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FMB trustees adopt \$174.9 million budget

RICHMOND (BP)— Trustees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board adopted a \$174.9 million budget for 1990 to support some 3800 missionaries working in 116 countries.

The budget approved Oct. 11 represents a \$7.2 million increase over 1989. The increase is built on rising revenues from the denomination's annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions.

Projected expenditures for 1990 show, among other things, decreases in Southern Baptist subsidies to many seminaries, hospitals and churches overseas where national Baptist organizations are becoming more financially self-sustaining.

Projections also show an increasing percentage of the budget going to basic missionary support. Because of rising costs, about \$5 million of the net budget increase will be used to maintain the missionary force overseas, said Carl Johnson, vice president for finance. Expenditures for missionary travel and freight, medical costs, insurance payments, salaries, and stipends rank as the greatest areas of increase over 1989.

"The hard realities are ... the cost to support missionaries continues to escalate, medical expenses are becoming almost unbearable, and the cost of schooling for (missionary children) has reached a point where it's taking such a heavy percentage of mission resources that we're looking for alternatives," said FMB President R.

Belmont receives \$2 million in gifts

The Jack C. Massey Graduate School of Business at Belmont College recently received two gifts of \$1 million each.

Announcement of the gifts came during an Oct. 10 meeting of the graduate school's board of advisors. The gifts were made by Barbara Massey Clark of Nashville and Joe Massey of Atlanta, Ga.

Clark is the daughter of Nashville entrepreneur Jack C. Massey, for whom the graduate school is named. Joe Massey is his nephew.

The gifts will be used toward construction of the Massey Business Center which will house the college's undergraduate and graduate schools of business, a conference center, and computer labs.

The contributions push campaign gifts and pledges for the Massey Business Center to slightly more than \$7 million. Construction of the new facility is scheduled for completion in March 1990.

Keith Parks. "Housing, automobiles, travel — everything's going up."

Overseas ministries claim almost 88 percent of the total 1990 budget. About \$109 million will support missionaries and their families. An additional \$31.8 million will pay for mission work programs, and \$11.3 million will finance capital needs such as missionary housing, churches, schools, and medical facilities.

Although the Foreign Mission Board this year is expected to experience its first net loss in 17 years in the number of missionaries under appointment, the new budget sets aside support money for 1990 based on an expectation that the downward trend will be reversed. "We are of the opinion that the number of missionaries under appointment will increase in 1990," Johnson said.

Mission administrators are casting a wary eye on the \$13.5 million difference between projected receipts from the denomination's unified Cooperative Program giving plan and those from its annual offering for foreign missions. The 1990 budget projects \$67.5 million in receipts from the Cooperative Program and \$81 million from the Lottie Moon offering.

"If I had to pick out any one thing about this budget, it would be our concern about the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering playing an increasing role in our budget support, while the Cooperative Program is playing a decreasing role," said Johnson.

In recent years Johnson and others at the Foreign Mission Board have voiced growing uneasiness over the board's increasing dependence on the annual Lottie Moon offering, which generally is collected in local churches during the month of December.

Until 1961 the Cooperative Program supplied more money to foreign missions than the Lottie Moon offering. Since then, Lottie Moon giving has surpassed receipts from the Cooperative Program. The size of the gap has fluctuated, but Lottie Moon receipts have never been more than about \$6 million greater than income from the Cooperative Program.

"Certainly we feel we're much more vulnerable as the gap is widening," Parks said in an interview. "It's been a moving target all along, but the sudden gap between last year and this year is quite striking, and I think this is a real concern to us."

The Cooperative Program is the vehicle through which Southern Baptists send money from their churches to support mission needs at the local, state, national and international levels.



TBC ORIENTATION — Tom and Pam Mathis, left, and Hilda and Joe Pat Winchester were among 95 registrants at the annual Tennessee Baptist Convention orientation for new church staff Oct. 5-6 at the Baptist Center in Brentwood. The purpose of the two-day session was to acquaint new pastors and staff members with the work of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Mathis is pastor of Red River Church, Adams, and Winchester is pastor of Piedmont Church, Dandridge.

— Photo by Lonnie Wilkey

Florida Baptist efforts fail to gain tighter abortion laws

By Greg Warner

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (BP)— Despite the efforts of Baptists in the state, Florida lawmakers refused to tighten legal restrictions on abortion during a special legislative session Oct. 10-11.

