

Baptist and Reflector

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NEW TRUSTEES — Raymond Davis, center, pastor of Ewtonville Church, Dunlap, and Dennis Lunsford, right, pastor of Antioch Church, Humboldt, both new trustees of the Sunday School Board, talked with Bill Graham, director of the book store division during the August meeting of the board's trustees at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center. Davis and Lunsford were attending their first meeting as trustees. Other new Tennessee trustees on the board are Judy Beeler, Fountain City; Burgess Guinn, Cornersville; Leon Bolton, Memphis; and Roy Miller, Lexington.

Leaders say it's coming

Spiritual awakening could heal convention

ATLANTA (BP) — America is on the "front end" of a major spiritual awakening that could heal a divided Southern Baptist Convention and bring an apathetic Christian community to its knees, prayer leaders from two SBC agencies said.

Henry Blackaby of the Home Mission Board and T. W. Hunt of the Sunday School Board reported that their experiences this summer lead them to believe the long-awaited spiritual awakening has begun.

"The corner is turned, and God is moving like we've never seen," Blackaby said. "By this time next year, we could see one of the greatest movings of God."

"Every person I know who has been praying for spiritual awakening has said for the first time that awakening has begun. There is a profound moving of God."

Blackaby said he has seen more of the activity of God in the past year than in all the 32 years of his ministry. He is director of prayer and spiritual awakening for the Home Mission Board.

Both Blackaby and Hunt said they

believe the awakening is a sign that the Southern Baptist Convention will not be dismantled by its ten-year-old denominational controversy.

"God has given us a clear word at this point that he is not through with Southern Baptists. There is something very significant that he wants to do," Blackaby said. "He's given evidence that he's in the process of bringing it about. If God is through with a people, history records that you'll see no evidence of his working among them."

Hunt, prayer consultant with the Sunday School Board, said he believes "God wants to bring awakening to the world through the Southern Baptist Convention" despite the current controversy.

Blackaby and Hunt cited several incidents from summer speaking engagements as evidence of the impending awakening. The two men, along with Avery Willis of the Sunday School Board, Douglas Beggs of the Brotherhood Commission and Minette Drumwright of the Foreign Mission Board, spent several weeks together in July and August teaching prayer seminars at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center and Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

At each of these events, the prayer leaders said, they encountered individuals who had experienced similar spiritual transformations at different times and in different places. The testimonies of those individuals became catalysts to spark renewal among others, they said.

"The Lord is changing lives right and left," Hunt said. "People, many of them pastors, go to these prayer con-

Biblical tithing principle would solve crunch: Fuller

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — Practicing the Biblical principle of tithing would solve Southern Baptists' current financial crunch and provide more funds for evangelizing the unchurched, the former chairman of the Peace Committee said.

Charles Fuller, pastor of First Church, Roanoke, Va., was the featured preacher for the annual Home Missions Conference at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

He told conference participants that although 14 million individuals call themselves Southern Baptists, less than two million tithe a portion of their income through the church.

"Those two million individuals currently give \$200 million, but if all Southern Baptists tithed, we would receive \$300 billion annually," he said.

Fuller painted a vision of what could be accomplished with that amount of income: Southern Baptist agencies could multiply their budgets seven to 25 times, pay off debts, place more missionaries on the field "and we would have plenty left to feed the hungry of the world."

"Such a scenario staggers the mind," he said.

Fuller expressed dismay over churches that channel offerings away from the Cooperative Program, the denomination's unified giving plan. Mainly as a result of the denomination's ten-year-old controversy, some churches have begun withholding contributions or using "negative designation," a procedure that sends money to some SBC causes but withholds it from others that the churches dislike.

"Withholding of Cooperative Program funds and negative designation is not the way Southern Baptists operate. As long as I have been in the pastorate, I've seen feet change theological shoes several times, but you will never see me leading my church to withhold funds from the Cooperative Program," he said.

However, the greatest obstacle to evangelizing the nation's unchurched population is "plain, ordinary, garden-variety universalism," Fuller said.

A growing number of Southern Baptists "name the name of Jesus but do not believe an individual is lost without Christ and that you absolutely need Him alone to get to heaven," he contended.

ferences and come away different persons."

After Blackaby had spoken to one Ridgecrest group about spiritual awakening, the pastor of a small Virginia church came to talk with him. Blackaby explained to him again that the Holy Spirit can guide believers to understand God's truths and apply the truths to life.

"That's the most significant truth I've known in my life," the man replied.

(See page 3)

Drummond recovering from cancer

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) — Lewis A. Drummond, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, is recovering well after doctors found cancer in his colon in late August, a seminary official reported.

Doctors at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, N.C., discovered a malignant tumor in Drummond's colon, said Paul Fletcher, the seminary's vice president for international affairs.

Doctors believe the tumor is confined and has not spread, Fletcher added, noting Drummond has begun chemotherapy and radiation treatment and is responding well to his medication.

A decision concerning whether to remove the tumor will be made later in the fall semester, Fletcher said.

Drummond was expected to be released from the hospital Sept. 1, and planned to be back in his office Tuesday, Sept. 5.

An inside look

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August proves good CP month

True to form, August turned Cooperative Program budget giving back to the positive side.

Reversing a slight downward trend for July, Tennessee Baptist Convention churches gave \$2,350,803.15 in August, or \$138,057.17 more than for the same month last year.

The August gifts also were \$815,000 more than those of July.

Total CP budget gifts thus far this year amount to \$20,300,730.84, eclipsing the first ten months of 1987-88 by \$1,299,698.10. That means the budget receipts are up for this current budget year by 6.8 percent.

However, the budget calls for \$21,067,500. Giving, though up by that healthy 6.8 percent, is still short 3.6 percent of the budget goal (\$766,769.16).

The budget goal for 1988-89, which closes at the end of October, is \$25,281,000 — and for the final two months of the period (September and October), Tennessee Baptist churches must average \$2,106,750 to reach the goal.

Editorials**The Great Awakening — is it headed our way?**

One of E. Stanley Jones' favorite stories about prayer was a quotation from the little daughter of missionaries to India. "God bless Mamma and Papa," she prayed, "my brothers and sisters, and all my friends. And now, God, do take care of Yourself, for if anything should happen to You, we would be in the soup."

That is honesty and sincerity.

On the other hand, we often pray without sincerity. Rabbi Shem Tov once refused to enter a certain synagogue because he said it was too full of prayer.

His followers were astonished at his attitude. They were mollified somewhat when he explained that so many routine and insincere prayers were said there that they could not rise to the heavenly throne and stayed on earth, cramming the synagogue full. God answers sincere prayers. Revival comes.

Now what a blessing it is to hear that the "awakening that must come" is creeping closer and closer. Some day soon, God willing, it will explode upon us and sweep us into renewal and revival.

Henry Blackaby of the Home Mission Board reports that "The corner is turned, and God is moving like we've never seen. By this time next year, we could see one of the greatest movings of God."

T. W. Hunt of the Sunday School Board adds that "God wants to bring awakening to the world through the Southern Baptist Convention" despite current controversy. Readers should read the story on spiritual awakening found elsewhere in this issue. Some of the

reported events are amazing.

Lewis Drummond wrote about the great awakening yet to come. Edwin Orr preached and sensed it. Bertha Smith sees it from afar. Hunt, Blackaby, and others are reporting the first fresh aura, like a spring rain that approaches a dry and arid land — developing into a flood of blessed, life-giving rain.

Yes, the spiritual awakening must come.

This is our main news to report this week. Put aside the unpleasant news, that which reminds us of our problems within the Southern Baptist family. We want to say — yes, we even believe that God's great spirit will overcome our vicious, divisive attitudes. We do not need to satisfy the appetites of any who enjoy bad news.

At this stage, it is not necessary to define prayer; it is compulsory that we do it.

In this paper there are news items that disappoint those of us who long for the peace that will allow God's Spirit to move within us, plowing furrows of good and fertile soil within our broken and contrite hearts, and sowing seeds. Secular papers remind us that two other Baptist leaders may be on a "hit list." Besides Lloyd Elder, president of the Sunday School Board who was recently threatened with dismissal by some of the board's trustees, the report includes Al Shackleford, Baptist Press director; and Russell Dilday, president of Southwestern Seminary. Harold Bennett, president of the SBC Executive Board, is also subject to periodic attacks on his leadership.

We see these and other similar news items

as machinations of man, not necessarily of God. Point of view is important. But one thing is sure, God will send a great awakening — to blot out all our frivolous actions — even though some of them are sincere and serious.

It is up to pray-ers of the Southern Baptist Convention to concentrate on priority items. We should put our faces to the ground in fear and trembling before a righteous God. While 34 percent of the world is Christian, 26 percent is completely unevangelized — yet we spent 99 percent of our church money on ourselves. Another 41 percent is evangelized to some extent — but not yet Christian.

Our petty bickerings are but straw in the wind compared to needs of the lost world. Let the great awakening come. In fact, pray for it. Never be finished with prayers for renewal.

Prayer will convict recalcitrant Baptists: pastors, lay people, convention leaders, trustees of boards and agencies, missionaries, of our slovenly habits of backbiting and self-indulgence under the guise of piety. When we can earnestly pray for, and put in front of our own desires, the welfare of others — we will cross a mighty barrier.

Don't think you know all the answers about anything, brother, sister. Not any of us do. But we do know prayer — as Christians — and we believe that Almighty God is seldom ecstatic about our plans, accomplishments, styles of leadership, or righteousness.

He is Lord. The Great Awakening will come when we recognize that personal white flags of surrender have to be raised — by all of us. — WFA

Remember Tennessee Baptist Foundation in September

September is Baptist Foundation Month.

In many ways, the Tennessee Baptist Foundation is a well-kept secret. But that is not the way the Foundation prefers to be described.

The Tennessee Baptist Foundation serves the estate stewardship needs of Baptist individuals and families — and has faithfully carried out this task for more than fifty years.

Chartered in November 1938, the Foundation ministers as the trust and investment institution for the TBC. The Foundation assists Tennessee Baptists in laying a strong financial foundation for causes supported and promoted by the convention.

The Foundation, ably led by Earl H. Wilson as president-treasurer, encourages the

establishing of living trusts, gifts and bequests, and acts as investment counsel and trust agent for TBC institutions.

Here are some ways the Foundation can help Baptists in Tennessee: estate planning consultation, investment management, personal financial services, estate stewardship conferences, wills conferences, planned giving opportunities, scholarships, endowments and trusts, gift annuities, and personal, annuity, and charitable trusts.

Most funds managed by the Foundation are trust funds with a designated purpose for the income. Much of the income derived from these trust funds is paid to the Executive Board, TBC, for world missions through the Cooperative Program.

At the end of August, 1988, funds administered by the Foundation had total value of \$29,992,229. Income distributed for the twelve months prior to that date amounted to \$2,406,000. Assets for the same period increased by \$3.6 million.

Writing a will is a first step for every Tennessee Baptist. The Foundation staff will assist in this, and will counsel individuals and churches in methods of planned giving to Tennessee Baptist causes.

We are grateful to the Tennessee Baptist Foundation for half a century of dedicated and faithful service. During September, why not make your will — and share in other ways God's blessings. Contact the Foundation for assistance. — WFA

Alabamians oppose care act

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — The pending Act for Better Child Care, which passed the U.S. Senate June 23, "literally handcuffs church-operated day care," a group of Alabama religious leaders said Aug. 17.

Albert Lee Smith, chairman of the Southern Baptist Public Affairs Committee, helped organize news conferences in four Alabama cities to denounce the ABC bill (S. 5), which authorizes \$1.75 billion in grants to the states to subsidize day care.

Smith said the ABC bill and two similar bills pending in the U.S. House of Representatives would nationalize child care under a "new bureaucratic infrastructure." In the process, Smith said, the legislation would discriminate against religious day care and family child care.

"This is a bill that should have unanimity among Southern Baptists," said Smith. "The reason for our trip around the state is that there has been so little publicity. If church members really understand what's at stake, they can change the vote."

The group of seven Alabama ministers and religious leaders, which included Smith and Doug Sager, pastor of Roebuck Park Church, Birmingham, and a member of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, released a statement deploring "any effort by the federal government to intrude into the area of religious day care."

"This constitutes a dangerous infringement of the separation of church and state and literally handcuffs church-operated day care ministries to the federal government."

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Partnership benefits both Tennessee, Michigan Baptists

By Lonnie Wilkey, associate editor
The passage of time is evidence that Tennessee and Michigan Baptists made a wise decision at their respective conventions in 1980.

At the annual Tennessee Baptist Convention meeting held in Johnson City that year, messengers voted to "establish a working relationship with the Baptist State Convention of Michigan for the purpose of assisting the churches in ways mutually acceptable to both conventions."

Tom Madden, retired TBC executive secretary, recalled more than one state had approached the Tennessee convention about a possible partnership. After some study, Michigan was chosen because "we had a greater affinity with them and the need was greater there," Madden said.

After the vote was taken at the TBC meeting, a three-member team left immediately for Marquette, Mich., where the Michigan convention was meeting.

Earl Wilson, president of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, was then pastor of City View Church, Knoxville, and president of the TBC Executive Board. Wilson, along with Paul Hall of the TBC Missions Department and Pat Landrum, pastor of Brighton Church, informed Michigan Baptists of the TBC's action.

Wilson recalled he told the Michigan messengers the event reminded him of when the golden spike was driven uniting the east and west by way of railroad.

"We saw the partnership as something that would unite the conventions and bring strength to both," Wilson said.

Since the partnership began countless numbers of Tennessee Baptists have made the trek to Michigan, assisting Baptists there in surveys, conducting Backyard Bible Clubs and Vacation Bible Schools, leading revivals, construction projects, and more.

