to suggest the SBC sever ties between the BJCPA and the SBC after a meeting in which the full BJCPA board repeatedly overturned SBC-PAC supported initiatives.

The BJCPA has been under fire from some Southern Baptists during the past few years and has survived at least one

effort at the annual meeting to withdraw funding. Many of the critics have charged that some positions taken by the BJCPA are unrepresentative of the denomination. The criticisms culminated in the forming of a fact-finding committee of the SBC Executive Committee, which spent a year studying the relationship between the SBC and the BJCPA.

The report of the fact-finding committee, approved by the convention last June at its annual meeting in St. Louis, left the SBC portion of the BJCPA's funding intact, but did not specify how the monies were to be channeled. It also revised PAC membership and gave it permission to function as a separate committee of the SBC.

In November 1986, before the recommendations of the fact-finding committee were known, the Baptist General Association of Virginia voted to enclose \$75,000 from its Cooperative Program budget to be given to the BJCPA in the event that the SBC reduced or omitted the agency's funding at the St. Louis meeting.

Following SBC approval of the recommendation, Virginia Baptist leaders agreed the conditions of the escrow motion were satisfied and last July the funds were released.

However, questions concerning the BJCPA's funding apparently are unresolved, and this November the BGAV, which includes 600,000 Southern Baptists in Virginia, will be asked to approve a line item in its proposed 1988 budget appropriating \$3,000 to the BJCPA.

The budget was presented to the general board during its October meeting. Although the board may act for the BGAV between its annual sessions, it does not approve the general association's budget, which was received as information.

However, the budget recommendations, attached to the financial document, provoked some discussion by board members.

Recommendation 7 urges the BGAV Budget Committee to "keep under review the financial support of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs by the Southern Baptist Convention and its Executive Committee" and gives the budget committee authority to "recommend appropriate action to the Virginia Baptist General Board to assure reasonable financial support" of the BJCPA if its funding is "significantly altered during the 1987-88 budget period."

When asked by a general board member what was meant by "reasonable financial support," Victor E. Mantiply, budget committee chairman, implied the phrase is subject to flexibility when he commented, "You will have a say-so as to what is 'reasonable' if you attend the next General Board meeting."

Mantiply, pastor of Moffet Memorial Baptist Church in Danville, also said the BGAV is being asked to endorse the concept of a line item for the BJCPA in the budget. Some observers believe the \$3,000 figure will be altered, since BGAV guidelines permit messengers at the annual meeting to adjust the budget.

Fuson, a budget committee member, explained the amount is not higher because although the general board may act "ad interim for the general association if deemed necessary by the officers, ... we could not see ourselves acting before something had happened."

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BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR
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Personal Perspective

By Tom Madden
TBC Executive
Secretary-Treasurer



As I was reading the seventh chapter of Luke recently, I became aware and impressed that in this one chapter alone, our Lord complimented three people.

He complimented the Roman Centurion (Luke 7:2-9). This army officer had many good qualities. For one, he was concerned about his servant. He had respect for the God of the Jewish people. He was generous, having built a synagogue for his Jewish friend. However, these were not the reasons Jesus paid tribute to him. When the centurion said it was not necessary for Jesus to even come to his house to heal the servant but that he had the authority to do it whenever and wherever he desired, Jesus said, "I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel." Jesus was pleased that the army officer put his faith in the word of Jesus as well as in the authority of Jesus.

He complimented John the Baptist (Luke 7:17-28). Despite his flaming courage and his spiritual insight, John grew greatly discouraged when he was imprisoned for preaching the truth. It was when he brought his sincere doubt to Jesus that he was complimented, "Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist" (Luke 7:28).

He complimented the unnamed notorious woman for her love. Her love for Jesus had drawn her to Him and His acceptance of her led her to repent. The forgiveness He then gave brought forth an inexpressible amount of love and gratitude. "Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much" (Luke 7:47).

He complimented the Centurion because he brought his problems to Christ; He complimented John the Baptist when he brought his doubts to Christ; and He complimented the woman when she brought her sins to Christ.

I believe Christ is still in the complimenting business and for the same reasons!

Criswell, Dilday agree on Drumwright's impact

DALLAS (BP) — Key figures from differing factions within the Southern Baptist Convention dined together at First Baptist Church of Dallas Oct. 15 at a banquet in memory of Huber Drumwright.

Drumwright, who died in 1981, was a longtime professor of New Testament and dean of the school of theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Shortly before his death he had become executive director of the Arkansas Baptist Convention.

The purpose of the dinner was to raise money for a Huber Drumwright Chair of New Testament at Southwestern seminary.

Drumwright died just as the convention controversy was gathering steam. Six years later, the guest list of 180 of Drumwright's friends included Baptists who now find themselves on opposite sides of denominational politics.

W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas, and Russell Dilday, president of Southwestern seminary, both spoke of Drumwright's contributions in ministry. Other testimonies came from John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Shreveport, La.; Bruce McIver, pastor of Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas; Ralph Pulley, member of First Baptist and former trustee of Southwestern seminary; and Drumwright's widow, Minette.

"I'm overwhelmed by the love that is in this room," Mrs. Drumwright said. "The reality is that we have lost Huber's life, his love, and his laughter from this earth. Yet we have not lost the impact of his life, love, and laughter on our lives."

Mrs. Drumwright described First Baptist Church as "one of the most significant factors" in Drumwright's life. He grew up there under the preaching of George W. Truett and was ordained there by Criswell. It later became a tradition for Criswell to invite Drumwright to preach at First Baptist every Labor Day weekend.

And Southwestern seminary "became his life," she said. "He was totally devoted to his students."