Florida Baptists were visible among the 7000 to 8000 pro-life demonstrators who marched on the Capitol before the session, among the dozens of citizens who testified before Senate committees, and among the legislators who tried to persuade their colleagues to enact new abortion laws.

But in the end, lawmakers were more willing to preserve the right to choose an abortion than to extend legal protection to the unborn.

All eight of the major anti-abortion proposals handled by the Senate were defeated in committee. Even a modest proposal to tighten licensing requirements for abortion clinics, which a Baptist legislator tried to resurrect on the floor of the Senate, failed to receive the two-thirds vote needed to override its rejection by committee.

By 9-3 margins, the Senate health and rehabilitative services committee defeated three bills proposed by Sen. John Grant, a Republican and Baptist layman from Tampa.

The proposals would have required a seven-day waiting period and "objective" counseling for any woman seeking an abortion; prohibited the use of public funds, employees, or facilities in performing abortions; and prohibited most abortions if a mandatory test showed the fetus could survive outside the womb.

The committee defeated 8-4 a fourth proposal to set up a state adoption center. Although all committee members spoke in favor of the idea, a majority said action on the proposal during the abortion session was either unnecessary or unwise.

By 5-2 margins, the Senate health care committee also defeated four other abortion-related bills. Two bills

designed to tighten regulation of abortion clinics were introduced by Sen. Richard Langley, a Republican and Baptist layman from Clermont. Also defeated were a third clinic-regulation bill and a new tax to fund prenatal and post-natal care of poor pregnant women.

The Senate dispensed with the bills even before committees of the House had considered most of them. The full Senate was called back into session for the purpose of adjourning the afternoon of Oct. 11, 25 hours after the special session had opened.

But Langley asked Senate colleagues to reconsider his Abortion Clinic Licensure Act, one of the bills rejected in committee. Langley said the bill would not restrict abortions but only protect the "health, safety and welfare" of women seeking the procedure.

The need for the bill, he said, had been demonstrated by recent clinic abuses uncovered by state investigators and committee testimony from state officials that they lack sufficient power to regulate clinics.

For more than an hour and a half, senators debated Langley's motion. Although most observers considered the necessary two-thirds margin unlikely, the motion served another purpose — to get legislators on record

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An inside look

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Editorials

Startling statements emphasize witnessing imperative

Three startling and somewhat related statements were made to Southern Baptists gathered earlier this month in Richmond and Oklahoma City.

(1) A former Muslim informed a group at Foreign Mission Board offices of the first phase of a long-term effort to push the United States toward "Islamization."

Islamization is "a purification process to get rid of non-Islamic corrupting influences and to implement the entire way of life outlined in the Koran and Islamic laws."

If that is not disturbing, add to it that Muslims are spending hundreds of millions of dollars annually. The effort extolls Islam as superior to other religions and ideologies.

Combining immigration and conversion, the number of Muslims in the United States should reach seven million by 2000.

(2) At Oklahoma City, Larry Lewis, Home Mission Board president, urged pastors at a soul-winning conference to make five visits a day five days a week, and to train laity in the soul-winning process.

"We are not filling the Biblical mandate to share the Gospel to every creature when we place an ad in the paper or a sign in the

church yard that says, 'Everybody Welcome,'" he told the pastors.

Another speaker said that Sunday School has ceased to be centered around evangelistic outreach, and that people study the Bible and don't do anything with the knowledge.

(3) But it was Texas evangelist Freddie Gage who made a harmful accusation. He compared state Baptist papers to the infamous gossip-mongering *National Enquirer*, and blamed the papers for "taking the denomination's eyes off soul-winning."

We are disappointed and baffled at Gage's statements, and further puzzled that no one refuted the charges. His statements were wild accusations without foundation.

He accused the papers of "dwelling" on the SBC controversy and being unwilling to "magnify" soul-winning, witnessing, and evangelism. Those charges are serious. What Brother Gage needs to understand is that controversy and power struggles are the culprits — not the papers who believe in edifying Southern Baptists with truth. Ignoring that fact will not enhance our efforts for the Lord.

When Southern Baptists desist from fighting each other for control of seminaries,

agencies, committees, etc., all our energies rightfully can be directed to renewal, witnessing, and evangelism. There will be space on state paper pages for nothing else. Good news will overwhelm us because leaders are putting these things first.

It is absurd to blame state papers for fomenting the problems caused by those engaged in the power struggle. Truth must not become a victim of the controversy.

When we respond positively to words of advice such as those spoken by Lewis, we will be doing the Lord's business. Falsely accusing the papers because of expediency, ignorance, or because it is popular, is detrimental to cooperation.