The consensus from leaders of both conventions is that the partnership has been mutually beneficial for all involved.

"The partnership has been good for Michigan and Tennessee Baptists," said Carrol Fowler, director of church extension for the Michigan convention. "They've given us support and encouragement and I'm looking for better things to happen in the future."

Healthy partnership

Robert Wilson, executive director of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan, noted the partnership is "healthy, strong, and growing" for the years ahead.

Wilson said Tennessee Baptists have played an important role during the decade of the 1980s, the "strongest period" in the history of Michigan Baptists.

Michigan's executive director observed the number of churches in the state have grown during the years of the partnership. In 1980 there were 194 churches in the Michigan convention. By the end of 1988 that number had increased to 237 churches.

Wilson said statistics on churches started this year will not be available until later this year.

Michigan Baptists have received several direct benefits from the partnership, state leaders agreed.

"Without the partnership we've had, we would have been hurting as far as churches established and construction," said Damon Patterson, pastor of Monroe Missionary Church, Monroe, and president of the Michigan state convention.

Patterson, a former Tennessee pastor at Corryton Church in Knox

First Church, Wartrace, calls Ronnie Lemmons

Ronnie Lemmons has accepted the full-time pastorate of First Church, Wartrace, where he had served as interim pastor.

Lemmons was also pastor of Stone Brook Chapel, Nolensville; New Hope Church, Fairfield; and Flat Creek Mission, Shelbyville.

A native of Bell Buckle, Lemmons attended Belmont College, Nashville, and Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla.

County Association, expressed appreciation for the construction teams from Tennessee churches that have worked on various building projects in Michigan.

He estimated the volunteer labor helped cut construction costs in half for many of the Michigan churches.

Though the actual labor is important, there is a side benefit from construction teams, said Ken Johnson, pastor of Oakland Woods Church in Clarkston.

Johnson, whose church was constructed by Tennessee Baptists, said the people here "saw the love of other Baptists concerned about starting churches." There was an excitement and enthusiasm in seeing people give of their time and vacation to help build, Johnson added.

Also, leaders in Michigan agreed, the work done in conducting surveys, Backyard Bible Clubs, and Vacation Bible Schools have helped reach numerous prospects for the Michigan churches.

Tennessee benefits

Tennessee Baptists have poured time, money, and building supplies into Michigan, but leaders insist the partnership has not been one-sided.

"My observation is the partnership has blessed Tennessee Baptists immeasurably," Madden said.

People go to Michigan and catch a new spirit when they see how Michigan Baptists do so much with so little, Madden continued.

Ray Gilder, pastor of Speedway Terrace Church in Memphis, has accompanied church members on three trips to Michigan.

Those who go on the trip come back enthused and bring "fresh life" to our church, Gilder said.

The partnership has provided Tennessee Baptists a chance for hands-on missions work, the Memphis pastor said. Gilder noted his church "gets a shot in the arm spiritually" because of their involvement in the missions trips.

Carl Bond, director of missions for Giles County Association, said the Tennessee/Michigan partnership has "brought our people and churches together in unity."

He added that the association's involvement in Michigan "has encouraged participation in our foreign missions partnerships" by enlarging "our missions concerns and awareness of world-wide missions."

Earl Wilson said the decision to join with the Michigan convention in a joint mission effort was one of the greatest decisions the TBC has made.

"It has brought strength to the Lord's work in Michigan and afforded churches and associations in Tennessee an opportunity to join hands with our sister churches in Michigan to become personally involved in missions work."

Madden voiced his feelings as to why Tennessee needed to be in a partnership effort. "My general philosophy is when a church or convention lives beyond its walls or boundaries, God blesses," he said.

Time has proven that to be true. — *More stories on the Tennessee/Michigan partnership appear on page 9. Additional stories about churches and people involved in the partnership will appear in future issues of the Baptist and Reflector.*

Sam Putnam called to New Home Church

Sam Putnam has been called as full-time pastor to New Home Church, Baxter. His first Sunday was May 7.

Putnam was pastor of First Church, Sale Creek for nearly seven years. He has also served as pastor of several other churches in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Indiana.

Ordained in 1965 by Cold Springs Church, Pikeville, Putnam earned a bachelor's degree from Bryan College, Dayton, and a master of divinity from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Putnam and his wife, Reta, have one daughter, Leslie.

Spiritual awakening could heal . . .

(Continued from page 1)

As he traveled home, inspired by the week's events, the pastor prayed for God to provide 13 decisions the next Sunday. Although the church averages only 30 in attendance, there were 43 decisions recorded that day.

The church was so moved by the pastor's changed heart that they sent him back to Ridgecrest for a second week of training, Blackaby said.

The next week, during the discipleship training conference at Ridgecrest, an "awesome sense of the holiness of God" fell upon the crowd, Blackaby said. "We felt the power of God and immediately fell on our knees and began to pray."

Hunt recalled Tuesday, July 18, as a significant date in the embryonic stage of the spiritual awakening movement.

"During a prayer training conference, there was a solemn and serious visit of the Holy Spirit," Hunt said. "It was accompanied by a profound confession of sin and the acknowledgment of the holiness of God."

Several of about 50 participants "were so overwhelmed by the presence of God that they could not even stand," he said. "They just sank to their knees. Many couldn't even go to the next meal because they were so profoundly gripped by the dread of the holiness of God."

Throughout the week, people gathered spontaneously for prayer and confession of sin, Blackaby said. He reported that one pastor entered the prayer garden wearing a light-colored

suit, was struck by the presence of God and fell to his knees in the mud, crying, "Oh, God, who can stand in your presence?"

Similar incidents occurred during the Jericho conference at Glorieta, during the HMB's national mass evangelism conference in Nashville, and during two sessions of training state prayer coordinators, Blackaby and Hunt said.

Even now, as he leads prayer conferences in various states, Hunt said, "There is a prevailing spirit of deep yearning for the depths of God among those in the groups."

For the awakening to be widespread and long-lasting, it must be experienced and embraced by pastors and church leaders, Blackaby added. "The greatest single need I see right now is readying leadership for the awakening of God," he said.

Hunt, who has researched patterns of great revivals in the Bible, said: "God's normal way to bring revival is through leadership. Revival normally starts with leaders and comes down."

Bookstore taps Youree

James Youree III of Murfreesboro has been named manager of the Macon, Ga., Baptist Book Store.

He became a management trainee with the 62-store Baptist Book Store chain earlier this year, training in the two Memphis stores.

He formerly was pastor of Hobson Pike Church, Mt. Juliet, and First Church, Waynesboro.

Nov. 14-16 in Knoxville

Registration cards available for TBC

Two registration cards for messengers to the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention have been mailed to every Baptist pastor. The convention will be held Nov. 14-16 at Central Church, Bearden, in Knoxville.

Every cooperating Tennessee Baptist church is entitled to two messengers. Each church shall also be entitled to one messenger for each 100 members or fraction thereof beyond the first 100 subject to a maximum of ten messengers from any one church.

A messenger shall be a member of the church by which he or she is elected. Each messenger must be elected by the church. The pastor is not automatically considered a messenger and should be voted on by the church along with other messengers.

For up to eight additional cards and information in determining the number of messengers to which your church is entitled, contact your director of missions or Pat Porter, TBC registration secretary, at (615) 371-2010.

His report led to investigation

Tennessean McGinnis resigns as missionary

CHATTANOOGA (BP) — Mike McGinnis, whose letter questioning a fellow missionary's beliefs set off a denominational flap last year, has resigned as a Southern Baptist missionary.

The resignations of McGinnis, 37, and his wife, Sondra, both of Birmingham, Ala., will take effect Sept. 30, according to Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board officials.

The couple was appointed in 1987 and assigned to Venezuela, where he was to have worked as a church starter. But they were unable to obtain work visas from the Venezuelan government after finishing a year of Spanish language training in Costa Rica.

The McGinnises were offered the option of transferring to any of four other

countries by the Foreign Mission Board. They declined, citing a specific call from God to work in Venezuela.

From their current home in Chattanooga, the couple plans to travel and train Christian leaders in Venezuela and possibly other South American countries with Ambassadors for Christ International, a nondenominational agency based in Atlanta. A spokesperson for the agency confirmed McGinnis likely will be joining a team of 15 American missionaries who conduct leadership training seminars for overseas Christians.

McGinnis drew attention last year when he wrote a letter to a friend in Tennessee expressing concern about the theological beliefs of another Southern Baptist missionary in the

language school, later identified as Michael Willett. Willett also was assigned to Venezuela.

The letter came to the attention of Foreign Mission Board officials, who later met with both missionaries. Willett eventually was asked to resign by board officials because of what they termed "doctrinal ambiguity," or lack of clarity, particularly regarding the miracles of Christ.

Willett resigned, but later rescinded his action. He was dismissed July 21, 1988, by vote of the Foreign Mission Board's trustees, who affirmed a staff recommendation for the dismissal.

Willett now is an adjunct professor of New Testament at St. Paul School of Theology, a United Methodist school in Kansas City, Mo.

McGinnis was reprimanded by mission board officials for the inappropriate way he reported on the situation. He was told he would be given annual work reviews during his first term in Venezuela, instead of the standard single review at the term's end.

But the McGinnises never reached Venezuela as missionaries. They began the visa application process before beginning their year of language study, as is customary for those studying

Spanish in Costa Rica. After completing study in late 1988, they and another missionary couple assigned to Venezuela still had not received work visas by April of this year. Missionaries have encountered periodic trouble obtaining visas for work in Venezuela and a number of other countries around the world.

The two couples were asked to consider assignments elsewhere. The other couple accepted an assignment in Spain. The McGinnises looked at five urban evangelism assignments in four South American countries, but declined them all. They asked to live in Venezuela on temporary, renewable tourist visas. But board officials said Venezuelan lawyers have indicated missionaries cannot legally work in the country under such an arrangement. Board officials also expressed concern that working in the country with a tourist visa would jeopardize the status of missionaries already there.

In his letter of resignation, received by board officials July 31, McGinnis said, "... we can receive no peace from God about going to another field. This is not a matter of preference or personal desire. It is a matter of believing that it continues to be God's direction that we go to Venezuela."

Honeycutt cites legalism

By Pat Cole

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Warning there is "no end to legalism's appetite," Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt said Southern Baptists live in an era with little room for differences of opinion.

In convocation services opening the fall semester, Honeycutt said the ten-year-old Southern Baptist Convention controversy has resulted in an increasing demand for uniformity of beliefs among Southern Baptists.

"It is not enough to have a proper theory about the Bible," he said. "We must also have a proper interpretation of the proper theory about the Bible." Many Southern Baptists are engaged in the "unbaptistic" practice of disallowing dissent from majority opinions, he added.

Some Southern Baptists are further extending legalism by calling for a "uniform application" of the Bible that would force people to apply the Bible identically in every social situation, he noted.

Advocates of legalism are "spiritual cannibals" who historically have tended to "eat up their heritage," he said. "It's always been that way, and it's that way today."

Rather than conform to the wishes of the "exponents of legalized religion," Honeycutt said, individuals still can choose to be free in Christ. Yet he

predicted that "harassment and intimidation" will follow those in the SBC who differ from the opinion of the majority.

Honeycutt, who has reckoned with the convention controversy since assuming the presidency of Southern Baptists' oldest seminary in 1982, said he has discovered a renewed sense of freedom in the midst of the conflict.

In his prepared manuscript, he noted:

"Circumstances and criticisms have become of less and less concern for me in recent years. I truly believe my life is hidden in Christ whose life is hidden in God. I have experienced a freedom in Christ which I never knew to exist. Nor does the world know it endures. Nothing any longer matters ultimately except to live in Christ, to manifest Him through personal relationships, to serve Him faithfully and to rest in Him when life concludes."

Honeycutt also emphasized the need for free Christians to live responsibly. "Freedom means that God came to make you free, but freedom also means that God came to make you responsible," he said.

Also during convocation services, nine professors who were granted tenure by the school's trustees last spring signed the original handwritten copy of the Abstract of Principles, Southern Seminary's 131-year-old statement of faith.

Our Readers Write

Fundamental, Baptists, or Christian

About God's evolution

I'm writing in regard to the letter, Fundamental and/or Baptists, in the Aug. 23 edition, "Our Readers Write."

In reference to the question, "What is wrong?" I think the problem is that Southern Baptists have begun to think like some other denominations, as if their denomination is the only right one. Denominations are manmade, they're not ordained by God.

I am a Southern Baptist myself, because that is the church I was brought up in. I am thankful for the missionaries our denomination sends out and for the work our organizations do. But this does not make Southern Baptists superior to any other denomination.

As far as I am concerned, too many people are pushing their denomination instead of doing the Lord's work. I think the world would be more interested and more likely to come to our churches if we would act as Christians and not as Baptists, Methodists, Church of Christ, Pentecostals, or any other denomination.

We don't need to be Baptists; we need to be Christians!

Charlotte Watkins
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GUIDELINES: Opinions of Tennessee Baptists on religion-related subjects are welcomed. Letters should be brief and concise, no more than 250 words. Letters may be shortened and edited at discretion of the editor. Unsigned letters will not be read or used, but writer's name may be withheld for sufficient reason. There must be at least one month between publication of letters from the same writer. Letters must not make personal attacks on the character or integrity of anyone. Writers are encouraged to write in a positive, Christian manner. Short letters are preferred. Address and phone number must be included.

These are remarks of an old man who has been teacher, principal, and county superintendent of schools, and after retirement has published a book of poems in 1977. Then I composed the words and music for 90 songs, published in 1985.