Drumwright started Wilshire Baptist Church, where McIver is now pastor.

McIver heads the fund-raising effort for the seminary chair.

Dilday said Drumwright "personified the uniqueness of Southwestern seminary" through his commitment to academic excellence, conservative theology, and practical scholarship. Drumwright "was able to stand in this conservative faith without falling into extremism," Dilday said. "He was not only a scholar and teacher but a churchman."

The "common ground" that brought such a diverse group of people together was Huber Drumwright's "passion to teach the Word of God," McIver said after the banquet. "Here's a man that had a passion around which we could rally in a spirit of togetherness and say we need more people like Huber Drumwright."

The chair will become active when fully funded with at least \$500,000.

Jameson resigns Oklahoma paper

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) — Norman Jameson, an associate editor of Oklahoma's Baptist Messenger since Jan. 1, 1984, has resigned to become director of communications for the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina Inc., effective Dec. 1.

Jameson, a Southern Baptist journalist since 1977 when he became feature editor of Baptist Press, will move to North Carolina with his wife, Sue Ellen, and their three children.

While at the Messenger, weekly newspaper of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Jameson has been responsible for much of the feature, news, and photography content, as well as page makeup and advertising of Southern Baptists' fifth-largest state newspaper, with a circulation of 117,000.

A Wisconsin native, he will graduate from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in December with a master of divinity degree.

In North Carolina, Jameson will edit the 100-year-old Charity and Children newspaper and establish employee communications and development support for the homes' work in 23 locations.

Tennessee Baptist Convention

"Servants on Mission"

Radnor Baptist Church, Nashville

Nov. 10-12, 1987

Convention Officers

President Jerry Oakley
 Vice-president Hoyt Wilson
 Second vice-president J. C. Parrott
 Recording/statistical sec. Wallace Anderson
 Registration secretary Pat Porter
 Treasurer Tom Madden
 Music coordinator Julian Suggs
 Parliamentarian Arthur Walker Jr.

TUESDAY MORNING

Minister of Music: Tommy Webster
 Organist: Richard Brown
 Pianist: Greg Hill

9:15 Call to order; Invocation by Clark Criddle
 9:20 Committee on Credentials by Don Peek; Committee on Arrangements by William Owens
 9:25 Congregational singing
 9:30 Devotional by James Wm. Owen Jr.
 9:45 Welcome by Paul Durham
 9:50 President's announcements
 10:00 Treasurer's report, presentation of budget by Tom Madden
 10:25 Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes Inc.
 10:45 Miscellaneous business
 10:55 Committee on Audits by James Gregg
 11:05 Historical Committee by Lloyd Johnson
 11:15 Congregational singing
 11:20 Special music, Springfield Baptist Church
 11:30 President's address by Jerry Oakley
 12:00 Benediction by Steve Holt

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Minister of Music: Mark Caruth
 Organist: Horace Mathis
 Pianist: Joe Brown

Woman's Missionary Union Convention

THEME: "Ponder Anew What the Almighty Can Do ...

in the World"

Brentwood Church, Brentwood

MONDAY MORNING, 9:30

"Ponder Anew What the Almighty Can Do ... in the World"
 Call to order
 Prelude to Praise by Karen Love and Camille Simmons
 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" by Mary Ellen Garrett, former missionary
 Business:
 Election of officers
 "Ponder Anew What the Almighty Can Do ... in Venezuela" by Patsy Davis, missionary, and guests
 Mission Montage (missionaries) by Katharine Bryan, WMU, TBC
 Special Music by Camille Simmons
 "Ponder Anew What the Almighty Can Do ... in the World" by Helen Fling, WMU, SBC
 "Let the Amen Sound from His People Again ..." by Mary Ellen Garrett, former missionary

MONDAY AFTERNOON, 1:00

"Ponder Anew What the Almighty Can Do ... in Tennessee"
 Prelude to Praise by Karen Love and Lisa Hunter
 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" by Mary Ellen Garrett, former missionary, and Camille Simmons
 "Ponder Anew ... Through the Cooperative Program and Tennessee Baptists" by Charlie Hawkins, missionary

2:00 Congregational singing; Invocation by Don Marston
 2:10 Devotional by Gary Rickman
 2:25 Recognition of new pastors & church staff
 2:40 Recognition of fraternal messengers
 2:45 Committee on the Journal by Bobby Johnson
 2:50 Miscellaneous business
 3:05 Constitution and Bylaws Committee by John Pippin
 3:20 Tennessee Baptist schools by William Trout
 3:40 Church Staff Compensation Study Committee by Jack Knox
 3:50 Church-Ministers Information
 4:00 Congregational singing
 4:05 Special music, Ethnic Choir, Hamilton County association
 4:15 Message by Katharine Bryan
 4:45 Benediction by Jerry Barker

TUESDAY EVENING

Minister of Music: John McCall
 Organist: Mary McDonald
 Pianist: Suzanne Adams

6:45 Tennessee Baptist Chorale
 7:05 Invocation by Kenneth Kyker
 7:10 Devotional by Don Wilson
 7:25 Tennessee Baptist Chorale
 7:35 Convention ministries division
 7:40 Church music
 7:50 Evangelism
 8:00 Sunday School
 8:10 Media ministries
 8:20 Recognition of retirees
 8:30 Cooperative Program and stewardship promotion
 8:40 Congregational singing
 8:45 Special music, First Baptist Church, Tullahoma
 8:55 Convention sermon by James Porch
 9:25 Benediction by Basil Jones

WEDNESDAY MORNING
 Minister of Music: Joe Morrell
 Organist: Pat Mulloy
 Pianist: Marty Hennis