Baptists deserve and demand the news. If it is wrong to give them news, then the perpetrators of discord should follow Lewis' advice, and spend their time in the vineyard.

Misguided rhetoric further divides us, when we should be cooperating and reaching out to lost people. We must prepare not only for Muslim witness, but for every major effort that calls us to service. Bold Mission Thrust is the answer — in cooperation, not in division. — WFA

Cambodia remains vulnerable to Khmer Rouge

By Erich Bridges

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (BP) — The Vietnamese army may be gone, but Khmer Rouge guerrillas still lurk in the shadows of Cambodia's jungles and mountains.

Vietnam withdrew its forces from Cambodia in September — delivering on its promise to end a decade of military occupation — despite the collapse of peace talks in Paris aimed at ending the long guerrilla war against Cambodia's Vietnamese-supported government.

Thus began another period of uncertainty for Cambodia's people, who endured genocide, starvation, and despair before the fragile recovery of recent days. The uncertainty also affects those who seek to help Cambodia.

"I don't think we'll know what's going to happen in Cambodia until it's too late to do anything about it," said Fred Kauffman, Indochina development specialist for Cooperative Services International, Southern Baptist aid organization. "How strong is the Khmer Rouge? How much will the people resist?"

Observers see two possible scenarios for Cambodia's future. The best: a political settlement of the conflict and a chance for peace after more than 20 years of killing. The worst: bloody civil war and a return to power of the communist Khmer Rouge. The largest of several Cambodian guerrilla factions, the Khmer Rouge was responsible for the deaths of up to 2 million Cambodians by torture, hunger, and disease during its 1975-79 reign of terror.

Kauffman, now based in neighboring Thailand, recently returned from a survey of CSI medical projects in Cambodia, where he lived from 1981-85. He found Cambodians outwardly calm but not optimistic.

"I think people are nervous," he said. "They're carrying on with their daily activities as normal, but there are some very big questions for the

next six months and the longer-term future. It's going to be a period of testing. People are glad to see the Vietnamese military go; there's no doubt about that. But now it's up to them to resist the Khmer Rouge."

Aid organizations like CSI also will face big questions if guerrillas widen the conflict. For now most guerrilla raids and clashes with government forces remain limited to areas near the Thai-Cambodian border, where non-communist guerrillas claimed several victories after the Vietnamese pullout.

CSI aided Cambodia with emergency rice shipments in the past, but now concentrates on medical and health-care projects initiated by Kauffman's colleague, Marvin Raley, physician and CSI Indochina coordinator. Several of the projects, called RINE (Rehydration, Immunization, Nutrition, and Education) centers, help malnourished children. Medical aid has included:

- Ongoing help for the pediatric ward of the Seventh of January Hospital in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, including construction and equipment, medicine, a laboratory, library, and sanitation. The ward, the second largest pediatric care unit in the country, treats thousands of children.

- Major construction assistance for the new Oreang Ou district health center in Kampong Cham province, long a site of Khmer Rouge activity. Once construction is completed, Kauffman said, "we'll see if there's potential for (Southern Baptist) medical personnel to be involved there."

- Construction materials, equipment and training for the Prey Veng Nursing School in Prey Veng province. The school once trained nurses in an abandoned pagoda; training equipment consisted of a single blackboard. More than 1000 "killing fields" — where the Khmer Rouge murdered victims and left them unburied or in shallow graves — have been found in Prey Veng alone.

CSI hopes to place resident personnel in Cambodia soon to help coordinate assistance projects. "It's very difficult to try to work in Cambodia without living there," acknowledged Kauffman. "Resident representatives could strengthen our programs greatly."

Despite enormous problems, Cambodia has made some progress, he said. The government has abandoned communist collectivization, and farmers can work their own land. More areas like Oreang Ou, site of the new CSI health center, are normally free of guerrilla activity and safe for development, at least for the moment. Basic education — and the demand for it — have spread widely.

"It's much better now than it was during the Khmer Rouge years," Kauffman said. "There's no comparison. It's still a planned, single-party state, but there's real family life. There's real religious life in the Buddhist sector, and at least room for maneuvering for Christians. There's private enterprise and ownership of land. There's more openness to the out-

side world."

What Cambodia needs most is time — the one thing contending forces seem unwilling to give.

"Cambodia is a deeply wounded country," Kauffman said. "It needs time to heal. It needs stability and peace and a little breathing space, but it just doesn't look like it's going to happen. What awaits it is likely more and deeper wounds."