The word "evolution," referring to the beginning and progress of life upon the earth, has created an intellectual and spiritual storm during the last century. Man has chosen either the Biblical account of creation, considered literally, or has chosen the theory that our universe and world are the result of blind force. In the rush to choose sides, few people are advocating the belief that all change through the ages is the result of "God's evolution," evolution specifically directed by God's power and for God's purposes.

I do not believe there is a conflict between the Biblical story of creation, rightly understood, and the ever broadening evidence of true scientific knowledge. God is a God of life, and He enables all creation to change and adjust to life's pressures.

It is my belief that each day of creation was a long period of time, that God worked lovingly with man and woman through the ages for their good, that He will continue to work with them and for them until Satan is destroyed and Jesus comes again.

Our finite minds cannot comprehend a Spirit Personality who had no beginning and has no end. So let us open our lives to Him by accepting the gift of faith in Jesus, whose life and teachings give us all we need to know about God and our destiny. The Great Commission is all we need to be concerned about. Let us not weaken our witness by fighting over creative speculation.

Colbert G. Petree Sr.
213 Montvue Road
Knoxville 37919

Year of the Laity

Troy Gresham • Lamar Heights Church • Memphis

Troy Gresham is retired and has been a member of Lamar Heights Church in Memphis for 36 years. He and his wife, Beatrice, have two sons, four grandchildren, and one great grandchild. Gresham is an active deacon, Sunday School superintendent, and participant in the church's visitation program. He also performs a ministry to nursing homes which the church began several years ago.

"I go to two nursing homes every week, ministering to about 50-60 people. They look forward to these meetings, which feature a sing-a-long time. At one of the homes I also give a synopsis of the upcoming week's Sunday School lesson.

"The main purpose of this ministry is to show the elderly in the nursing homes that people care about them.

"The meetings help them pass the week by giving them something to look forward to.

"Many churches do not minister to nursing homes, but I see it as a vital ministry."

— 1988-89 has been designated as the Year of the Laity throughout the Southern Baptist Convention. This article is one of a series designed to highlight the Baptist laity in Tennessee. Suggestions for individuals to be featured are welcome and may be sent to the Baptist and Reflector. Include the person's phone number and address.

SBC housing request forms sent to state offices

NASHVILLE (BP)— Housing request forms for the 1990 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, scheduled June 11-13 in the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, have been sent to state executive offices, according to Convention Manager Tim A. Hedquist.

The forms, also available in the September issue of *Baptist Program* magazine, should be mailed to the Greater New Orleans Tourist and Convention Commission no earlier than Oct. 1, 1989.

"This year there is a day of grace because Oct. 1 falls on a Sunday," Hedquist said. "Many post offices do not postmark mail on Sunday, so any forms postmarked either Oct. 1 or 2 will be treated as if they were postmarked Oct. 1."

He added housing request forms mailed earlier than Oct. 1 will not be processed. Those mailed later also will not be processed because it is likely the request postmarked either Oct. 1 or 2 will exceed the number of rooms

available in the SBC block.

The envelopes will be opened by the New Orleans commission Oct. 10 "in a random manner," Hedquist said. The process uses only people who are not Southern Baptists in an effort to ensure impartiality in assigning rooms.

There are 6450 rooms in 12 hotels in the 1990 SBC block. Included among the hotels are the Hyatt Regency, which will be the headquarters hotel, and the New Orleans Hilton, which will house participants at the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting.

"There is a place on the form that allows an individual to set a maximum amount he is willing to pay for a hotel room," Hedquist said. "If the envelope is opened and there are no rooms available in the price range indicated, the request will be sent back.

He indicated the average cost of a hotel room in New Orleans is about \$86, "down about ten percent from Las Vegas." Prices in the 12 hotels in the SBC block range from \$65 to \$105 for a single.

All of the hotels are in the downtown area, he said, and in walking distance "for a robust person." All also are in proximity to a New Orleans shuttle service, which will be augmented by the SBC to coincide with sessions of the annual meeting.

The forms also provide an opportunity for a potential messenger to select first-through fifth-choice hotels.

The forms contain complete information on filing. They should be mailed to the SBC Housing Bureau, 1520 Sugarbowl Drive, New Orleans, La. 70112.

Hedquist issued several reminders about registration:

- Registrants may not submit more than one request per person. If they do, the housing bureau computer will cancel all copies of multiple requests by the same individual.

- Multiple registrants may submit individual requests in the same envelope. However, all members of a group are not guaranteed rooms in the same hotel.

- People with handicaps or special medical needs should make their requests to Hedquist at the SBC Executive Committee, 901 Commerce, Nashville, Tenn. 37203, before the Oct. 1 deadline.

"We hold rooms to provide for the

handicapped," Hedquist said. "They should not attach notes to the registration forms and send them to the housing bureau. The housing bureau cannot help them, but I can."

He stressed people with special needs should send in their requests as soon as possible, but before Oct. 1.

- People should not attempt to contact the Executive Committee or Hedquist about their room assignments. Those who are assigned rooms will be notified by the housing bureau. The assignments will be in the bureau's computer, Hedquist said, and information will be provided as soon as the computer prints out the forms.

"We won't know what has happened, and they will pretty well have to wait for notification," he said.

Those who do not get rooms in the block will be notified as soon as possible by the Executive Committee, he said. The housing bureau sends the forms that were not assigned rooms to the Executive Committee, which returns them as quickly as possible.

Even if a messenger is not assigned a room in the SBC block, there are plenty of hotel rooms available in New Orleans, Hedquist said, noting there are some 30,000 rooms in greater New Orleans.

Las Vegas convention drew messengers from 6900 churches

NASHVILLE (BP)— Some 6900 congregations — less than 20 percent of the churches affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention — participated in the 1989 annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nev.

"The largest number of those churches sent one or two messengers, usually the pastor or the pastor and his wife," said Lee Porter of Nashville, SBC registration secretary, who noted total registration for the Las Vegas meeting was 20,411.

According to an analysis of messenger registration, Porter said 263 churches sent the full complement of ten messengers and an additional 190 had either eight or nine messengers.

"Messengers from 453 churches made up one of every five messengers, or 20 percent of the convention," he said, adding the 453 churches represent 1.2 percent of the 37,500 congregations affiliated with the SBC.

The constitution and bylaws of the convention specify each "cooperating" church is entitled to one messenger. Additional messengers, up to the maximum of ten, are gained either for each additional 250 members or \$250 contributed to the work of the convention during the preceding year.

Porter said messengers from six state conventions made up 50 percent

of the messengers: from 12 made up 77 percent; and from 20, 93.65 percent. There are 37 state conventions and three fellowships affiliated with the 14.8-million-member denomination.

Texas had the most messengers — 2646, or 12.96 percent of the registration. Other top states were North Carolina, 1819 (8.91 percent); Georgia, 1798 (8.81); Tennessee, 1517 (7.43); South Carolina, 1260 (6.17); and Virginia, 1242 (6.08).

Texas also had the most churches which sent the maximum number of messengers, 49; followed by Georgia, 36; North Carolina, 23; and Tennessee, also 23.

"The percentages were very normal, compared to 1981, the last time we met in the West, and to last year's convention in San Antonio. Compared to 1981, the percentages of messengers from the states were very similar. Three states — California, Kentucky and Oklahoma — decreased in the percentage of messengers and three — Mississippi, Virginia and Nevada — increased," Porter said.

Compared to 1988 in San Antonio, Texas — the third-largest convention in SBC history with 32,727 messengers — percentages were very similar, Porter said. Texas, the host state in 1988, and Louisiana, showed decreases, while California, Arizona, and South Carolina all showed increases.

Porter, who keeps hourly counts each year, also said the pace of registration was normal.

According to Porter, 6586 registered Sunday, compared to 10,685 registrants on Sunday in San Antonio. On Monday, 16,985 registered, compared to 27,567. By the time the vote was taken on the SBC president Tuesday afternoon, 20,202 messengers had registered, compared to 32,436 in San Antonio.

After the vote for president, registration dropped off. By the close of registration Tuesday, only 103 more people had registered. At the end of the day Wednesday, another 94 registered to push the total to 20,399. Only 12 people registered Thursday, giving a final registration of 20,411.

Doug Buchanan called to Mary's Chapel

Doug Buchanan has joined the staff of Mary's Chapel Church, Ripley, as pastor.

Most recently pastor of Natchez Trace Church, Camden, Buchanan also served as a curriculum writer for the Brotherhood Commission, a journeyman in Zambia, and assistant pastor/youth minister at churches in Tennessee and Arkansas.

The Memphis native received a bachelor's degree from Memphis State University, Memphis, and a master of divinity degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans.

Buchanan and his wife, Janet, have two children.

One Word More

By Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

We had just prayed after the softball game.

We were hot and wet with perspiration. There were bruises and skinned knees, not to mention bent egos. It had been a tough evening.

The thought came to me, and not for the first time, what is the difference between winning and losing?

In this game, the team bore the name of the Baptist church. We try to remember that our actions tell others who our master is.

Americans, at least most of them, like to "win." There often is a stigma attached to losing. "Don't be a loser," is advice often given to youngsters.

When mistakes are made in many athletic contests, fans hoot in derision as they point fingers to the offending party, "You, you, you!"

We play games under a set of rules. Seldom are teams equal in strength, skills, strategy, desire. But when we face the opposition, most of us are not prepared to lose.

In the church leagues where I have coached or played, the team that loses the most games is the top candidate for the Most Christlike award. That tells the world we think Jesus and His Christianity is for "losers." There's that word again! And if He is a loser, then people who believe in Him and stake their lives on His death and resurrection — they must be losers too. And if He is chief of losers, then maybe He did not conquer death after all. Perhaps it was just a trick played on the Romans and unbelieving Jews by His disciples.

Just what is losing — why is it different from winning?

We assume that victory goes to the team that scores the most points, runs the fastest, swims the quickest, gets there first, ends the game as the

heralded hero.

Winning means that "breaks" may have helped the winner. It may mean that the other team did not play as hard, or that its players were not as skilled or determined.

We are accustomed to praising winners and brushing aside losers.

I think we need a new, more precise definition of losing — and winning. When you play by the rules, prepare properly for the game, respect your opponent, cooperate as a team player, run hard, be alert, do your best, then you should be able to hold your head

high and smile in victory — whether or not you are winner on the scoreboard.

Being a graceful loser does not mean you accept defeat. People don't like you as much. Telling the opponent that he

played well doesn't mean defeat is enjoyable. Sometimes we play a lousy game — and manage to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory.

What begins as games for children often develops for us a way of life. If we never learn the real meaning of losing and winning, we don't know or understand the true competitive spirit.

Vince Lombardi was not correct when he said winning is the only thing. When we get to the finish line, or when the game is over, if we know we have done our best, we can say the competition honed our skills, taught us values, excellence.

Then throw aside all that holds you back, and run straight toward the goal, the prize which is life in Christ. He already stands at the finish line, this One whom the world called a loser.



ALLEN

Tennessee Baptist applies Scripture to recovery from addictions

NASHVILLE — Tennessee Baptist Paul B. Doyle says the basic fundamentals of the 12-step recovery program used by addictive behavior recovery groups can be found in the New Testament.

Doyle has written a book on the 12-step method, not to replace material already available, but to provide supplemental material from a Christian perspective.

In *Step with God* outlines the 12-step program and provides Scriptural references. The book can be used during the long recovery process from addictive behaviors — primarily the use of drugs and alcohol.

While churches might be perceived as a haven from social disease, Doyle affirms that "no one is immune."

"Historically, the church has not responded to drug and alcohol addiction within the congregation," says Doyle. He thinks the church's response to such social issues will change, attributing a change of attitude in the past two decades to the medical profession's recognition of alcoholism as a disease.

Traditionally, churches have dealt

with addictions as an issue of morality, he says. He stresses the need to adhere to medical evidence and comprehend alcoholism as a disease.

As a Southern Baptist, Doyle sought to provide material for Christians who are seeking spiritual guidance through Scripture in their struggle with addiction. The steps outlined in the book are surrender, faith, commitment, examination, admission, readiness, humility, willingness, amends, maintenance, conscious contact, and sharing.

Many addicts try church and come away sensing hypocrisy among members, but the actions and attitudes of other people at church "has nothing to do with your personal relationship with God," says Doyle.

Doyle points out the irony of church being the one place to deal with problems, but many are reluctant to bring personal problems, such as addiction, to church.

Most families are touched by alcoholism — if not directly, then indirectly by extended family and friends. "Dysfunctional families are becoming the norm," says Doyle. He

cites statistics revealing that ten percent of the population have a problem with alcohol.

Another four to five percent are addicted to drugs. By the time this 15 percent of the population is multiplied by the at least three or four people

most influenced by the addict, the ramifications of addictive behavior are staggering.

Doyle, a member of Harpeth Heights Church, Nashville, is a graduate of Belmont College in Nashville. — *Mona Collett, Belmont College.*

West Tennessee associations sponsor crusade

The Madison-Chester and Crockett County Associations are sponsoring the Golden Circle Area Crusade Sept. 10-17 in Jackson.

The crusade will be held in a tent, with a seating capacity of about 3500, on the campus of Union University.

Kelly Green, an evangelist from Mobile, Ala., will lead the week-long crusade.

Green is a graduate of Mobile College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He has preached revivals in both large and small churches. Recently, he has moved from one area crusade to another.

Joe Estes, minister of music at New Hope Church, Fayetteville, Ga., will direct the music.

Planning for the crusade began two years ago, led by Herbert Higdon, director of missions for the two associations, and a host of pastors, church staffers, and laypersons. Philip



GREEN

D. Jett, pastor of Englewood Church, Jackson, is general chairman of the crusade.

"This has been one of the greatest experiences of my 25-year ministry, seeing all of the churches of the three-county area working together with a single purpose — to evangelize," Jett said.