9:00 Congregational singing; Invocation by Bob Carpenter
 9:10 Devotional by Ron Lowery
 9:25 Constitution & Bylaws Committee by John Pippin

9:35 Committee on Resolutions
 9:45 Election of officers
 10:05 Report of Executive Board and adoption of budget by Marshall Gupton
 10:45 Baptist and Reflector
 10:55 Election of officers
 11:05 Congregational singing
 11:10 Special music, Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville
 11:20 Message by John Bisagno
 11:50 Benediction by Bobby Zumbro

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Minister of Music: Rick Sims
 Organist: Karrin Ford
 Pianist: Paula Sims

2:00 Congregational singing; Invocation by Robert Amason
 2:10 Devotional by David Crocker
 2:25 Committee on Arrangements by William Owens
 2:30 Missions
 2:40 Tennessee/Michigan partnership
 2:55 Venezuela & Tennessee Baptists United for Christ
 3:10 Election of officers
 3:20 Miscellaneous business
 3:30 Congregational singing
 3:35 Committee on Boards by Leonard Markham
 3:55 Committee on Committees by Eugene Cotey
 4:10 Special music, Eastland Baptist Church, Nashville
 4:15 Message by Emmanuel McCall
 4:45 Benediction by Frank Hawkins

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Minister of Music: John Baker Thomas
 Organist: John Lasater
 Pianist: Crystal Waters

6:45 Preservice Music, Belmont College Women's Choir and Men's Chorus

7:00 Invocation by Frank Samuels
 7:05 Devotional by Jerry Winfield
 7:20 Minister's Aid Committee by Eugene Cotey
 7:30 Protection Plans
 7:40 Public Affairs and Christian Life
 7:50 Student
 8:00 Church Training
 8:10 Brotherhood
 8:20 Woman's Missionary Union
 8:30 Congregational singing
 8:35 Special music, First Baptist Church, Hendersonville
 8:45 Message by Harold Carter
 9:15 Benediction by J. G. Wise

THURSDAY MORNING

Minister of Music: John Link
 Organist: Pat Mulloy
 Pianist: Marilyn Friel

8:50 Preservice music, Ladies Handbell Choir, First Baptist Church, Mt. Juliet
 9:00 Congregational singing; Invocation by Marion Arbuckle
 9:10 Devotional by Jay McCluskey
 9:25 United Tennessee League by Wayman Jones
 9:30 Committee on Resolutions
 9:45 American Bible Society by Porter Routh
 9:50 Presentation to outgoing officers
 10:00 Presentation to incoming officers
 10:10 Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes Inc.
 10:25 Tennessee Baptist Foundation
 10:40 Tennessee Baptist Health Care System Inc. by David Stringfield
 11:00 Congregational singing
 11:05 Special music, First Baptist Church, Mt. Juliet
 11:15 Message by Jack Stanton
 11:45 Benediction by William Hill

Pastors' Conference

First Church, Franklin

MONDAY MORNING

9:00 Pre-session Music by Melinda Snyder, pianist, and Jan MacKrell, organist
 9:15 Welcome by Rick White, president
 Prayer by Bob Mowrey
 Praise by Bucky Phillips
 9:30 "The Message of Malachi" by Gray Allison, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary

9:55 Praise and Worship
 10:05 "When The Unreaching Church Begins To Reach" by Sid Nichols
 10:30 Praise and Worship
 10:40 Message by Terry Taylor
 11:05 Praise and Worship
 11:20 "Single Adult Ministry" by Tim Cleary, BSSB
 11:30 Message by Charles T. Carter
 12:00 Benediction by David Foster

Nov. 9, 1987

MONDAY AFTERNOON

1:30 Pre-session Music
 Welcome by Guy Milam
 Prayer by Troy Cotey
 Praise
 1:45 "The Message of Malachi" by Gray Allison
 2:15 Worship in Song
 2:20 "A Word About January Bible Study" by Jim Harvey, BSSB
 2:25 "Missions in Michigan" by Carroll Fowler, DOM
 2:35 Worship and Praise
 2:45 "Life Saving Tensions" by Ron Lewis, Church Growth Designs
 3:15 Election of Officers
 3:30 Worship and Praise
 3:45 "Glory in the Church and the Churches" by Franklin Paschall
 4:15 Benediction by George Williams

MONDAY EVENING

6:15 Pre-session Music
 6:30 Call To Worship by Adult Choir FBC, Franklin
 Welcome
 Prayer by Gerald Stow, Tenn. Baptist Children's Homes Inc.
 6:45 Greetings from the Venezuela Baptist Convention by Enrique Damaso
 7:00 "The Message of Malachi" by Gray Allison
 7:30 Recognition of Officers, Annuity Board and Other Recognitions by Vern Powers, TBC
 7:45 Worship and Praise
 8:00 Message by Charles T. Carter
 8:30 Worship and Praise
 8:45 Message by Adrian Rogers, SBC president
 9:30 Benediction by new president

Nov. 9, 1987

Prayer for "We Are Laborers Together With God" by Helen Fling, WMU, SBC
 "Praise to the Lord, Who Hath Prospered our Work" by Katharine Bryan, Carroll Kelly, and Donna Maples, WMU, TBC
 Special Music by Camille Simmons
 "Ponder Anew What the Almighty Can Do ... In Tenn." by Tom Madden, TBC
 Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union Celebrates! (reception honoring officers, missionaries and autograph party for state centennial history author)

MONDAY EVENING, 7:00

"Ponder Anew What the Almighty Can Do ... in our Hearts"
 Prelude to Praise by Karen Love, Keith Ellis, and Mancil Ezell
 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" by Mary Ellen Garrett, former missionary, and Camille Simmons
 "The Almighty ... Sheltering, Sustaining" by Janie House, missionary
 "Ponder Anew What the Almighty Can Do ... in our Hearts" by Ken Altom, pastor
 "Ponder Anew" by Judy Trivette, former WMU president
 Presentation of new officers
 Dedicatory Prayer
 Adjournment

Iowa Baptists emphasize starting churches

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa (BP) — Emphasizing the theme, "Reaching People — Starting Churches," Iowa Baptist messengers met Oct. 16-17 for the 16th annual meeting of the Iowa Southern Baptist Fellowship.