Roaring Fork Church calls W. A. Galyon

Roaring Fork Church, Gatlinburg, recently called W. A. Galyon to serve as full-time pastor.

A native of Sevier County, Galyon most recently served as pastor of Rockford Church, Rockford. During his 35 years in the ministry, he has served in several Tennessee churches. He was director of missions for Sevier County Association from 1977 to 1982.

He was ordained at Zion Hill Church, Sevierville, in 1954.

Galyon and his wife, Dorothy, have three daughters.

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SEBTS faculty, trustees move toward reconciliation

By Marv Knox

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) — Faculty, trustees and administrators at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary took a first step toward reconciliation during an unprecedented workshop Oct. 9-10.

The three groups — engaged in a two-year-old conflict that has threatened the seminary's accreditation — reached a three-part "compromise" offered by outgoing trustee Chairman Robert D. Crowley, a pastor from Rockville, Md.

They agreed to:

- Place a moratorium on election of permanent faculty members until after the board's March meeting.

- Instruct a special faculty/trustee task force to propose a new faculty-selection process, which the trustees are to consider in March.

- Allow President Lewis A. Drummond to maintain his prerogative to appoint temporary faculty as needed during the interim.

Faculty selection dominated discussion during the workshop, which was interwoven into the fall trustee meeting at the Wake Forest, N.C., school.

Disagreement over the faculty-selection process launched the conflict in October 1987. That was when the trustees' new conservative majority changed the way the seminary picks professors — a move faculty and others believed was designed to ensure that only Biblical inerrantists could be hired as professors.

That action reduced the faculty's power to determine faculty candidates, vesting more control with the president and a trustee committee. Then President W. Randall Lolley, most administrators and some faculty subsequently resigned, and Southeastern's two accrediting agencies launched investigations.

The workshop this fall was part of a response to one of those agencies, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Planners said the workshop was designed to get all three parties talking about issues that divide them.

When it was over, participants agreed progress had been made. But faculty noted the process almost was

undermined by four actions trustees took in their meeting.

First, trustees voted that the American Association of University Professors and its chapter at Southeastern Seminary "have no official standing with the seminary." The Southeastern chapter involves all but one full-time professor who were on the faculty prior to Drummond's tenure.

Second, they refused to allow "inclusive language guidelines" drafted by the faculty to be printed in the seminary's catalog, student handbook and directory.

Third, they agreed to consider at their March meeting a proposal that would name the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message Statement as an official seminary document and would require all faculty candidates to affirm the statement prior to election or full-time employment. Current faculty signed the seminary's present doctrinal guidelines, the Articles of Faith — also known as the Abstract of Principles — and would not be required to sign the Baptist Faith and Message.

Fourth, they voted to open the small-group meetings in which faculty and trustees were to discuss seminary issues. At the faculty's request, they later consented to close those meetings, as pre-arranged procedure indicated.

Despite those problems, participants said the time together was valuable.

Robert Cooley, president of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in suburban Boston and the workshop facilitator who was suggested by Southeastern's other accrediting agency, the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, said the workshop ended on a high note.

"Change is accomplished through crisis, revolution or process," Cooley said. "I have seen in this process some movement toward change."

Faculty, trustee and administration representatives came away from the meeting expressing at least guarded optimism.

New trustee Chairman James R. DeLoach, an associate pastor from Houston, said: "In the small-group

meetings, faculty, administration, and trustees had the very first opportunity to sit and face each other and ... speak candidly about agreements and disagreements. ... All of us are looking forward to the ongoing process of continuing this dialogue."

"The main thing accomplished in this workshop is a movement toward participatory governance," said Richard Hester, professor of pastoral ministry and a member of the ad hoc committee that planned the workshop. "Participatory governance would be a different way of going than during the last three years. If participatory governance works — as it did during this workshop — and there are concrete results, then there is hope for our situation."

Added Drummond: "For the first time since my administration, we have had honest, face-to-face, open conver-

sation and an attempt to reach out to faculty and trustees. That's always the first step toward resolving conflict."

Thomas A. Bland, professor of Christian ethics and sociology and a member of the ad hoc committee that planned the workshop, said: "I am encouraged. We have been able to talk. ... We are together at the point of what is best for this seminary. We want it to thrive, not just survive."

Transcripts of trustee, faculty, and administration assessments of the workshop — all delivered during the final session — are to be sent to the Southern Association, along with a cover letter from Drummond describing the meeting and the consensus achieved.