A counseling tent will be set up adjacent to the main tent. Approximately 500 people will be used as counselors during the crusade.

The crusade will begin at 7 p.m. daily.

McCulley accepts pastorate of First Church, Dresden

Don McCulley joined the staff of First Church, Dresden, as pastor June 4.

McCulley came to Dresden from Fowlkes Church, Fowlkes. He served as pastor of Bell City Church, Bell City, Ky., and Forty-five Church, Moscow; youth director of First Church, Dyersburg; interim pastor of First Church, Trimble; and chaplain at Layton Watson Nursing Home, Gallaway.

Ordained in 1977 by First Church, Gallaway, McCulley graduated from Union University, Jackson. He holds a master of divinity degree from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans.

McCulley and his wife, Sherryl, have one daughter, Rebecca Lee.

Clarification given

In the Aug. 30 issue of the Baptist and Reflector Glynda Hall was identified as full-time Baptist Student Union director at Dyersburg State Community College.

According to Ircel Harrison, director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Student Ministries Department, Hall will serve in a part-time capacity.

The BSU program at DSCC has been in place since 1970 and will continue to operate on a part-time basis though it will have a permanent BSU building on campus, Harrison added.

Baptist Young Women's meeting planned



BLACK

C. DAVIS

D. CARTER

WHITETREE

"Journey in Becoming" is the theme of the annual Baptist Young Women Get-Together to be held Sept. 29-30 at River Terrace Hotel in Gatlinburg.

A young adult ensemble of Central Church, Fountain City, Knoxville, and Doug Berky, a professional mime from Nashville, will perform along with presentations by missionaries and conferences.

Missionaries Bill Black of Gatlinburg, D. Carter and Charlotte Davis of

the Windward Islands, Gregory Whitetree of Lookout, Ky., Sam and Mary Waldron of the Philippines, and Randy and Kittie Trail of Rwanda will speak.

The conference will begin at 8 p.m. on Friday and end at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday. A registration fee of \$5 will be charged. Interested persons should contact Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn. 37024, for more information.

Baptist Beliefs

By Herschel Hobbs

Kingdom greatness

"And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant" — Matthew 20:27.

Even among the 12 apostles there was a constant power struggle as to greatness in Christ's kingdom. James and John had just asked for the two chief places in it. The other ten resented it, for each wanted that role. Jesus said their efforts were according to the pagan standard. In verses 26-27, He gave the kingdom standard of greatness.

Note "great" (v. 26) and "chief" or "first" (v. 27). In verse 26 Jesus said, "Let him be your minister" or



HOBBS

diakonos. In verse 27 He used "servant" (doulos). Both words were used for slaves. Doulos denotes status, a slave over against a free man. Diakonos refers to the service rendered by a doulos or slave.

In verse 28, Jesus said that even He came not to be ministered to but to minister, even to giving His life as a ransom for lost people. "For many" was the Hebrew way of saying "for all." The verb forms in verse 28 are those related to diakonos. Jesus did not win our faith and love by cracking a whip over our heads. He did it by the service He rendered on our behalf, even to the point of dying for us.

The world judges greatness by the number of people who serve us. God judges it by the number of people we serve. Which standard are you following?

Memphis pastors cited

MEMPHIS — Two Tennessee Baptists have been identified by Memphis magazine as being among the city's 100 "movers, shakers, and newsmakers."

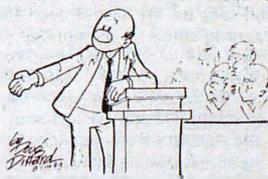
Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Church, and Nancy Hastings Sehested, pastor of Prescott Memorial Church, were listed in the magazine's annual City Guide issue, published in August.

Rogers, 57, is a past president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Under his leadership Bellevue is constructing a new worship center in nearby Cordova.

Sehested, 38, also was honored earlier by being selected among 55 individuals chosen for the 1990 Class of Leadership Memphis, a program which identifies and selects individuals who have demonstrated leadership ability and an interest in community affairs.

Pulpit TEARS

With Bra BLOTZ
AN ANONYMOUS MEMBER FROM SANTA MARIA CALIF., TOLD HER PASTOR...



IM GOING TO ASK THE PIANIST TO PLAY THE SECOND VERSE WHILE THE CONGREGATION PLAYS SILENTLY TO THEMSELVES
SEND YOUR TRUE EMBARRASSING INCIDENTS TO PULPIT TEARS, 2318 N. SHILOH, GARLAND, TX 75044 THIS IS A SHARE-AWARE CARTOON. SEND #1 IF YOU REPRINT IT. REPRINT MUST BEAR THIS NOTICE.

Funnyside up

Bride to new husband: "There you are, Darling, my first meal cooked just the way you'd better like it."

The pastor noticed a man who walked to the front of the auditorium for the service. Afterward the pastor spoke to the man and said, "Why did you come into the service and sit in front — being a stranger?"

"Oh," said the man, "I'm a bus driver, and I just came to see how you get everyone to sit in the rear of the building."

Tal D. Bonham, The Treasury of Clean Jokes (Nashville: Broadman Press, 1981). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

In National Guard

Tennessee pastor serves dual role as chaplain

By David McKenney and Larry Moore
FORT STEWART, Ga. — A National Guard soldier can be at peace with himself and God, even in the middle of Annual Training or the hottest war zone, thanks to clergymen in the Army Chaplain Corps.

Anyone can be at peace with himself if he knows who he is and in what he believes and then stays true to those two things, said Hoyt Wilson, pastor of First Church, Lexington.

Wilson is a colonel in the Tennessee Army National Guard and is endorsed by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board as a chaplain. He serves as chaplain of the 30th Separate Armored Brigade, with approximately 5000 soldiers in units throughout Middle and West Tennessee.

"I don't believe that a person who doesn't know the Lord can have lasting peace. They may find moments of peace, but not continuing peace," he said.

Wilson supervises a group of six chaplains and their six assistants stationed throughout the brigade. The chaplains represent several different religious affiliations.

Wilson said the soldiers were more receptive to the chaplains' ministry this year than in the past.

The receptiveness was reflected in an increase in counseling sessions held by chaplains, Wilson said.

The chaplains did not hold as many services as they had anticipated because of a hectic training schedule in the brigade. They conducted about 66 services including those on the convoy trips to and from Fort Stewart, he said.

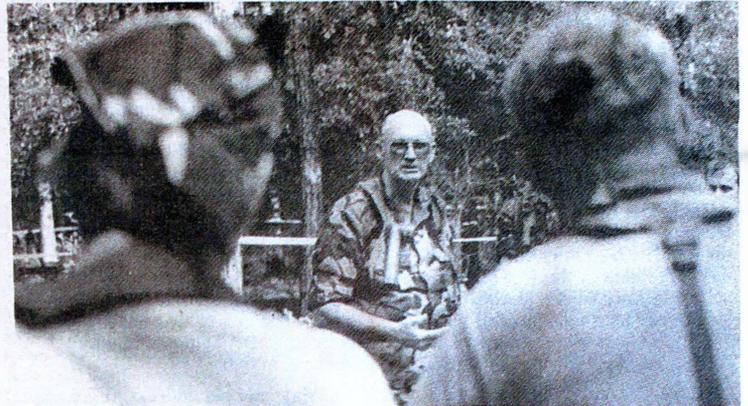
Wilson said services are conducted where and when opportunities permit, regardless of whether the site is a post chapel or clump of trees in the field.

"We held services during convoy stopovers on the way here to Annual Training," he noted.

No formal schedule of services is posted in the field. Soldiers usually know a chaplain is arriving simply by word-of-mouth, Wilson said.

The Chaplain Corps had its beginnings 214 years ago on July 29, 1775, when three clergymen shouldered muskets and fought side-by-side with soldiers at Lexington Green and Concord Bridge after the opening shots of the American Revolution.

Throughout the revolution, 179 clergymen ultimately served the nation which was being formed. General George Washington officially recognized them as chaplains and directed that



ADDRESSING THE TROOPS — "You are a person first and a soldier second," Hoyt Wilson, pastor of First Church, Lexington, and a Tennessee Army National Guard chaplain tells Guard soldiers as they take a brief respite from field training during Annual Training with the 30th Separate Armored Brigade.
 — Photo by David McKenney

they were needed because "... the blessings and protection of heaven are at all times necessary, especially in times of public distress and danger."

During World War II, virtually every ethnic and denominational group was represented in the Chaplain Corps. In Vietnam, they earned the affectionate

nicknames of "Chopper Chaplain" and "Flying Padre."

— McKenney and Moore are from Nashville and are members of the 118th Public Affairs Detachment of the Tennessee Army National Guard. They participated in Annual Training at Fort Stewart July 22-Aug. 6.

Students list child abuse, abortion as top concerns

By Frank Wm. White
NASHVILLE (BP) — Child abuse and abortion are the top societal concerns listed by college students responding to a nationwide survey by The Student magazine, a publication of the student ministry department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

For the second consecutive year, an overwhelming number of students have listed child abuse as the major societal concern, said Editor Milt Hughes.

Results from the September 1988 survey were published in the August

1989 issue of the magazine.

From a list of 28 societal needs and concerns, students were asked to check five that concern them most and that need priority attention.

Of the 439 students responding to the survey, 61.9 percent listed child abuse. That is up from 53.2 percent in a similar survey taken in September 1987, Hughes said.

But other information the student ministry department receives, including comments from students attending conferences, indicates that

child abuse touches many students personally. Hughes explained: "Many have experienced child abuse but have never talked with anyone about it. There's got to be a reason for the high level of concern. We've got to address it."

Abortion rose on the 1988 survey with 45 percent of the respondents listing it as a concern, up from 36.7 percent the previous year.

Abortion replaced hunger as the No. 2 concern. Hunger dropped to seventh on the list, with 33.8 percent of respondents checking it, compared with 41.7 percent the previous year.

Hughes noted that the decline of hunger on the list follows a decline in giving to hunger concerns in the Southern Baptist Convention.

Other concerns listed most often by respondents included drug abuse, 36.5 percent; AIDS, 36 percent; homelessness, 34.9 percent; and drunk driving, 34.2 percent.

Among personal needs and concerns, 62.4 percent of students singled out a relationship to God. Grades ranked second, with 44 percent.

Other personal concerns included time management, 41.7 percent; setting priorities, 35.1 percent; and stress, 29.4 percent.

Students were asked to note their

level of participation — frequent, occasional, not at all — in 16 activities within the past year.

Highest on the list was attending a religious service, with 95.5 percent. Also, 93.4 percent said they attended Sunday School, and 89.5 percent said they participated in Baptist Student Union.

Sexual relationship, drinking alcohol, and smoking cigarettes were marked by the fewest number of students. A total of 21.8 percent said they had drunk alcohol, and 17.5 percent of the single students said they had had a sexual relationship in the past year, while six percent said they smoked cigarettes.

"I hope college department Sunday School teachers will look at this and see that one in five have had some sexual experience," Hughes said. "Teachers also need to ask whether students have the proper Biblical background for convictions about sex and alcohol. We need to build character and instill decision-making principles and not just preach rules."

Students are seeking more help from their churches, he pointed out. From a list of areas where the church could provide more help, students most frequently checked life decisions, Bible study, and discipleship.

TeamTalk

By D. L. Lowrie

You often discover spiritual lessons in unusual places. I discovered such a lesson a few days ago. I was sharing in the 154th birthday celebration of First Church in Bolivar.

J. L. Winfield is the effective young pastor of this congregation. While visiting with the pastor, he shared with me the experience of his church.



LOWRIE

A visitor in his church some months ago noticed a serious health threat. As this visitor looked over their building, he observed they had the worst kind of asbestos on the ceilings of their church. Even though he was a visitor, he made this known to the pastor. He recommended to the pastor that, for the sake of the people, they needed to do something about it. This prompted a study by the church and then a costly commitment to correct the problem. It cost First Church more than \$250,000 to remove the asbestos. This made it necessary for them to be

inconvenienced by vacating their building for several weeks. When the process was finished, the only obvious improvement was that the building was safer.

I began to think about that. It would be a good thing if every church in Tennessee made a commitment to remove from its life everything that threatened the spiritual health of its members. Asbestos is only a threat to the body. Anger, wrath, malice, indifference, and a dozen other things are a threat to the spirit. If we could see ourselves as God sees us, we would need to put up warning signs on the outside of our churches. The sign would need to read "Unsafe." The attitudes that we tolerate make our churches spiritually unsafe.

It will cost more than money to make our churches spiritually safe and healthy. It will cost humbling ourselves, repenting, and seeking the face of God. But when the cleansing process is completed, the benefits that come will be immeasurable.

Let me encourage you to do a little observation in your own church. Are there things that need to be removed?

First Church, Nashville, mission team returns from work on seminary in Hungary

A mission team from First Church, Nashville, spent two weeks in Budapest, Hungary, earlier this summer working on a seminary building for the Hungarian Baptists.

Three of the men, Gene Carter, Cliff Able, and Bob Turner worked on the building last year when it was in its initial stages of construction. Thomas Dodd, Tommy Ervin, Howard Gallimore, Headly McMains, and Lester Simpson accompanied them this

year. The 12,000 square feet, five-story building will be a combination dormitory, chapel, and food service building. It is expected to take another year to complete.

The Nashville men worked with people from Hungary, refugees from Romania, and bi-vocational pastors. "The workers there, with whom we worked, were wonderful Christian people," Carter said.

Seminary trustees consider Dilday's 'political activities'

By Scott Collins

FORT WORTH (BP) — The possibility of a called meeting to discuss "political activities" by Russell Dilday was considered by Dilday and trustee officers of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in a mid-August meeting.