More than 120 messengers and 50 guests from 36 churches attended the two-day

Shiloh adds church, notes retirement

A church was added and action was taken to honor S. Woodrow DeBell, director of missions, on his upcoming retirement during the Shiloh Baptist Association annual meeting Oct. 12-13 at Olive Hill Church in Olive Hill and First Church in Bethel Springs.

The messengers voted to add First Southern Baptist Church of Walnut Grove, a mission of Southside Church in Savannah. Charles Beutow is its pastor.

An offering was taken to prepare for a recognition of DeBell, who will retire Dec. 31.

The association's newly elected officers include Joe Jernigan, pastor of First Church in Adamsville, moderator, succeeding Steve Hardwick, who moved to a pastorate in another Tennessee association; Randall Harris, pastor of West Shiloh Church in Stantonville, assistant moderator; J. T. Drace, pastor of Pleasant Site Church in Selmer, treasurer; and DeBell, director of missions, clerk.

The 1988 meeting will be Oct. 10-11 at Southside Church and Chewalla Church in Chewalla.

Salem assembles

The messengers of Salem Baptist Association elected Abe Silliman Jr., pastor of Whorton Springs Church in Smithville, as moderator during the annual meeting Oct. 20-21 at Upper Helton Church in Alexandria and Whorton Springs Church.

Silliman succeeds Charles Olson, pastor of Snow Hill Church in Dowelltown. Other officers elected are Bill Robertson, pastor of Elizabeth Chapel in Smithville, assistant moderator; Ed Edwards, a member of West Main Church in Alexandria, treasurer; and Bobby Zumbro, pastor of First Church in Woodbury, clerk.

Thurman Seber is the director of missions and the next meeting will be Oct. 18-19, 1988, at Covenant Church in Smithville and Auburn Church in Auburntown.

meeting at Immanuel Baptist Church in Cedar Rapids.

Major business included the adoption of an \$894,049 budget for 1988 and approval of Constitution and bylaw changes to restructure the size and representation of the fellowship's Executive Board.

The 1988 budget, a 1 percent increase over 1987, represents an effort to bring the budget into line with actual receipts. Current giving patterns indicate the 1987 budget may be met for the first time in recent years, leaders said.

In addition to Cooperative Program unified budget gifts from Iowa Baptist congregations, other major income for the fellowship will include \$592,444 from the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, \$31,684 from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, and \$15,000 from the Missouri Baptist Convention.

Messengers voted to channel 15 percent of the fellowship's income into the national Cooperative Program, a 1 percent increase over 1987. The ISBF's goal is to increase national CP gifts 1 percent annually toward an eventual total of 21 percent.

Executive Board changes include reducing the number of board members from 45 to 24 and electing at least two members from each of the state's eight

associations. The changes will allow more balanced geographical representation while reducing the amount of Executive Board travel expenses. The changes were adopted unanimously without debate.

The ISBF's president and vice-president each were re-elected to second one-year terms. Terry Davis, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Clinton, was re-elected president, and Ty Berry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Bettendorf, will serve again as vice-president. Paul Plavnick, pastor of Northbrook Baptist Chapel in Cedar Rapids, was elected secretary.

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October 23, 1987

Dear Pastor Friend,

Greetings in the name of Christ!

I want to encourage you to make your plans to be present for the 1987 Pastors' Conference on Monday, November 9 at FBC Franklin. Sessions will begin at 9:15 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

I believe it is going to be a great day of inspiration and fellowship. The program is filled with men of God who will be a blessing to your life.

Dr. Gray Allison — President, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary
 Memphis, TN

Rev. Sid Nichols — Pastor, Mt. Hebron West Baptist Church, Elmore, AL

Rev. Terry Taylor — Pastor, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Halls, TN

Dr. Franklin Paschall — retired pastor, First Baptist Church, Nashville, TN

Dr. Ron Lewis — President, Church Growth Designs, Nashville, TN

Dr. Charles T. Carter — Pastor, Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Birmingham, AL

Dr. Adrian Rogers — Pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN

President, Southern Baptist Convention

First Baptist Church, Franklin is located just off I-65 south of Nashville. Take the Franklin exit (exit #65) and go west approximately 1 mile.

I am looking forward to sharing this day with you as we worship the Lord together.

Sincerely,

Richard D. White

Richard D. White

President, Pastors' Conference 1986-87

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(7 days/6 nights, 13 meals)		(6 days/5 nights, 11 meals)	
Knoxville	\$462 twin	Nashville	\$479 twin
(6 days/5 nights, 11 meals)		(6 days/5 nights, 11 meals)	

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BIBLE BOOK SERIES
Lesson for Nov. 8

Covenant and rebellion

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

Basic Passage: Genesis 8:1 to 11:26

Focal Passages: Genesis 8:20-21; 9:11-13; 11:1-9a

Our last lesson left Noah and his family floating in an ark as water covered the earth. They had been preserved alive through the judgment because they had been willing to hear the word of God and to be obedient to it.

But God is not content just to preserve His children from judgment. Instead, He also wants to give us a new beginning. It has been the mistake of many believers to think that becoming a Christian is only for the purpose of escaping hell.