The Southern Association is to meet in early December to determine the status of Southeastern's accreditation, and that decision is expected to be handed down Dec. 12.

SEBTS trustees approve plan

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary's trustees approved and then overturned an "exigency plan" for operating the school if President Lewis A. Drummond becomes incapacitated during his bout with cancer.

Doctors discovered Drummond had a malignant tumor in late August. He has been undergoing chemotherapy and is scheduled to have the tumor removed in early December.

Drummond said he feels well and is optimistic about the future.

Under the "exigency plan," approved by a 14-10 vote, trustee Cecil Rhodes was designated as the seminary's acting chief executive officer "during the time Drummond is undergoing active medical treatment" in the hospital.

The issue arose again when L. Russ Bush III, vice president for academic affairs, asked for clarification.

After further discussion, trustees voted again on the motion and it failed 18-4.

Outgoing Chairman Robert D. Crowley, pastor of Montrose Baptist Church in Rockville, Md., said the three vice presidents — Bush; George Worrell, external affairs; and Paul Fletcher, internal affairs — would

carry on in the possible absence of Drummond, with Bush taking the lead.

In other action, the seminary trustees:

- Elected James R. DeLoach, associate pastor, Second Church, Houston, as chairman, succeeding Crowley. DeLoach won a 15-10 ballot vote over Jack May, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church, Memphis.

- Heard Drummond's president's report, which covered a range of issues related to the seminary.

Drummond said he had hired his "second echelon" of staff to complete the administration. Also, the three faculty members hired this summer — two permanent, elected professors and another temporary, appointed professor — are on campus, and another appointed professor is to arrive in the spring.

Enrollment is a "good news-bad news" situation, he noted. The bad news is that enrollment is down to 650 for the fall semester. That compares to previously reported enrollments of 848 students last fall and 1046 students in the fall of 1987. The good news is that Southeastern led the six Southern Baptist Convention seminaries in the percentage of approved new students who arrived this fall, with 94 percent showing up, he said.

Spanish Baptists name first general secretary

LERIDA, Spain (EBPS) — In a major restructuring of their union, Spanish Baptists have named their first full-time general secretary and have created two new boards for missions and stewardship. The decisions were taken during the 37th annual assembly here last month.

"I believe the historic moment has arrived to restudy and refocus our missions efforts," said Jorge Pastor, chairman of the five-member committee which proposed the changes. Pastor directs the union's camp and conference centre at Denia and is pastor of the Denia Baptist Church.

The new general secretary, elected to a five-year renewable term, is Manuel Sarrias, 41, who has served as secretary of the union on a volunteer basis since 1982. An active member of the First Church, Valencia, since he was 16, Sarrias has held many responsibilities in the church, including those of deacon and treasurer.

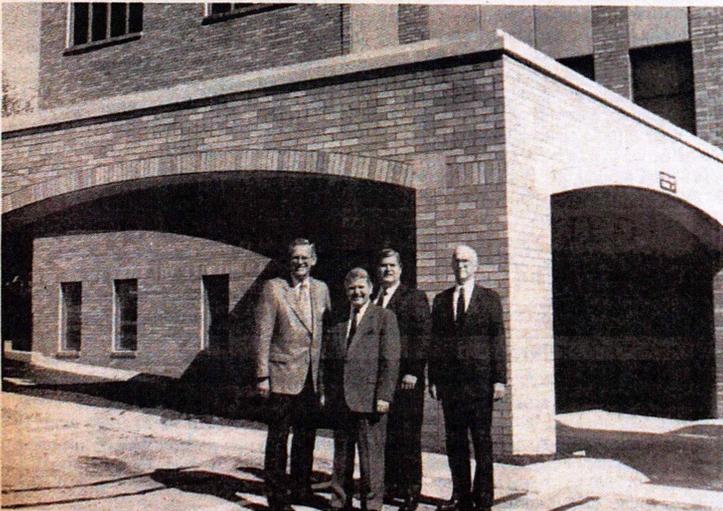
Pastors' meeting set for East Tennessee

The East Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference is scheduled for Nov. 2, at Carson-Newman College.

James Blevins, New Testament professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, will teach 2 Corinthians, the January Bible Study.

Larry Lewis, president of the Home Mission Board, addresses the group at 11:30 on "The Challenge of the Future." After lunch, there will be opportunity for dialogue with Lewis.