News reports in several newspapers — including the Richmond (Va) Time Dispatch and the Nashville Banner indicated trustees may be targeting Dilday, president of the 4800-student school in Fort Worth, Texas, for "censuring or muzzling" this fall.

Dilday and trustee Chairman Ken Lilly, a physician from Fort Smith, Ark., issued a joint statement Aug. 28, saying the purpose of the Aug. 15 meeting was to "discuss questions regarding Baptists Committed (to the Southern Baptist Convention), and to seek clarification about an article written by Dr. Dilday for the May Southwestern News."

Lilly said the trustee officers discussed the possibility of a called meeting — to be set Aug. 29 — but decided not to call it.

The chairman, however, said he anticipates the issue to be raised when the full board meets Oct. 16-17. "I don't see at this point how it can be avoided" at the full board meeting, Lilly said.

"The issue is still hot and it will come up . . . I don't know the best way to deal with it, but I know the guys (trustees) are going to have their say."

In the prepared statement, Lilly and Dilday were critical of news coverage of the mid-August meeting, saying it "may hurt attempts to reach an understanding" between Dilday and trustees.

They said the meeting gave Dilday and the three officers and opportunity to discuss questions privately rather than through the media.

"We believe it is in the best interest of Southwestern Seminary, its president, and board of trustees to talk about these issues privately and face-to-face rather than through public rhetoric," the statement says.

Lilly explained the background of the meeting, noting: "The deal was that a number of trustees had written me. I got a bunch of letters requesting that

we meet with Dr. Dilday and ask him to quit doing political things."

The focus of the letters, he said, was Dilday's speech in late May before a meeting of Baptists Committed, a moderate political organization.

While Dilday said he believes the source of complaints is an account of his speech in the Southern Baptist Advocate, a conservative-oriented newspaper, Lilly denied the Advocate report prompted the meeting.

"There was only one (trustee) who was influenced by the article," Lilly said. "The article was not the issue, but rather Dr. Dilday's renewed political activity."

Dilday said his address, titled "Denominational Unity," at the Baptist Committed symposium was an attempt to call for Baptist unity and to pull together the fractured Southern Baptist Convention. He said it was not intended to be a political statement.

Dilday said he showed trustees the full text of the speech and "they seemed less concerned."

"I will accept any invitation I can to speak on Baptist unity, whether I'm addressing the left or the right," he added.

He continued: "I would be irresponsible if I didn't speak on convictional issues affecting the seminary and the convention. I don't intend to do anything to make the conflict in the convention worse. I haven't been a part of any political group on either side and I don't intend to be. I have spoken out in the past against the inappropriateness of political actions."

Lilly said, "My personal thinking is that he (Dilday) is going to have some troubled times if he doesn't quit speaking out."

Of the Aug. 15 meeting, Lilly said: "We were trying to meet privately to solve potential difficulties. I don't think we solved them. The spirit intended was to tell our brother in Christ, Russell Dilday, that he had trustees who didn't agree with what he was doing. The way you do that in our opinion was to go to him personally."

In addition to Dilday and Lilly, the Aug. 15 meeting was attended by Damon Shook, pastor of Champion Forest Church, Houston, vice chairman, and John McNaughton, a Fort Worth rancher and businessman.

Church bus drivers face new tests

Some Tennessee church bus drivers will need a commercial driver's license to comply with the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act passed by the United States Congress in 1986.

Drivers of vehicles weighing more than 23,000 pounds or vehicles designed to transport more than 15 passengers including the driver must pass a test to receive the license, reported the Tennessee Department of Safety, Nashville.

Drivers who travel totally within the state are exempted. Drivers with chauffeur's or special chauffeur's licenses are not exempted.

Application should be made at drivers' testing centers when the driver's license needs to be renewed or before April 1, 1992.

Study of materials for the test is advised and oral tests will be given.

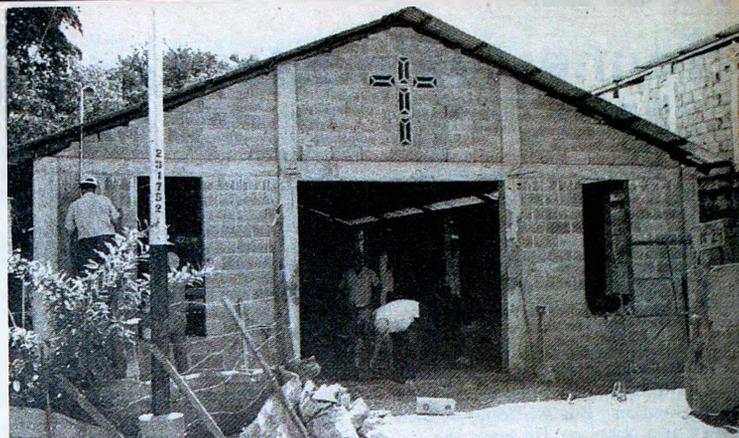
Waivers to allow for repeated

testings and exemption from the road tests are available if the driver has met the following qualifications for two years prior to application: possessed one driver's license from one state at a time; operated the type or class vehicle for which one is making application; hold a driving record free of offenses such as driving under the influence, drag racing, or a moving offense that caused a traffic accident; possess a valid driver's license; and travels in the state.

Representative Randy Stamps of Hendersonville reported "the intent of the legislation is proper although I know it's working a hardship on many."

He encouraged persons with problems to contact their elected officials.

License information is available from CDL Information, Driver Control Division, 1150 Foster Ave., Nashville, Tenn. 37210-9938, (615) 251-5302.



PALO NEGRO CHURCH in Palo Negro, Venezuela, has this new building because of the efforts of 19 volunteers and \$8000 given by Sullivan Association this summer. The work also resulted in 60 persons making professions of faith.

Knud Wumpelmann to succeed Denton Lotz as BWA president

BUDAPEST, HUNGARY — The eighth congress of the European Baptist Federation, was held July 26-30. More than 5200 delegates from 47 countries registered making this the largest EBF Congress ever. Gabor Viczian, who directed the complex computerized registration system, reported the good news at the close of the Congress.

Baptists from eastern European countries — Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Poland, Rumania, the USSR, Yugoslavia, and from every country of western Europe, met for the first time in eastern Europe. More than forty Bulgarian delegates attended their first EBF Congress. Baptists in Israel were also represented for the first time after Israeli Baptists joined the EBF last year. Participants came from as far away as Ghana, the Philippines, Cuba, and the United States. Hungarian Baptists were the largest national group, with nearly 2000 delegates.

The opening session included an address by Hungary's National Assembly president, Matyas Szuros. Going far beyond the language of normal diplomacy, he praised Baptist churches for their democratic system of government, suggesting they might become models for the creation of necessary "structures of a new society." He also added, "In this vicious century . . . let there be shouting that Baptists are the spokesmen of Christian love and forgiveness . . . and for peace among people . . . as well as for tolerance and justice . . . and as defenders of human rights."

The president's speech was praised by Janos Viczian, himself a member of the Hungarian Parliament by virtue of his position as president of the 11,000 members of the Hungarian Baptist Union. "Our political situation," he stated, "has changed. We have a real reform situation in Hungary."

The theme-motto of the Congress, "Come and see what God has done," from the Bible verse in Psalm 66:5, was the subject of the opening message by Vasile Talpos. Talpos, who was terminating his two-year term as EBF president, is the president of the Baptist Theological Seminary of Bucharest, Rumania. Other main speakers included: Solomon Gwei, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Forests in the central African country of Cameroon; Baptist World Alliance president Denton Lotz;

Women's Department president Edna Lee de Gutierrez of Mexico; and others.

Knud Wumpelmann will succeed Noel Vost as president of the Baptist World Alliance. While there have been two presidents from Great Britain (John Clifford 1905-1910 and Townley Lord 1955-1960), this is the first time in BWA history that a BWA president has been chosen from the continent of Europe. The BWA General Council chose Wumpelmann for the five-year term, 1990-95.

For the past nine years Danish-born Wumpelmann has been general secretary of the European Baptist Federation and was to retire at the end of this year. The same Council confirmed Denton Lotz as BWA general secretary.

The daily schedule consisted of Bible study by language groups, discussion groups on a number of subjects, as well as the plenary sessions. The congress choir and orchestra of more than 1000 musicians led congregational singing and presented special music. Choirs and instrumental groups from other countries also performed.

The Congress ended with a special evangelistic rally in the Budapest People's Stadium. Evangelist Billy Graham preached to 95,000 people, many of whom arrived by buses and trains from all over Hungary. The attendance was the greatest for any stadium event, reported Stadium officials.

TV program probes First Amendment

WASHINGTON — An upcoming television documentary will explore the meaning of the First Amendment's religion clauses and the controversies that have surrounded them over the past 20 years.

"The Supreme Court's Holy Battles," hosted by Roger Mudd. Capitol Hill correspondent for "The MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour," will air on the Public Broadcasting System at 9 p.m. (EDT) Sept. 19. (Viewers should check local listings for exact date and time.)

The one-hour program examines the historical setting in which the First Amendment was written.

The documentary also focuses on the battles over religion that have been waged in the nation's courts.

Plan now for 1990

Missions in Michigan: How to become involved

By Lonnie Wilkey, associate editor

Communication and planning are essential for an effective missions trip, said Carrol Fowler, director of church extension for the Baptist State Convention of Michigan.

Fowler, a former bivocational pastor and director of missions in Michigan, has worked with many Tennessee Baptist churches during the first decade of the Tennessee/Michigan partnership. He stressed the need for communication and planning.

Churches in Michigan must "be straightforward and honest about what they need," Fowler said.

Likewise, he added, Tennessee churches must be honest and inform their Michigan counterparts about what they "want to do, what they can do, and what they expect."

Communication and planning go hand in hand, Fowler said, noting both parties should express their needs and expectations in the planning process.

And though most of the missions trips to Michigan have been made this year, now is the time to plan for 1990 trips, he said.

A missions trip for next summer should be put on the church's calendar no later than Oct. 1, Fowler noted.

He listed three methods for obtaining names of Michigan churches which have needs that could be met by volunteers from Tennessee churches.

- Work directly with a Michigan church if you know the pastor. Find out what the church needs and inform them of what you can offer, whether it be revival teams, training, youth groups for Backyard Bible Clubs or Vacation Bible Schools, carpentry and construction teams, etc.



- Contact your director of missions or cluster coordinator. Tennessee's 68 Baptist associations are divided into "clusters" of four to five and paired with one of Michigan's 13 associations. Each "cluster" has a coordinator who works with directors of missions in both states to identify potential areas of ministry.

- If you are unable to use the two above options, Fowler said, churches are welcome to contact him at (313) 557-4200 for ministry opportunities.

After obtaining the name of a church and making the initial contact, it is important to set tentative dates and times and begin planning, Fowler said.

James Porch, pastor of First Church, Tullahoma, which has sent missions teams to Michigan even before the partnership was officially approved by both conventions in 1980, concurred.

Intensive planning is important for a successful missions trip, Porch emphasized.

Porch said he makes an advance trip to Michigan each fall to plan for the next summer's project. During the planning trip he arranges for accommodations at locally owned motels and confirms a date with church leaders, finds out what needs to be done, specifics of the job, and other needed information.

Fowler agreed that an advance trip was a good idea. Bring a camera and take photos of where you'll be staying and working, he encouraged.

Fowler recommended that firm plans — dates, lodging reservations, cost, etc. — should be in place by mid-January.



CHURCH PLANTER — Arkansas native Carrol Fowler has helped start several churches in Michigan. He serves as director of church extension for the Baptist State Convention of Michigan.

Finally, Fowler stressed the need for flexibility from both Tennessee and Michigan churches. Both groups must adapt to the situation at hand, Fowler said, noting the "best laid plans" do not always come out as we would hope.

Though it does not happen that often, inclement weather can be a problem, Fowler said. He noted Michigan churches must provide alternatives if rain and bad weather becomes a problem. "There are many different ways to do things," he observed.

Just as important, however, Tennessee's volunteer missions teams need to be prepared for the possibility of having to change their plans, he added.

Fowler encouraged Michigan and Tennessee Baptists who are planning a partnership with each other to exchange names and pray for each other.

Planning and prayer will help ensure a good partnership experience, Fowler predicted.

New giant print Bible released

NASHVILLE — Holman Bible Publishers achieved a first in Bible publishing this summer with the release of a new Bible that is simultaneously "UltraThin" with giant print.

Holman, a division of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, has released an UltraThin Giant Print Reference Bible in the King James Version which is slightly less than one inch thick.

The new Bible, which includes a concordance and end-of-verse references in giant print, is printed on a new, thinner paper which provides a Bible that can easily be carried to and from church, said Johnnie Godwin, director of Holman.

Ridgely church calls Tetleton as pastor

Calvary Chapel, Ridgely, called Dalton Tetleton as pastor earlier this year.

A native of Halls, Tetleton served as pastor of Elon Church, Halls, and two churches in Missouri.

Tetleton was ordained by Mount Vernon Church, Halls.

Tennessee native

Michigan pastor uses musical talents to minister

By Lonnie Wilkey

ROGERS CITY, Mich. — It is unlikely that Tennessean Jeff Clark will ever be mistaken for a native of the German/Polish community of Rogers City, Mich.

"People know I'm not from here," laughed Clark, a native of Winchester and graduate of Carson-Newman College who now serves as pastor of Grace Southern Baptist Church in Rogers City.

Clark, blessed with a distinct Tennessee accent and the ability to play the banjo, a "freak" instrument to northeastern Michigan, has become popular with residents of the city.

But, that has not always been the case.