What God gives us in our conversion is new life. That new life does not begin after we die. It begins the moment we trust Him. We have already "passed from death unto life" (John 5:24).

God's gift of new life

The earth had seemed full of sin and its influences when Noah had last seen it. It seemed that man's heart was continually bent toward doing evil. Living in such circumstances is difficult for the believer. In fact, people living in sin usually do more to pull us down than we do to pull them up to higher ground.

But Noah and his family now have the opportunity to start fresh. God has cleansed the earth of sin. He has preserved the only faithful people alive through the judgment. What will Noah do with this opportunity?

God calls him forth from the protection of the ark. Noah is sent back into a cleansed world with the same mission Adam and Eve had.

Knowing the devastation that had taken place outside the ark, it might have been tempting to remain in its safe environment. Like new Christians who feel safe at church, it must have seemed better to stay away from whatever dangers may have been lurking outside.

But when God brings us deliverance He also makes us His ambassadors of deliverance. We don't have the luxury of accepting it for ourselves and leaving others to fend for themselves. With grace comes a mission. It is always so with God.

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Nail

Noah's acceptance of God's mission

People who miss out on God's deliverance certainly don't have God to blame for their problem. God offers His salvation "to everyone that believeth" (Romans 1:16). It is not automatically conferred on anyone.

Noah did accept God's deliverance and through his faith was able to participate in its benefits. Most people who see a need for salvation and see a means of salvation will take the opportunity. But many refuse to recognize the author of their salvation.

I am reminded of the story of the farmer who was repairing a leak on the roof of his barn. He lost his grip and began to slide toward the edge of the roof. Quickly he lifted a prayer for help to the Lord. Almost immediately the seat of his overalls snagged on a nail and he stopped sliding. After heaving a sigh of relief, he said, "Never mind Lord, I'm alright now."

When the danger is past, many fervent prayers lose their sense of urgency in giving thanks — not so with Noah. As soon as his feet touched dry land he began to gather stones to build an altar for a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God. Noah accepted God's salvation and the commission that went along with it.

As a sign that the covenant had been ratified by both sides, God made a pledge to hold back His anger and never send another flood. His symbol was to be the rainbow in the clouds which appears after a rain. God's "war-bow" of judgment has been put on the shelf.

Man's rebellion again

As you might expect, there was a revival of faith and worship after the flood. Noah's family had a lot to be thankful for. They alone had been preserved from destruction. They rejoiced in the grace of God.

Revivals never do last very long it seems. This one didn't either. Just after the first crops came in, sin returned as well. Noah over-indulged and Ham made fun of him. History repeated itself. Given a clean slate again, mankind quickly messed it up.

It was not many generations until the earth was again filled with the kind of sin which plagued it in Noah's earlier days. People began to think they could do without God.

There are still occasions in history when mankind gets so civilized and sophisticated that he "outgrows" his need for God. A few facts are discovered, some conclusions are drawn, and God is left out.

When will we ever learn as human beings? Any person or group which excludes God from its plans does so to his own hurt. God's claims on us cannot be ignored. When we try, all our plans come to nothing.

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES
Lesson for Nov. 8

Reunion of brothers

By John N. Meadows, professor
Union University, Jackson

Basic Passage: Genesis 32:1 to 33:20

Focal Passages: Genesis 32:3-5; 33:1-11

In this week's lesson Jacob is nearing home. Years have passed since he spent that memorable night at Bethel (28:10-22). No longer a solitary figure, he returns a rich man, surrounded by a company of people of which he is the head. But he must face Esau! Our lesson demonstrates pointedly that we must face our Esaus (broken relationships) if we are to know the fullness of God's promises to us. This lesson also shows us the nature of prayer. It is more than asking; it is a wrestling, life-changing experience.



Meadows

Genesis 32:1-21

As Jacob returned to the scene of his earlier life, he was doubtful about meeting Esau. Would Esau still want to kill him because of his deceit-laden deeds? He sent a messenger to announce his return, and the messenger informed Jacob that Esau was coming to meet him — with four hundred men! Not knowing whether this was a welcoming party or an army, Jacob did what came natural to him — he set in motion a plan. By an artful relay of gifts he hoped to appease his brother's wrath to some extent.

Such was Jacob — a man with a plan. Note also that he sought the help of the Lord (32:9-12). A plan-pray strategy is recurrent in this account. It would be easy to say that Jacob manifested very little faith by planning before praying. Such was not the case with Jacob; nor is it always the case with us.

Strategy is not wrong when it is a tool for accomplishing a God-given directive, which in Jacob's case was to return home (31:13). It is when we substitute strategy for God that we get in trouble — and when we interpret our urges to be God's directives. Rather than condemn Jacob, we should see his actions as proof that his confidence was in the Lord. He was still Jacob the schemer, but life had moved him toward God.

Genesis 32:22-32

In the midst of his "plan-pray" agonizing, something that had occurred once before at Bethel happened again — he met God in an awesome way. The consequences differed, however. Jacob left Bethel limping (29:1, literally he "picked up his feet"). Bethel was an exhilarating experience. Jabbok was an humbling encounter. Jacob left limping.

After a night of wrestling with a man, whom he eventually recognized to be God (32:30), Jacob was a changed man. He had learned that there was a mightier antagonist than Esau to encounter and that plans and schemes availed little with him.

It is important to note that Jacob both lost and won at Jabbok. At dawn he was crippled by his opponent. One would think the battle was over. Not so with Jacob! He sensed in his nocturnal adversary a reserve of power that could give him what the deceitfully-obtained birthright of Esau and blessing of Isaac had failed to supply — the blessing of the Lord.