Registration is scheduled at 9 a.m. in Gentry Auditorium, according to James E. Robertson, pastor of Sharon Church, Knoxville.



NASHVILLE CHURCH'S NEW ADDITION — Participating in the Oct. 15 dedication service of Woodmont Church's new \$1.5 million preschool/adult education building were, from left, Pastor Bill Sherman; Minister of Education Billy Cooper; Pat Riley, builder, Nashville; and Art Peipmeier, building committee chairman. — Photo by Connie Davis

Golden Gate trustees affirm academic dean

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary's academic dean, criticized by Southern Baptist Sunday School Board trustees for an article which appeared in one of the board publications, was affirmed by the seminary's board of trustees during their regular fall meeting, Oct. 10-11.

Robert L. Cate was criticized by BSSB trustees for an article, "The Development of Monotheism," which ap-

Proposed land sale fails, trustees learn

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary trustees heard a report on development of the seminary's property and approved a loan to cover related costs during their fall meeting Oct. 11-12.

The Mill Valley, Calif., seminary is facing a cumulative budget deficit for a three-year period of more than \$300,000 because of a portion of the Mill Valley campus that was to be bought by a private developer has not sold, trustees were told.

Consequently, the seminary lost \$580,000 in income from potential sale proceeds for the 1989-90 fiscal year, said Gordon Fercho, vice president for business affairs.

"We are hoping the sale will go through before the end of this year but are taking steps in case it doesn't happen," he said.

Seminary staff identified \$635,199 in reductions from the seminary's \$5.6 million budget. Several open positions will remain vacant to help with the shortfall, Fercho explained.

Trustees also approved borrowing almost \$2.1 million to cover costs related to the property development project.

TBC language leadership conference set

"Preparing for the 1990 Evangelist Crusades" is the emphasis for the annual TBC Language Leadership Conference to be held Oct. 20-21 at the Baptist Center in Brentwood.

This year's theme is the same as the crusades: "Here's Hope — Jesus Cares For You."

The conference will begin at 1 p.m. on Friday and close with lunch on Saturday.

Pastors and lay persons who work in language missions ministries and in In-

teared in the Biblical Illustrator, a Sunday School teacher's magazine.

The article was published without any substantive changes, following an examination by the board's doctrinal reader, seminary President William O. Crews said. Cate was requested to "survey the development of Israel's belief in one supreme God in the midst of cultures which practiced pan-theology," Crews added.

Golden Gate trustees approved a motion, with two dissenting votes, which affirmed Cate, saying the article did not violate the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message statement. Trustees noted that Cate had reaffirmed that the Bible has "truth without any mixture of error for its matter," a key phrase in the statement of faith.

The two dissenting trustees opposed the motion because they felt board trustees were unfair and that the criticism of Cate was inappropriate. Saying the Sunday School Board trustees "owe us an apology," Carolyn Self of Atlanta and Norman Taylor of Silver Spring, Md., asked to have their dissenting votes recorded in the minutes.

During an August board meeting in Glorietta, N.M., the Sunday School Board adopted without opposition a recommendation that trustees

Hillcrest Church calls Glenn Denton

Hillcrest Church, Lebanon, called Glenn Denton as full-time pastor, effective Aug. 20.

Denton was most recently pastor of Oakley Church, New Market, Ala. He has been pastor of other churches in Tennessee and Florida, and was a full-time evangelist.

Denton and his wife, Patricia, have two daughters.

ternational Friends ministries are invited to attend.

D. L. Lowrie, TBC executive director, will be the featured program personality. He will lead two Bible studies on evangelism and bring the message during the worship time.

There is no charge for the conference. The TBC Missions Department will pay lodging, food, and travel expenses for those who attend. Interested persons may register by contacting James Redding in the TBC Missions Department at (615) 371-2032.

Funnyside up

Little Freddie was telling all, as he was discussing his new teacher. "She's mean, but she's fair," he said.

"How's that?" asked his mother. "She's mean to everyone," he replied.

Visitor: "Are your father and mother in?"

Child: "They was in but they is out."

Visitor: "Where's your grammar?"

Child: "She's upstairs."

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

"disagree with the article because it is inconsistent with the Biblical revelation; and we recommend that as soon as possible a new article reflecting the Biblical view of monotheism be printed in the Biblical Illustrator."

In presenting the motion to seminary trustees, Dick Lincoln of Columbia, S.C., said, "We needed to act, especially because of what the Sunday School Board (trustees) did." Recognizing the article was controversial and difficult for all concerned, Lincoln said he hoped the motion was something seminary trustees could "live with."