Though people were friendly to Clark and his wife, Melva, when they first arrived, Rogers City residents soon told the Clarks "there

was enough religion (in Rogers City) without them being there."

The Clarks, however, persisted.

Their first contact with Rogers City came in 1986 when they worked there for ten weeks as part of a Southern Baptist Home Mission Board program called PRAXIS which sends seminary students to lay the foundation for a new Southern Baptist work.

The Clarks, students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., did surveys and began a Bible study. They enjoyed the area and soon discovered they could continue their ministry in Rogers City by joining the van program sponsored by the Baptist State Convention of Michigan.

Under this program, students from Southern Seminary travel to Michigan on weekends in vans provided by the convention and serve in various churches.

During the summer of 1987 the Clarks held the first worship service in Rogers City with ten people in attendance.

By January of 1988 the Clarks were full-time church planter apprentices.

In order to gain acceptance in the "old line" community, Clark decided to use his musical talents.

Residents of Rogers City love music, the Clarks said. A community band performs concerts in a city park which attracts about 300-500 people weekly, the couple noted.

Clark, who also plays the clarinet, began playing in the band.

But it is Clark's banjo-playing

ability that drew the interest of Rogers City's music lovers.

Clark said no one in the town had seen a banjo, so he plays the instrument at every opportunity including monthly visits to a nearby nursing home where his mother-in-law stays.

The banjo playing has opened doors for Clark. "Music has provided an opportunity to minister," he said.

Clark admitted that people did not begin flocking to the church just because of his music. Grace Church has grown, however, to 37 members with an average weekly attendance of about 40.

Last summer the church's growth necessitated a permanent worship facility. The churches and associations that have helped in various ways include First Church, Tullahoma; Lincoln Heights Church, Tullahoma; First Church, Franklin; First Church, Hendersonville; Ooltewah Church, Ooltewah; Valley View Church, Nashville; Sparta Association, Union; and Duck River Association, Tullahoma.

"The partnership (with Tennessee Baptists) has been a lifesaver for us because there is no way we could have built a church without it," Clark said.

The Michigan church is grateful for the help it received and decided the partnership should not just be one way. This summer the Clarks led a nine-member team to Spring Creek Church in Tullahoma.

We wanted to reciprocate, Clark said. "If it hadn't been for churches doing that for us, we wouldn't be here," Clark said.



ACCEPTANCE — Music has helped Jeff and Melva Clark gain acceptance as they minister to residents of Rogers City, Mich.

Tainted grapes didn't poison missionaries' work in Chile

By Art Toalston

TEMUCO, Chile (BP) — Remember the two Chilean grapes found tainted with cyanide in a Philadelphia port earlier this year?

"People in the United States cannot comprehend what the incident did to the Chilean economy," said Francis Smith, a Southern Baptist missionary based in Temuco, a metro area with more than 200,000 people.

The grape scare quickly faded from U.S. headlines, but not in Chile. Newspapers there continue to report on theories about who sabotaged the grapes and why the United States overreacted — in the opinion of most Chileans — by banning Chilean fruit for a short but costly time. Estimates of the economic loss to Chile range from \$100 million to \$300 million.

Missionaries braced themselves for flak from Chilean friends, neighbors and co-workers, but soon saw that no relationships had soured.

"The Chileans handled it with a very, very gracious attitude toward the United States," recounted Joe Dillon, another Southern Baptist missionary based in Temuco.

Protesters gathered in front of the U.S. embassy in Santiago, but on a larger scale, Dillon said, "the country went on a publicity campaign to prove to the American consumer that Chilean products are good products." Grapes and other fruit were distributed to public schools throughout Chile. Children were shown on TV eating the grapes — as was the country's president, Gen. Augusto Pinochet.

Chileans showed little animosity and did not cry, "Look what these Yankees are doing to us!" said missionary Grundy Janes, a Southern Baptist missionary who directs the 950-student Baptist Academy in Temuco.

But "their dignity was hurt," said

missionary Manny Manferd. "They were hurt that somebody had the audacity to say their grapes were poisoned."

Church members, some with relatives among the 20,000 Chileans put out of work by the incident, nudged their missionary friends with good-natured joking, Dillon said.

"How are you enjoying the grapes?" they would say. Then they became serious and asked, "From an American standpoint, what information are you getting? What do you think?" If this had happened in a lot of countries, we might have had to curtail ministry," Dillon continued. "There was real maturity on the part of church members. They know we're not here as a representative of any government, but just as a representative of Jesus

Christ."

"The church people don't see us as gringos," said missionary John Gilbert, also in Temuco. "They see us as persons."

The kindness missionaries felt from Chilean Christians, Gilbert added, "shows that personal relationships are more important than international relationships."

Smith and his wife, Bonnie, were on furlough in North Carolina when news broke in March that U.S. Food and Drug Administration inspectors had found two tainted grapes among several million crates in the Philadelphia harbor. The amount of cyanide was not enough to give a toddler a stomachache. Nevertheless, Chilean grapes and berries were embargoed for five days. Chilean apples,

pears, peaches, nectarines and melons were embargoed even longer. Canada and Japan closed their ports to Chilean fruit.

In U.S. church speaking engagements, Smith often was asked about the incident. He used this analogy: Imagine the reaction of people in North Carolina if two cigarettes in an overseas port were found to be contaminated and all U.S. tobacco products were forced off the world market.

Smith also began carrying a piece of wood from a grape crate with the words "Produce of Chile" to churches he visited. "Remember those Chilean grapes?" he would ask his Baptist audiences. "Now when you eat Chilean grapes, you'll be reminded to pray for us and the work in Chile."

TENNESSEE

1989

Regional Sunday School Leadership Training Conferences

September 11-12
September 18-19
September 21
September 25-26
September 25-26
October 2-3

Central, Bearden, Knoxville
FBC, Chattanooga
Central, Johnson City
FBC, Memphis
FBC, Jackson
Two Rivers, Nashville

Adkins tapped for UT associate BSU post

Betsy Adkins has been hired as associate director of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Baptist Student Union.



ADKINS

Adkins graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, in 1984 with a master of arts in religious education. She also holds a bachelor's degree from Palm Beach Atlantic College, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Before coming to the UT, Knoxville, BSU, Adkins was secretary to the president of NCNB Texas Bank in Arlington. Her work experience also includes serving as interim associate director, outreach coordinator, and student-to-student worker, University of Arkansas BSU, Fayetteville, Ark.; staff member of Centrifuge, Glorieta, N.M.; and production assistant for ACTS Network, Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth.

— TIME —

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7:00-9:00 TUESDAY NIGHT
6:45-9:00 THURSDAY NIGHT



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- Workers with the Mentally Handicapped
- College Concern — Conference for Workers with Students
- Conference for Workers with Ethnic Ministries
- Music in Sunday School
- Media Library (Knoxville only)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Directors of Missions, Associational Directors of Education, Pastors, Ministers of Education, other staff members, Sunday School Directors, Outreach Directors, other General Officers, Division Directors, Department Officers, Teachers . . . all age groups, Adult Class Officers and Members, Singles, Senior Adults.

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45	\$250,000	\$24.30	\$21.80
55	\$250,000	\$46.80	\$29.30

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TenneScene

...Trekking from Pandora to Hico, stopping for a while at Duplex ...

Churches ...

New Prospect Church, Del Rio, recently completed a fellowship building.

West View Church, Rogersville, held a note burning service in July to celebrate the paying off of the building debt.

First Church, Jacksboro, recently assisted First Church, Elk Valley, with Vacation Bible School. Average attendance was 55.

First Church, Columbia, will dedicate its church property Sept. 10. Don Bouldin will speak.

Members of Island Home Church, Knoxville, will hold homecoming Sept. 10. Gordon Greenwell will speak and The Funderburk Family will sing. A special offering will be used toward purchase of a new church van.

Two Rivers Church, Nashville, began the fall session of its Christian weight-loss program Aug. 29. The program, titled First Place, originated at First Church, Houston, Texas, and is used in 400 churches in 15 states. The 18-week program combines Bible study and Scripture reading with diet.

Cobbs Creek Church, Butler, will hold homecoming Sept. 10.

Members of Calvary Church, Elizabethton, will observe their 60th anniversary and homecoming Sept. 10. Former Pastor Don Peek and Ed Roberts, former member and retired pastor from Michigan, will speak.

Members of West End Church, Knoxville, will celebrate homecoming and their 50th anniversary Sept. 10. Walter Taylor, director of missions, Knox County Association, will deliver the morning message. A covered dish luncheon will follow. Ted Huckleby will speak in the afternoon and the Gospel Praisers and the Chordsmen will sing.

The congregation of Cedar Hill Church, Baxter, will have Founder's Day Sept. 10. They will also hold "Launching of the Vision" to kick off their building fund campaign.

Graceland Church, Memphis, will celebrate its 35th anniversary Sept. 10.

Mount Pleasant Church, Bradford, broke ground July 23 for an additional building which will house 4000 square feet of fellowship and educational space. Completion date of the new facility is set for October.

Middle Creek Church, Oliver Springs, recently received the Vacation Bible School Distinguished Achievement Award from the Tennessee Baptist Convention for being above average in planning, enlisting and training workers, promotion, conduction, and followup. This year's enrollment was 224, with an average attendance of 162. Madge Jones has been VBS director for 25 years.

Leadership ...

First Church, Smithville, called Mark Thomas as minister of music and youth. He is a graduate of the University of Missouri, St. Louis, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

James Deakins recently retired as pastor of Bethany Church, Jonesboro.

Gary Dillard joined the staff of Crieewood Church, Nashville, as minister of youth.

Becky Howard, Jackson, recently recorded her first professional gospel cassette, "You Are Faithful, Lord," after 15 years of working toward that goal. The tape features ten songs of various styles. Howard debuted songs from the tape at a July 16 concert at Woodland Church, Jackson, where her husband, Mark, is associate pastor. Howard graduated from Union University with a degree in voice.



HOWARD

Missions ...

Midland Association will hold a World Mission Conference Sept. 16-18. Twelve pastors from Macomb Association in Michigan will participate.

More than 40 people from 14 churches in Weakley County Association traveled to Southwestern Michigan July 8-15 to conduct Vacation Bible School at five Michigan churches. A total of 375 children were enrolled. Part of the group refurbished a house to be used as a crisis pregnancy home in the Alpha and Omega Ministries in Kalamazoo. This is the third year Weakley County Association has gone to this area of Michigan.

A mission team from Dalewood Church, Nashville, traveled to Detroit Aug. 5-11 to lead worship services, give testimonies, sing, lead Backyard Bible Clubs, hold youth meetings, and do survey work.

Revivals ...

First Church, Greeneville, will hold revival Sept. 10-13. Don Smith, a pastor from Georgia, will speak and Pat Roper will lead music.

Central Church, Chattanooga, will hold revival Sept. 10-13. Former pastor Bill Stafford will speak.

Bob Norman will lead revival Sept. 10-14 at First Church, Camden. Kelvin Smith will lead music.

Shaw's Chapel Church, Brownsville, will hold revival Sept. 10-15. Speakers will be H. K. Sorrell, Ronnie Davidson, Jerry Davis, Ronnie Maxie, Pat Kough, and Eddie Mallonee.

Tooney Cash will lead revival beginning Sept. 10 at Lyon's Park Church, Church Hill.

Twin Oaks Church, Cedar Grove, will hold revival Sept. 10-15. John D. Small will speak.

Sequatchie Valley Association reports two upcoming revivals. First Church, Richard City, will hold revival Sept. 10-15 with speaker Barry Clingan. Gene Mims will speak Sept. 17-20 at Kimball Church, Kimball.

Gibson County Association reports three revivals to be held Sept. 10-15. Churches and leaders are as follows: First Church, Dyer, Donald Garrison; Maranatha Church, Johnson City, Jerry Cohn; and White Hall Church, Trenton, Jack Gregory. In addition, Emmanuel Church, Humboldt, will hold revival Sept. 17-20, with Dennis Truell speaking.

Several member churches of Giles County Association recently held revivals. Churches and leaders are listed: Thompson Chapel, Pulaski, James Prewitt; Calvary Church, Pulaski, Bob Landham; Elkton Church, Elkton, Phil Waldrep, and Union Hill Church, Ardmore, leader name not available.

Jones Chapel Church, Sevierville, held revival July 21-23. J. Harold Smith spoke and 16 people made professions of faith.

Leon Mayo spoke at revival services Aug. 6-11 at Union Valley Church, Knoxville.

Blooming Grove Church, Five Points, held revival July 23-28. Thomas Mattox was evangelist.



TENNESSEE PASTOR ELECTED — Thomas D. Sparrow, left, pastor of East Chattanooga Church, was elected the first national alumni president of Boyce Bible School during a recent alumni reunion celebrating the 15th anniversary of Boyce, a division of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. Dianne B. Bryant, center, of Macon, Ga., was elected secretary and Albert D. Brown of Louisville was elected vice president. Alumni planted a tree on the Southern Seminary campus in commemoration of Boyce's 15th anniversary.

Mercer Church, Mercer, will hold revival Sept. 6-10. Fred Ward will speak and John Thomas will lead music. The revival will conclude with a homecoming celebration.

Vance Wiley spoke at revival July 16-24 at McConnell Church, Martin.

Mooring Church, Ridgely, recently held an area-wide crusade with Evangelist Randy Marcum. More than 100 rededications were reported.

First Church, Howell, recently held revival services. Shelby Gurley, Huntsville, Ala., spoke.

Mike Vincent recently spoke at revival services at Lea Springs Church, Blaine.

Flatt accepts pastorate at First Church, Gainesboro

First Church, Gainesboro, recently called Russell Flatt as pastor.

Flatt, a Cookeville native, came to Gainesboro from Nash Grove Church, Baxter, where he served for more than two years.