Aggressive Jacob was not about to let that get away. No longer deceiving and scheming and consciously risking his life, he refused to let his adversary go. God changed his name and blessed him. Baffled and beaten in his fight for self-sufficiency, Jacob was more than a conqueror in his failure. Submitting to the One who had conquered him, he was changed from a "heel-grabber" to "wrestler with God" (a compliment in that case). The opportunist became a servant.

Genesis 33:1-11

Jacob continued with his plan to soften Esau's heart. He was not perfect, but there can be no doubt that his attitude about things was not the same as the night before. Having faced God he could face Esau. When he finally met Esau, he bowed before him. The younger did obeisance to the elder, knowing God had ordained otherwise. How often conflict persists because of a "save face" posture. One who has faced God can humble himself before others.

Most likely Jacob's relay of gifts impressed Esau, but ultimately it was God who reconciled the two brothers. Esau forgave Jacob, and Jacob responded by telling Esau that seeing his face was "like seeing the face of God" (33:10). That was Esau's noblest moment. (How sad that his descendants didn't follow suite.)

What did Jacob see? He saw forgiveness. That is the face of God! In the Hebrew language the word "forgive" means "to lift up and carry away." Biblical forgiveness is more than "forgiving and forgetting," i.e., a syrup-sweet attitude. We never forget. Only God can do that. What we can do is continually "lift up and carry away" the wrong done to us. Our problem is not forgiving and forgetting. It is forgiving again as the need may be — and usually is.

Union sets dinner during convention

The Union University Alumni and Friends Dinner will be held in conjunction with the Tennessee Baptist Convention Nov. 10 at 5:15 p.m. in the Southern Grand Ballroom of the Park Suite Hotel in Nashville.

Tickets may be purchased at \$8 each from Union University Alumni Affairs Office, 2447 Highway 45 Bypass, Jackson, TN 38305 or at the convention for \$10.

'Hospitality in the Home'

Ministers Wives Fellowship Luncheon

Nov. 11, 12:30 p.m.

Park Suite Hotel

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Dramatist — Orclia (Sylvia Harney)

Musician — J. J. Lee

\$12 tickets may be purchased at the Pastors' Conference (First, Franklin) or the convention (Radnor, Nashville).

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LIFE AND WORK LESSON SERIES
Lesson for Nov. 8

The Spirit transforms

By William F. Northcott, associate pastor
West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson

Basic Passage: Galatians 5:16-26
Focal Passage: Galatians 5:16-26

What do you suppose would be the response of members in an average Sunday School class to the question, "What is the secret to living a victorious Christian life?" Some would likely say prayer is the key. Others would surely mention Bible reading; and church attendance would certainly get a nod. Obviously all of these are important. However, Paul was convinced that the authentic Christian life is lived successfully and victoriously "in the Spirit." It was this conviction that fed what Paul says in Galatians 5:16-26.



Northcott

Paul concludes this section with a stern and somber warning: "... they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God" (v. 21). One translation has the word "practice" — "those who practice such things..." The verb means this behavior is a way of life; not just an occasional slip but a predictable pattern.

Paul concludes this section with a stern and somber warning: "... they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God" (v. 21). One translation has the word "practice" — "those who practice such things..." The verb means this behavior is a way of life; not just an occasional slip but a predictable pattern.

Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-26)
In the previous section, Paul referred to the "works" of the flesh. Here he treats the "fruit" of the Spirit. Paul's choice of words is instructive. The word "fruit" denotes the outgrowth of being controlled by the Spirit. The Holy Spirit in the believer produces fruit — good things.

Conflict between flesh and Spirit (Galatians 5:16-18)

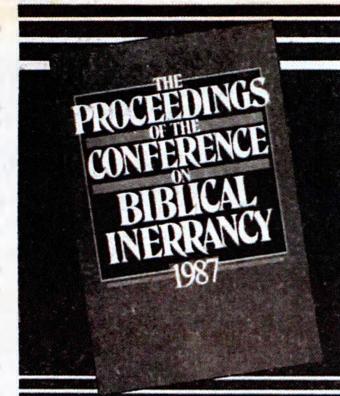
The sinner is not saved by principles or precepts, but by a person — Jesus Christ. By the same token, the power of the Christian life is neither principles nor precepts, but the indwelling and empowering Spirit of Jesus Christ. It is Paul's resolute conviction that the Galatians' mastery over lustful desires depends upon their being controlled by the Spirit.

The word "flesh" (v. 16) refers not so much to the physical aspect of man's existence as "to all the aspects of unregenerate human nature." It is the kind of life that is controlled by lustful desires. The motivations of the flesh and the motivations of the Spirit are diametrically opposed to one another (v. 17).

Many folk when confronted by the call to become a Christian articulate their uncertainty about "holding out" or "living up" to the Christian ideal. They are uninformed about the work of the Holy Spirit in the Christian's life. Jesus talked about the Holy Spirit in terms of His advocacy role in the life of the believer. In other words, the Holy Spirit is the Christian's helper. It is He who enables and empowers the Christian to live the victorious life. Of course, this does not mean that the Christian's will and resolve are unimportant. There will always be the struggle between flesh and Spirit (see Romans 7:14-25), but ultimate victory is assured for the Christian whose will is set on God.

The works of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21)

There is a way of life that leads to destruction and death. In contrast to walking in the Spirit, one may choose to



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Paul lists nine qualities of the Spirit-filled life. (For a fuller treatment of the specific gifts, see *The Interpreter's Bible*, vol. 10, p.p. 565-570.) They stand in sharp contrast with the works of the flesh. These qualities amazingly reflect the character of Christ. It stands to reason that "Christ in us" will produce Christ-likeness in the believer's behavior.