Robert Lewis, trustee from Fairfield, Calif., said he did receive some letters

of protest over the article and although he personally disagreed with Cate's interpretation, he felt the motion by trustees was "a good statement."

"I don't feel he has violated any principles of Scripture ... (Cate) is a great man of God and I love him. Let's put it behind us," Lewis said.

Commenting on the board's action, Crews said, "I believe our board took a firm position by affirming (Cate) as an individual, a Christian educator and a brother, while at the same time acknowledging obvious disagreements in individual interpretation."

When contacted by Baptist Press, Cate declined to comment.



A QUEBECK WELCOME — Pastor Dan Horton recently welcomed officers of the Union Association to Quebec Church which hosted the annual meeting. From left, Horton; Ray Maynard, director of missions; Betty Geer, secretary, Union Association, clerk; Kerry High, pastor, Pistole Church, Sparta, assistant moderator; and Doug Benningfield, pastor, Hickory Valley Church, Sparta, moderator. — Photo by Lonnie Wilkey

Our Readers Write

Appreciation from S.C.

Thousands of South Carolinians have been touched by Tennessee Baptists' generosity and missions efforts during our recovery from the ravages of Hurricane Hugo. The prompt response to our request for assistance from your Mass Feeding Units allowed the practical application of God's love to be evident to people who were hungry and hurting.

More than 300,000 meals were prepared by 14 Brotherhood feeding units from 11 states. The witness of Southern Baptists in this state will be enhanced for years to come because of this response.

We continue to hear words of deepest appreciation from the people of Macedonia, where your units were located. I wanted to pass on these expressions of appreciation and to add those of our convention and staff.

Thank you for helping us in our time of need. Your efforts remind us of how appreciative we are to be a part of cooperation among our Baptist brothers and sisters in sharing God's love with every person on the earth.

Ray P. Rust
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
South Carolina Baptist Convention
907 Richland Street
Columbia, S.C. 29201

BHEP has banquet

Baptist Homes for Exceptional Persons, Inc. (BHEP), is a private nonprofit organization dedicated to developing a network of Christian group homes for mentally handicapped persons. When TBC voted in 1986 to create a group home ministry, BHEP committed its organizational efforts to securing group homes and, when debt-free, giving them to TBC through Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes.

BHEP has secured its first group home

in Lebanon, Tennessee. Dr. J. L. Ford, executive director of TBAH, has been of great help to BHEP in getting this first home.

Details about the first group home will be given at the 4th annual BHEP banquet at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 2 at Two Rivers Church, Nashville.

"The Miracles," an outstanding group of mentally handicapped singers from Baddour Memorial Center, Senatobia, Miss., will provide special entertainment. H. Franklin Paschall, former pastor of First Church, Nashville, will speak.

Many Tennessee Baptists are interested in this ministry because they know families with a mentally handicapped member. For those who want to attend this banquet complimentary tickets are available by contacting Two Rivers Church, Nashville, phone 889-3950.

A new day dawns in the ministry history of Tennessee Baptists!

Joy Nabi, president
BHEP
Nashville

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.

Pulpit TEARS with Bro. BLOTT



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FMB elects executive vice president; cites advances

By Robert O'Brien

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Trustees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board elected an executive vice president, discussed a proposal to purchase school property in Belgium and commended Southern Baptist churches, pastors, and missionaries for outstanding results.

In other action at their Oct. 11 meeting, trustees voted a \$174.9 million budget for 1990, appointed 38 new missionaries, honored 72 retiring missionaries, heard reports of world evangelism efforts, and listened to a note of caution on a downward trend in missionary appointments.

Donald R. Kammerdiener, vice president for mission work in the

Southwestern trustees hold October meeting

Trustees of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary met Monday and Tuesday in Fort Worth.

At press time Monday night, the Baptist and Reflector had no news from the meeting. Trustee Chairman Kenneth Lilly had called for an executive session on Tuesday (Oct. 17) for a discussion of seminary President Russell Dilday's alleged SBC political activity.

Several sources indicated there could be an effort to fire Dilday.

An Atlanta law firm had notified Baptist Press and state papers of a letter it had mailed to all Southwestern trustees on behalf of some Southern Baptist clients. The letter made note of the trustees' executive session where Dilday was to be discussed, and the clients' concerns about it.

A report on the trustees' meeting will be carried next week.