He also served as pastor of Grace Church, Tullahoma; Kirkland Chapel, Fayetteville; Gum Springs Church, Lawrenceburg; Philadelphia Church, Waynesboro; and a church in Grand Isle, La.

Flatt is a graduate of Belmont College, Nashville, and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary, where he earned a master of divinity degree.

He and his wife, Dorothy, have three children.

Old Bethlehem calls Mandrell

Old Bethlehem Church, Rutherford, called Jamie Mandrell as pastor.

Mandrell was most recently youth and children's minister at Poplar Grove Church, Trenton. Old Bethlehem is his first pastorate.

Recently ordained by Laneview Church, Kenton, Mandrell has been taking classes at Union University in Jackson.



BAPTISTS ON MISSION IN PUERTO RICO — This was the third year a mission team from Second Church, Union City, led by Pastor Jerrell White, traveled to Ponce, Puerto Rico, to assist with a construction project and mechanical and secretarial work at Puerto Rico Deaf Missions. David and Marsha Mitchell are volunteers through the Mission Service Corps of the Home Mission Board. Mitchell, formerly pastor of Willingham Memorial Church, Ridgely, is himself deaf. From left are Bud Duke, Paducah, Ky.; Jwain White, Union City; the Mitchell's adopted son in Ponce; Jerrell White; Felix McGehee, Martin; Richard Frantom, Buchanan; Scott Huffstiller, Union City; Connie White, Union City; Marsha Mitchell; and David Mitchell.

Sets record

C-N gifts exceed \$5 million

JEFFERSON CITY — Carson-Newman College has received more than \$5 million in gifts this year, a 20 percent increase over last year and a record for the college. Giving is up substantially at a time when giving to higher education has declined nationally.

For the first time in 13 years, giving to higher education decreased 3.5 percent according to a report in the Council for Aid to Education. This is the second time in 25 years that higher education gifts have declined. Since 1978, gifts to Carson-Newman have increased steadily.

Last year, total giving was \$4.3 million, with approximately 94 cents out of every dollar going toward academics and academic support, according to Maddox. Nearly 79 percent of all students receive some form of financial aid.

All sources of giving were up.

Communications seminar planned for October

"Communications and the Local Church," a one-day training event, will be held Oct. 10 at the Baptist Center in Brentwood.

The conference, sponsored by the Tennessee Baptist Convention's public relations office, will enable pastors, church staffs, committee chairmen, and others to choose from a variety of topics which are designed to strengthen communication skills.

Topics include communicating with the unchurched, planning special events, preserving church history, public relations committees, and others.

D. L. Lowrie, TBC executive director, heads the list of program leaders. He will lead the morning devotion and the session dealing with "Communicating with the Unchurched."

Registration fee is \$15 and includes materials and the noon meal. For additional information, contact the TBC public relations office at (615) 371-2015.

Among notable increases this year:

Foundation gifts increased from \$226,351 to \$768,156.

Restricted and non-restricted gifts increased 45.87 percent.

For restricted gifts, there was a 59 percent increase (which does not include gifts from the Tennessee Baptist Convention, annuities, trusts, or estates).

The average gift from alumni increased 16 percent, from \$235.91 to \$273.39.

The annual fund rose from \$493,136 to \$562,627, a 14 percent increase.

This fiscal year ended July 31 marks the 13th consecutive year that the books have closed in the black. The book value of the endowment nearly doubled between 1983 and 1988.



OPEN HOUSE at Gallatin Road Church, Nashville, drew members and friends to view its new family life center and other church renovations totaling about \$1 million to recover from a fire last year. — Photo by Connie Davis

THANKS TO YOU, TENNESSEE, NEARLY 1,000 CHURCHES STARTED



In 1988, the Home Mission Board asked Tennessee Baptists to give generously to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering so that together we could offer "A Church for Everyone."

You took our challenge and with your help Southern Baptists started 950 churches. Thank you for sharing the vision and for enabling our 3,800 missionaries to reach out to America's rural areas and into her inner cities so that there could be—"A Church for Everyone."

Special thanks to:

these churches giving the highest dollar amounts:

Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis	\$30,800
Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville	23,097
First Baptist Church, Memphis	21,576
First Baptist Church, Nashville	20,702
Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown	18,761
Central Baptist Church, Knoxville	18,000
First Baptist Church, Knoxville	17,141
First Baptist Church, Kingsport	17,088
Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville	16,439
Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Kingsport	15,303

and these with the highest per capita giving:

China Grove Baptist Church, Rutherford	\$40.06
Lake Drive Baptist Church, Sale Creek	36.44
Hickman Baptist Church, Hickman	24.72
Mountain View Baptist Church, Knoxville	19.51
Mount Olivet Baptist Church, Mount Juliet	17.54
Silerton Baptist Church, Silerton	16.55
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Annuity Board program rolled back to prior plan

Premium rates and benefits for participants age 50 and above in the new ChurchLife term life insurance program are being temporarily rolled back to prior plan specifications.

The new plans, introduced by the Annuity Board in July, resulted in "instant and significant protest from older participants," said John L. Dudley, director of Insurance Services for the Annuity Board.

Dudley said the new, lower rates and enhanced benefits for younger participants continue in force while the board studies how to address the needs of persons 50 and older.

"The new plans, for those 50 and above," said Dudley, "are returned to exactly the rates and benefits of the old Schedules 5, 30, 50, 60, and 100."

Dudley emphasized that the

premium rate roll-back is a temporary one while additional studies are done. "Eventually," said Dudley, "the older participant must expect to pay more than 65 cents per \$1000 coverage."

The Annuity board's former Church Term Life Plan was designed in such a way that premiums remained relatively stable to age 65, with three age-bracketed rates of 45, 55, and 65 cents per \$1000 coverage. Spouse and dependent coverage and accidental death and dismemberment were included. The maximum potential post-retirement coverage was \$5000.

Three of the new ChurchLife Plans with enhanced benefits have nine rates in 5-year increments ranging from 16 cents to \$2 per \$1000 coverage. A fourth "pure term" plan has even lower rates in the younger ages, start-

ing at nine cents per \$1000.

The Annuity Board Term Life Plan had begun to show signs of future trouble. Over time, the young had increasingly opted to take the minimum \$5000 coverage and purchased other life protection at lower premiums on the open market.

The older Southern Baptist participant, recognizing the bargain rate of the premium over age 50, chose high coverage. But higher coverage, along

with a higher than normal death rate, began to erode the old term life program.

Dudley said recent actuarial studies revealed a gradually aging pool of participants and a claims experience made higher because most of the participants are male.

Also, many participants requested larger amounts of post-retirement coverage that could be earned with less years of participation required.

Leadership retreats set for September

Three Saturday Leadership Retreats will be held by the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Church Training Department at Camp Carson, Newport, Sept. 16 and Camp Linden, Linden, Sept. 23, and Camp Cordova, Memphis, Sept. 30.

Studies entitled Prayerlife and Discipleship Training: A Church Train-

ing Manual will be offered. Leaders include Lon Shoopman of Wallace Memorial Church, Knoxville; Janet Wyatt of Judson Church, Nashville; Lois Smith of First Church, Greenbrier; and staff members of the TBC and Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

The retreats will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 3:30 p.m. Participants may receive ten cents per mile and one cent per mile for each adult passenger in a car. Lunch is provided.

Persons may receive more information by contacting the TBC Church Training Department, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn. 37024.

Media library convention scheduled

The 26th Tennessee Baptist Church Media Library Convention, held every two years, will meet Sept. 22-23 in Nashville.

Thirty conferences will be offered along with two features led by Susan Warren, president, Florida Baptist Church Media Library Organization, Brandon, Fla.; and Donald Harvey of Christian Counseling Services, Nashville.

Harvey also will teach the conference Ministering to Marriages and Families in Crisis. Mary Ellen Draper, president, George Church Media Library Organization, Decatur, Ga., will lead conferences including How to Repair Books.

The program is planned by Tennesseans who serve on the Church Media Library administrative council. Ex-



DRAPER



HARVEY



WARREN

hibits of Baptist Sunday School Board and Baptist Book Store materials also will be available.

The site of the gathering is Immanuel Church and registration begins at noon Friday. The meeting ends Saturday at 3:30 p.m. Registration fees include \$30 for both days, \$20 for one day, or \$10 for the Friday night banquet only.

For more information, persons may contact Tennessee Baptist Convention, Church Media Library/Recreation Department, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn. 37024.

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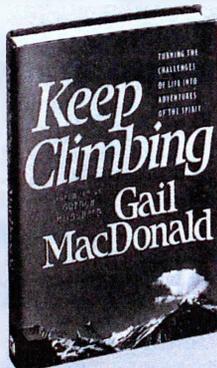
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Events at Moab

By Joseph W. Bargiol, director of missions; Big Emory Association, Harriman

Introduction

Masses of people have neither thought nor time for church as long as life is running its normal course. But it is astounding when trouble comes how many of these same people cry, "Send for the preacher! Somebody pray for us!" When they need help beyond themselves, God becomes important.



BARGIOL

We should live in such a way that, when trouble arises, we can do our own praying, and have no fear in praying. "Thy will be done."

Balak seeks help (22:4b-6a)

The Israelites defeated the Amorites in battle and spread out across the valley and hills east of the Dead Sea and Jordan River. The king of Moab feared the Israelites would soon exhaust the resources of the area and then invade his country. Balak knew the Israelites defeated the Amorites. He was fearful they would defeat him. He needed help beyond himself!

Balaam was known for his spiritual powers. He apparently was able to

commune with God in a special way. It seems that both his curses and his blessings worked.

Balak sent messengers to Balaam asking him to come to Moab to curse the invaders. Balaam refused to come, saying God told him not to come. Another request was sent. This time God gave Balak specific instructions: "If the men call thee . . ." (22:20). Balaam didn't pay close attention and it almost cost him his life (22:28-33).

Balaam repented and offered to go back. God instructed him to go on, but be very careful what he did and said. God speaks through Balaam (23:18-20). Balaam offered sacrifices and sought a word from the Lord. He received the same message three times. He could not curse Israel because God blessed them. Israel was under God's special protection.

After the third attempt, Balaam blessed Israel (24:1-9), saying the people would spread across the land and become a great nation.

Before leaving for home, Balaam gave one final prophesy concerning Israel (24:15-24). He predicted leaders would arise out of Israel and conquer all the surrounding nations. Balak was worse off after his prophetic help than he was before. When we stand in op-

position to God we are always going to come out losers!

Balak's anger (24:10-11)

Balak's strategy was destroyed. He hoped to gain the advantage over Israel with the help of Balaam's curses. Instead, Israel received extensive blessings. Balak now faced an enemy that possessed a victorious army and the blessings of God.

Balak became very angry. Balak told Balaam to go home. A threat is implied. The king told the prophet he had planned to reward him greatly if he had done what he was supposed to do. Balaam responded that even if the king had offered him a house full of treasure it would have made no difference. He still could only have spoken what God instructed. Balaam could not be bribed. Integrity is a valuable possession. It cannot be bought!

BIBLE BOOK SERIES

September 10 Lesson

Basic Passage: Numbers 22:1 to 25:18
Focal Passages: Numbers 22:4b-6a; 23:18-20; 24:10-11; 25:1-5

The lure of paganism (25:1-5)

As the Israelites dwell in the land of Moab, they began to mix with the pagan people. The men began to court the pagan women and join in their pagan worship, including sexual activities with the temple prostitutes.

When the people joined the pagans in worship of their idol and participated in immoral activities, God acted in judgment. God gave instruction to kill all those who had been involved in such acts. Sin brings suffering. We are often slow learners!

The Bible pictures Israel as God's chosen bride. God bestows His love upon Israel. Israel is an unfaithful bride. In the book of Hosea, the prophet and his wife symbolize Israel. She repeatedly returns to her life of prostitution. Her husband never ceases to love her and seek restitution. God's love is so great!

In the New Testament, God's enduring love is demonstrated vividly as Jesus hung on the cross and prayed, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34). Over and over again God forgives us, not seven times, but 70 times seven. Praise God for His endless grace!

Conclusion

There are some general truths to be learned from this lesson.

If we seek to know God's will, we should be prepared to follow once we know it.

There is no profit in becoming angry because God blesses others more than us.

Blessed is the man who is above bribery.

When we begin to mix paganism with holiness, we can expect judgment to follow.

Personal accountability before God

By Ray Gilder, pastor; Speedway Terrace Chapel, Memphis

The failure to accept responsibility for one's actions can be traced as far back as the beginning of the human race in the Garden of Eden. Neither Adam nor Eve would accept the responsibility for what they had done. They began the age-old practice of "passing the buck."



GILDER

Little Billy was following this tradition when he told his father that Johnny had broken the living room window. When his father asked how it happened, Billy replied, "I threw a rock at Johnny and he ducked." The answer that many will try to give God on judgment day will sound as foolish.

The message God gave to Ezekiel in Chapter 18 is God's explanation of man's personal accountability before Him. God gave this message in response to the frequent use of a proverb which said: "The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." Ezekiel and his contemporary, Jeremiah (Jeremiah 31:29, 30), indicate this was the prevailing attitude among captives in Babylon about their suffering. The people had concluded they were being punished for sins of the previous generation.

This proverb could have been the results of a misinterpretation of one of the Ten Commandments. Exodus 20:5 reads, "Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me." The judgment of those succeeding generations was based on the fact that they

continued to hate God after the pattern of their fathers and forefathers.

However, we must admit that we inherit traits from our parents. If you want to know what your wife will be like in 20 years, look at your mother-in-law. We have a natural tendency to copy that which is modeled before us. We also inherit weaknesses toward the sins of our parents. This does not excuse us from taking responsibility for our actions.