Obviously, no one embodies perfectly the likeness of Christ. In fact, there is often a glaring deficiency in the demonstration of the fruit of the Spirit. One writer, however, makes the following observation: (1) "We can be encouraged by the fact that on the whole we see more of these qualities among Christians than among any other group in society"; and (2) "the list holds before us a challenge, an ideal, and a promise."

In order to enjoy the freedom to bear the fruit of the Spirit, a price must be paid. "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and

lusts" (v. 24). There is more involved here than the mere subjugation of sinful desires, although that idea is certainly present. However, when Paul speaks of crucifying the flesh, he is referring to the process by which the Christian becomes controlled by the love of Christ. The crucifixion of the flesh, while important, is not primary. One commentator put it this way: "Paul's crucifixion of the flesh is not an end in itself, but the removal of the road block on the royal highway to freedom." It is that freedom "to live by the Spirit," and "walk by the Spirit" (v. 25).

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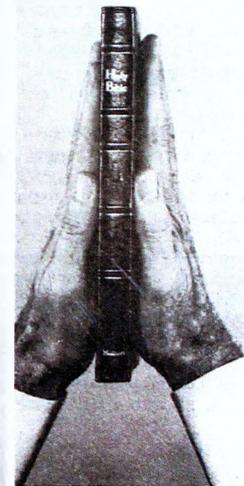
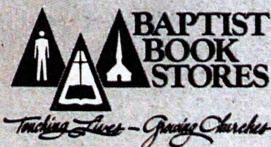
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1 A record of the genealogy of Christ the son of David,² the son of Abraham:³

²Abraham was the father of Isaac the father of Jacob,⁴

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FMB plans strategic missionary placement

By Eric Miller

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Greater emphasis on sacrifice and strategic placement of missionaries surfaced in October as Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board leaders examined 426 missionary job requests for 1988.

The board's mission strategists, missionary enlists, and area directors who oversee missions work met at the board's home office in Richmond, Va., to look at new positions recommended by the 3,800 missionaries already on the field.

Missionaries listed 307 positions that need to be filled by seminary-trained Southern Baptists with skills in evangelism and church development. Preachers are needed for 213 general evangelism positions.

And sacrifice is needed on the mission field, said R. Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board.

"The Lord never promised the world would be easy to win," Parks said. A day is coming, he noted, when some missionaries will have "to live out of a suitcase" or live in one country to work in another country closed to missionaries.

Sacrifice is a part of good strategy, Parks added. Strategy must be governed more by a desire to win the world for Christ and less by missionary family concerns, he noted. Accessibility to an English-language school for the children cannot be a determining factor if missionaries are needed more in other areas, he explained. In such instances, Parks said, missions will have to seek alternatives for the children's schooling. This already is the practice in many parts of the world where parents teach their own children or at a certain age must send them to boarding schools.

Putting missionaries to work in institutions may not always be good strategy, he said. Hospitals and other institutions must be evaluated for their effectiveness in reaching a lost world for Christ, he noted. While many institutions are a vital ministry, he explained, some consume budgets and missionary manpower and do little for global evangelism.

Parks suggested a "leap" in strategy could occur if Southern Baptists can find ways to cooperate with other Christian groups in global evangelism.

Those at the meeting emphasized a need to match the right missionary with the right job.

On a list of the top 25 job requests worldwide, the No. 1 request is for someone to live in the Kyela district of Tanzania to plant churches, help existing ones, train leaders, and plan crusades in the rural area.

This part of Tanzania has experienced phenomenal evangelistic responses, with 40,000 baptisms in less than a decade. Missionaries Doug and Evelyn Knapp have worked there for 16 years, but are nearing retirement.

A staff surgeon needed at the Jibla Baptist Hospital in Yemen ranks No. 2 on the job list.

Other high-ranking requests call for general evangelists and church planters in Taiwan, Tanzania, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Equatorial Brazil, Belgium, Mexico, Hong Kong, Zambia, Indonesia, Argentina, and Greece.

Nurses are needed in Ethiopia in an area with no running water and electricity. A missionary to provide dental care and training is needed for a clinic in The Gambia. In Togo, where half of the population is college age or younger, a missionary is needed to coordinate a student ministry.

The 307 jobs listed under evangelism and church development also include

those in seminaries, religious education promotion, music promotion, English language ministry, women's ministry, youth ministry, and student ministry.

Health services accounts for 38 posi-

tions, including 15 doctors, three dental personnel, and 16 nurses. Seventeen jobs fall under education, and 19 under business services, including jobs for a dozen business administrators. Six are

needed in support services, such as maintenance and construction, and 16 fall under community development, which includes eight jobs in agriculture and three in social ministry.

For the 1988 request year, which starts in October 1987 and ends in September 1988, there are requests for 221 auxiliary personnel. These are special assignment volunteers and Mission Service Corps personnel, who serve from four months to two years, and journeymen, whose term is two years.

Fifty-three auxiliary workers are needed to work in evangelism and church development, 65 in education, 29 in health services, 12 in media, 19 in support services, 28 in business services, and 15 in community development.

For the past year, 224 general evangelists were requested, and 58 of those requests were filled. About 50 to 60 general evangelists rise out of a pool of 15,000 seminary-degree pastors in the Southern Baptist Convention each year, noted Bill Morgan, director of the missionary enlistment department.

While the Foreign Mission Board struggles to find preachers to send overseas as general evangelists, it has less difficulty finding personnel for other positions, said Louis Cobbs, director of the board's personnel selection department.

Koreans combine efforts in foreign mission work

SEOUL, Korea (BP) — Korean Baptists have broken from their societal approach to missions in a move to more effectively meet their "responsibility" to global evangelization.

Messengers to the annual meeting of the Korean Baptist Convention voted overwhelmingly late in September to form their own Foreign Mission Board.

The move was applauded by convention leaders as a manifestation of Korean Baptists' desire to become a "sending church" after three decades as "a receiving church." The new mission organization comes out of a real concern on the part of Korean Baptists to be "involved in the world missions enterprise," said Bill Fudge, a Southern Baptist missionary to Korea. He was an adviser during the formation process.

For the past several years, mission societies carried the foreign efforts of Korean Baptist churches. The three major groups were the Overseas Missions Society, made up of about 15 large churches; the Southeast Asia Missions Society, formed by 30 to 40 smaller churches; and the Pacific Islands Missions Society. There were also other, smaller societies.

The societies' problems of "control and gathering support" for missionaries were catalysts in forming the Korean Baptist Foreign Mission Board, said Han Ki Man, pastor of Yoido Baptist Church and chairman of the Asia Global Evangelization Consultation Committee. "More organization was necessary if we were going to do more than we were doing, if we were going to grow," he said.

Han also cited the Korean leaders' realization that a convention-level organization "would benefit all the churches — not a few select ones — and would be beneficial to the development of the convention itself." Leaders felt the need "to pull together if we were really going to do something major," he added.

In an agreement which ended months of dialogue and negotiation, all Korean Baptist mission societies agreed to dissolve and combine their efforts.

Fayette assembles

A church was received under watchcare during the annual meeting of Fayette Baptist Association on Oct. 22-23 at Oak Grove Church in Moscow and First Church in Somerville.

Piperton Church in Collierville, where Loyd Shelton is pastor, was received under the association's watchcare program to prepare for consideration for membership in the association.

Earl Dowdy, a member of First Church in Somerville and moderator during the past year, was succeeded by Lynn Eagan, pastor of Morris Memorial Church in Moscow. Other officers are Joe W. Acuff, pastor of Oak Grove Church, vice-moderator; and Jesse Price Sr., a member of First Church in Somerville, treasurer/clerk.

The association's director of missions is B. F. McIlwain. The 1988 meeting will be Oct. 20-21 at Shady Grove Church in Somerville and Mt. Moriah Church in Whiteville.

Under the plan, five trustees of the new mission board will come from each of the three major societies. Five trustees will be Southern Baptist missionaries. Another five trustees will be selected at large by the Korean Baptist Convention. The 25-member board of trustees initially will be responsible for trying to broaden the base of support Koreans are giving to missions.

Korean Baptist churches support one missionary in each of four countries — Paraguay, Taiwan, Japan, and Fiji. They have one missionary in training for an assignment in Southeast Asia, which likely will be in Thailand. The Koreans recently appointed a missionary for service in the Philippines. They also support the mission work of Korean pastors in Brazil, France, and Indonesia.

Golden Gate trustees approve property development plan

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — Residential development of seminary property that could produce \$10-million in endowment was approved by Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary trustees who also authorized a \$1.4-million building project at the Southern California Center in Brea.

Seminary trustees, meeting on the main campus in Mill Valley, Calif., also affirmed their support of the Baptist Faith and Message Statement and will study ways the seminary can fulfill recommendations of the Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee.

The residential development, at an expected cost of \$250,000, is part of the seminary's master plan of the 148-acre site and will provide for 24 single-family lots and a 36-unit 4.5-acre condominium site. A second part of the development was approval, not to exceed \$70,000, for engineering site work and actual plans for the development.

Trustees also approved a plan to participate in an assessment district with three other developers in a required traffic mitigation project.

Trustees also approved plans to seek a loan for construction of a 20,000-plus square-foot building at the Southern California site in Brea. Expected occupancy is Sept. 1, 1988, with several compatible tenants providing income enough to make the construction loan payment. The 10-year leases will include a Baptist

Book Store on location. The building will accommodate about 300 students.

Trustees have affirmed the Baptist Faith and Message since 1979 but used this trustee meeting to have new trustees sign the document during a chapel service on the campus.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Clark Johnson of Phoenix, Ariz., pastor and trustee chairman, announced the staff and trustee executive committee will study proposals that will "come in harmony with the intent of the SBC (Peace Committee)." The full trustee group will consider those recommendations at the April 1988 meeting.

In other action, trustees acknowledged approval by the SBC Executive Committee to refinance the Marin Gardens apartments in order to use the equity for possible operating funds. The audit report for the seminary's 1986-1987 fiscal year that ended July 31 showed the institution finished the year in the black by about \$20,000.

Trustees declined to purchase earthquake insurance when they learned the premium would be \$50,000 annually for \$10-million of insurance.

Also approved was the selection of James Dobbs, an attorney from Dublin, Ohio, as a new trustee to fill a vacancy and the resignation of Gayle Butler, who moved from Tennessee where she had been that state's representative.

Military Oasis hosts event

Military Oasis, the Baptist center at the Naval Air Station, Memphis, was the site of an open house in September that drew about 500 persons during the Week of Prayer for the Golden State Missions Offering, which helps fund the center.

Oasis Director Samuel Gash reported that the open house was hosted by the Shelby County Baptist Association Woman's Missionary Union and the Military Oasis Support Group.

The center, which also is supported by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and the Shelby County Baptist Association, is the only Baptist center on a military installation.

On display were a television and a videocassette recorder that were purchased by the mission offering funds.

Southern Baptist Chaplain Bob Adair, who is stationed at the Naval Air Station, helped direct tours of the facility.