The underlying error of this proverb is denial of personal accountability and responsibility. The fundamental fact which God speaks through Ezekiel is "all souls are mine." God is maker of us all and we will each answer to Him one day. There is no organizational

a person's life expectancy. Proverbs 10:27 presents it clearly. "The fear of the Lord prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened." Verse 30 of our text puts it this way: "iniquity will be your ruin."

No one has to turn out like his father. The wise man will see the error of his father's way and choose to be different. There have been many wicked men who have had godly sons. Good King Hezekiah was not like his wicked father, Ahaz; neither did the godly King Josiah follow the steps of his evil father, Amon.

Another thought in the lesson is the possibility of a changed life. No one has to remain the same. Some change

At Southeastern Seminary

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

September 10 Lesson

Basic Passage: Ezekiel 18
Focal Passage: Ezekiel 18:2-4, 19-24, 30-31

chart depicting lines of authority and responsibility to God. All of us have a direct line to God. We do not answer to others, but we will answer to God.

Some people today pull political strings and get out of trouble because they are the son of the judge, mayor, or senator. These same tactics never work in the court of heaven.

The basic principle is repeated more than once in our text: "The soul that sins shall die." It means that you pay for what you and you alone have done.

Often we try to interpret every Old Testament statement in light of New Testament concepts. We need to understand that the phrases "shall live" and "shall die" basically refer to physical life and death and not eternal life and death. The truth being presented is that sinful living shortens

Roberts appointed associate professor

WAKE FOREST, N.C. — R. Philip Roberts has been appointed associate professor of Evangelism and Church Growth at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, beginning in January.

Since 1985, Roberts has been pastor of International Baptist Church in Brussels, Belgium. He has also been an adjunct professor of evangelism with the Evangelical Theological Faculty in Leuven, Belgium.

Roberts is chairman of evangelism for the European Baptist Convention and a member of the executive board of the Union of Belgian Baptists.

From 1982-1985, he was assistant professor of evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Roberts was elected evangelism director, Tennessee Baptist Convention, by the Executive Board Sept. 11, 1987, but declined about a month later. The position was subsequently filled by Jerry King, then an associate in the department.

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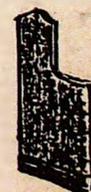
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REFINISHING

Relating wisely to others

By Phillip A. Cooley, pastor; First Church, Gallatin

The human race has accomplished many great things in its short history on earth. Sadly though, people have never learned to get along well with each other. Every day we see the tragic results of conflict among nations, in business, within families and among individuals.

Sunday's lesson from Proverbs studies some guidelines from God on "relating wisely to others." The lesson is not a comprehensive handbook for human relations.

Nevertheless, the Scriptures focus on some vital areas for relationships today.



COOLEY

The first passage, Proverbs 3:27-30, deals with relating wisely to those around us, our neighbors. Jesus dealt with the question of our neighbor in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), and He taught that we should seek the good of our neighbor (Matthew 22:39; see also Leviticus 19:18).

These verses note four ways of relating wisely to our neighbors. 1) We should do good for those in need (v. 27). 2) We should help our neighbor without delay (v. 28). 3) We should refuse to do anything that might harm our neighbor (v. 29). 4) We should never stir up trouble with our neighbor for no good reason (v. 30).

These verses help us correct two trends in our modern life today. First, even though we live closer together, many people no longer even know their neighbors today. Christians ought to reach out to their neighbors in fellowship and service in order to find opportunities to share the love and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Second, these verses call us to go beyond just having good intentions toward our neighbors. As Christians, we should cultivate positive actions toward our neighbors as well.

you are sensible, you will control your temper. When someone wrongs you, it is great virtue to ignore it" (GNB).

That may go against the grain of our nature, but it is consistent with the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). We ought to be big enough to overlook many of the small slights that come our way in life. As damaging as anger can be, Proverbs 27:4 warns that jealousy is even worse. A few synonyms for jealousy will show how serious it is: envy, suspiciousness, mistrust, covetousness, begrudging. Medieval scholars listed it among the "seven deadly sins," and the Ten Commandments prohibits it (Exodus 20:17).

Nothing can destroy a relationship faster than jealousy. It is built on mistrust, dislike, and immaturity. Have you ever been jealous of a neighbor's affluence? Have you ever been jealous of a colleague's abilities? Childless couples are often jealous of couples who have children. Divorced or widowed people are often jealous of those who have spouses. And on and on we could go. The result is always the same: an undermining of relationships.

Perhaps Proverbs 21:21 is a good place to sum up this lesson. The Scripture says: "Be kind and honest and you will live a long life; others will respect you and treat you fairly" (GNB). A good word for our times!

LIFE AND WORK LESSON SERIES September 10 Lesson

Basic Passage: Proverbs 3:27-30;
10:12; 15:18; 17:9; 19:11; 21:21; 27:4;
29:22

Focal Passages: Proverbs 3:27-30;
10:12; 15:18; 17:9; 19:11; 21:21; 27:4;
29:22

Forgiveness and patience are the subject of several verses in Sunday's lesson. Forgiveness is essential in all relationships (Proverbs 10:12; 17:19). No one is perfect. Everyone makes mistakes. Even you! When others fail, we need to forgive them. Proverbs 17:9 says: "If you want people to like you, forgive them when they wrong you. Remembering wrongs can break up a friendship" (GNB). How true that is!

The opposite of patience is a quick temper. Proverbs 29:22 says: "People with quick tempers cause a lot of quarreling and trouble" (GNB). How many times have you seen relationships damaged in your family or in your church by someone with a hot temper?

That is why the Bible speaks of patience as a great virtue (Proverbs 15:18; 29:22). Proverbs 19:11 says: "If

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(BP) BRIEFLY

Compiled from Baptist Press, news service
of the Southern Baptist Convention

Look to higher power to battle Satan, Lewis tells missionaries

RIDGECREST, N. C. — If Southern Baptists are going to change the world for Christ, they must be equipped with more than another seminary course or self-help brochure from the convention's Home Mission Board, agency President Larry Lewis said.

"Friends, don't try to explain away the devil. If you're going to battle him on his ground, you're going to need a power stronger than yourselves. . . . You're going to need the very power of God in your lives," Lewis told US-2 missionaries during a commissioning service.

The service for the 26 missionaries, who will work alongside career missionaries, was held during home missions week at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center. US-2 missionaries are college graduates age 27 or younger who are appointed for a two-year term of service throughout the nation and its territories.

The newly commissioned missionaries will work in church and community ministries, evangelism, language church extension, new church extension and special ministries.

Baptist theologians challenged to apply evangelism methods

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia — Baptist theologians from 30 countries meeting in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, were told that theology and evangelism go hand in hand and were challenged to learn how to "speak the gospel in folksy language" so it will get the attention of people in today's world.

The 127 theologians representing Baptists from around the world explored the theme "The Gospel in its Wholeness" during the third Baptist International Conference on Theological Education. The recent conference was sponsored by the academic and theological education section of the Baptist World Alliance.

"A basic thrust of the meeting was the awareness that theology and application of the Gospel in wholeness, which is an evangelistic theme, go hand in hand," said Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director of the Southern Baptist Education Commission and planning chairman and presiding officer of the conference.

"One goal of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for the exchange of ideas between theologians and theological educators from all parts of the world. We certainly accomplished that goal, because the theologians, mostly men and a few women, represented educational institutions in Europe, Latin America, Asia, Australia, Canada and the United States, he added.

One of the highlights of the conference was when a woman representative

from Lebanon taught the group a chorus in Arabic titled "Peace at All Times," Walker said. During the conference, the woman received word from her husband to delay returning home because of intense fighting and shelling in her war-torn country.

Ministry to adults more important in the 1990s, Texas leader says

FORT WORTH, Texas — To meet the needs of an aging population, religious educators in the 1990s must place more emphasis on ministry to median and senior adults, a Texas Baptist leader told religious educators at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Bernard Spooner, director of the Sunday School division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, spoke to members of the Southwestern Baptist Religious Education Association at its 70th annual meeting in August.

He said the U.S. population is expected to increase by 20 million people by the year 2000, and added 18 million of that growth is expected to occur in the adult age groups. While young adults (18-34) are expected to drop by 8.2 million, median adults (35-64) are predicted to increase by 22.3 million and senior adults (65-up) by 3.9 million.

"We must improve our ability to reach and minister to median and senior adults," Spooner said. "At the same time, we must keep a balance and provide effectively for all age groups."

New European Baptist leader wants to be bridge builder

BUDAPEST, Hungary — Building bridges among European Baptists will be a top priority for Karl-Heinz Walter, a German Baptist pastor and the newly elected general secretary for the European Baptist Federation. Walter, 56, has been pastor of Bremerhaven (West Germany) Baptist Church since 1978. He succeeds Knud Wumpelmann of Denmark, EBF leader for the past nine years.

Walter was elected by the federation's council just before the 10th EBF Congress, held in Budapest July 26-30. The federation is a fellowship of 27 Baptist unions in 22 European countries and Israel, representing a total membership of 1.1 million people.

The federation has working relationships with Southern Baptists through missionaries and other ties. The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board turned over ownership of Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, to the federation in May.

Oklahoma Baptist college given \$2.6 million

SHAWNEE, Okla. — Oklahoma Baptist University has received a gift of about \$2.6 million from Ardmore businessman Paul Dickinson to provide endowment for the university's School of Business, which will be named in Dickinson's honor.

Dickinson's gift was established through the Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma, and is the largest single gift for a Baptist cause received for administration by the foundation.

Students hungering to be more evangelistic, leaders say

By Frank Wm. White

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — Southern Baptist campus ministers are more involved in evangelism than ever before and students are "hungering to be evangelistic and see good role models," according to two seminar leaders during the 1989 Ridgecrest Student Conference.

Charlie Baker and Jeff Lewis perceive a shift among students from self-centered concerns to a growing uneasiness with today's culture. They say this makes college campuses a potential bright spot for Southern Baptist evangelism efforts.

Baker, pastor of Southern Hills

Church in Tulsa, Okla., was Bible study leader for the Ridgecrest student conference and led sessions on evangelism for campus ministers. Lewis is associate director for the Mission Service Corps program at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and led an advanced SHARE seminar for students.

In recent years state and national student ministry leaders have placed a priority on evangelism, and the resulting increased personal involvement by campus ministers "is one of the best kept secrets in the convention," said Baker.

During sessions with state directors

of student ministry and campus ministers, Charles Johnson, director of the Sunday School Board's student ministry department, challenged each person involved in student ministry, including the student ministry department staff, to commit to winning one student to Christ.

Students hunger to be evangelistic but need people who will model relational evangelism for them, Lewis said.

"As a campus minister, I had to model relational evangelism for students," said Lewis, who was a campus minister in Loch Haven, Pa., until joining the Home Mission Board two years ago.

The SHARE seminar is one of several training programs available to equip students for evangelism, but students need models to show them how to approach students they encounter on a daily basis, Lewis explained.

Baker predicted campus ministers and students who are willing to witness on campus will find a greater openness to evangelism efforts.

"I have nothing but my own opinion and observation to back this up, but I believe students are on the edge of a move back to a growing uneasiness such as that of the 60s," Baker said. "That's not such a bad thing. Students have a great zeal to do something but don't have a cause to march against as in the 60s."

Baker, who leads campus evangelism sessions and speaks at state and national student conferences, said he encourages a campus evangelism plan

with disciplined outreach, training and an annual special event.

Churches need to be aware of the shift in student attitudes and be ready to respond with a challenge that meets their needs, Baker said. "We need to learn what the needs are and be ready to meet those needs," he said. We need to answer hard questions about how we will reach students."

Churches also are willing to change, he says. "The church is realizing business as usual won't do it. We are listening more to see what we can do to reach society."

Churches expect campus ministers to win students, grow them in Christian faith, and be available to help them, Baker said.

But, he said, Southern Baptists also must be willing to plant churches near college campuses. Those churches should have a world vision for evangelism with the campus as a base of operation to reach the world.

Prayer effort begins for Mission 90

RIDGECREST — More than 3500 students and student leaders at Glorieta and Ridgecrest Baptist conference centers participated in the launching of a prayer effort for the MISSION 90 National Student Missions Conference planned for Dec. 27-31 in Fort Worth.

Participants in the evening worship services at the New Mexico and North Carolina conference centers on Aug. 15 received copies of a MISSION 90 prayer calendar.

The prayer calendar lists at least two persons on each day between Aug. 15 and Dec. 31 as specific prayer concerns. Persons listed are missionaries, platform speakers, or planners for the December conference.

MISSION 90 is sponsored by the student ministry department in coordination with the Foreign Mission Board,

Home Mission Board, Brotherhood, Woman's Missionary Union, and the six Southern Baptist seminaries.

In addition to the daily prayer concerns, each prayer calendar has the name and address of one of the persons from the prayer list. Students are asked to make that person a prayer partner and write them expressing their prayer support, said Brad Gray, a BSSB staffer serving as coordinating committee chairman of the event.

Copies of the prayer calendar will be given to other students at state BSU conventions and other events as well as seminary students, Baptist Young Men and Baptist Young Women groups, and students in local churches, Gray said.

Some WMU groups also have volunteered to participate in the prayer effort, he said.

Salem Springs Church calls Mark Tidsworth as pastor

Salem Springs Chapel, Murfreesboro, has called Mark Tidsworth as its first full-time pastor, effective July 30.

Salem Springs, a mission of Mount Pleasant Church, Rockvale, was organized January 1.

Tidsworth most recently served as pastor of First Church, Crane, Ind.

A graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tidsworth recently completed his master of divinity degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.