Americas, was unanimously elected executive vice president-elect to succeed William R. O'Brien. O'Brien asked to be relieved of the executive vice presidency when his wife, Dellana O'Brien, was named executive director of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union. O'Brien, who will work out of Birmingham, Ala., will become a top special assistant to board President R. Keith Parks Jan. 1.

Parks said the executive vice president's role will expand in January to include direction of the board's day-to-day operations to free the president to concentrate on broad mission policy, world mission strategy, and planning. Kammerdiener, a 27-year foreign missions veteran, also will represent Parks in his absence.

The budget, which will support some 3800 missionaries in 116 countries, represents a \$7.2 million increase over 1989 — built on rising revenues from Southern Baptists' annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions.

While an upturn in Lottie Moon giving has brightened budget prospects, missionary appointment statistics emphasize "a bright amber caution light" for the years ahead, said Harlan Spurgeon, vice president for mission personnel.

Spurgeon urged trustees to join in an effort to turn around what could develop into a serious downward trend in missionary appointments. The number of missionaries appointed annually has declined by an average of 4.6 percent during each of the past three years. If that trend continues, Southern Baptists will fall short of their Bold Mission Thrust global evangelism campaign goal to have 5000

missionaries working on the field in the year 2000, he warned.

This year the board expects to assign about 310 new missionaries, down 61 from 1988, he said, noting that the board could end this year with a net loss of missionaries for the first time since 1972. Last year's net gain of 28 was the smallest recorded so far in this decade.

The resolution commending churches, pastors, and missionaries cited great advancements in the 1980s in giving, missionary appointments, volunteer service, baptisms, and church starts. Trustees reaffirmed efforts "to share the Gospel with a lost world" and encouraged Southern Baptists "to increase their support for missions through praying, giving, and responding to the call of God to take the Gospel into all the world."

Trustees voted to study the pros and cons of purchasing property now occupied by the Belgian Center for Biblical Education near Brussels, Belgium. The action grew out of a motion by trustee Ron Wilson of Thousand Oaks, Calif., who said the property could be used for evangelistic impact in Europe.

Paige Patterson, president of Criswell College in Dallas, said in June that he had ended efforts to buy the financially troubled evangelical school in Belgium following months of negotiations with the school's trustees. He said he did so because of difficulty in raising a reported \$5 million to purchase the school and endow its future operation.

Discussion of Wilson's proposal will be held at the trustees' December meeting by the committee responsible for mission work in Europe, with other appropriate trustees and staff members participating.

Parks and Isam Ballenger, vice president for work in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, objected to the approach in handling the matter because they said it bypasses longstan-

ding policy and may create divisiveness overseas. Parks said such action should originate from strategies on the field rather than on the floor of a trustee meeting. "If we explore it this way, we will leave the impression around the world that we have decided to determine unilaterally what we will do about properties and institutions," Parks said.

But FMB trustee Chairman Mark Corts said the December meeting would not result in a final decision but would simply begin a process of hearing facts and gathering information, including input from overseas.

The board also heard plans for major city evangelistic efforts in two strategic world cities, Buenos Aires in Argentina and Hong Kong. Kammerdiener outlined a five-year plan for Buenos Aires, where missionaries will work with Argentine Baptists in seeking to establish 600 home Bible studies and 50 new missions, with a goal of five of these becoming fully self-supporting churches during the emphasis.

Bill Wakefield, vice president for work in Asia, told of missionary plans to work with Hong Kong Baptists in stimulating growth from a present level of 38,000 Baptists in 80 churches to 100,000 members in 500 churches. With Hong Kong returning to Chinese rule in 1997, Wakefield emphasized, the three-year effort is strategically important. This kind of growth is not possible by human efforts, he said, and he challenged trustees to pray that it can be accomplished through the "power of God."

One Word More

By Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

When the Southern Baptist Convention met 123 years ago, the 251 men who attended as "delegates" constituted a very small minority of the population of the United States.

They met in Russellville, Kentucky, May 22-26, and more than 100 participants were from the host state. Travel was difficult, expensive.

They faced problems, those Southern Baptists. The debilitating war between the states had ended just a few months earlier. The convention was only 21 years old — and had not met for three years. R. B. C. Howell of Nashville, former editor of the Baptist, was one of five from Tennessee.

That these Baptists came together at such a time and with great personal sacrifice no doubt proves their common bond in service to God and man.

Largely they came from states where the brunt of Northern military might strike hard, and where the terms Yankee, northerner, carpet-bagger, and scallawag were despicable and synonymous terms.

These Baptists were ready to bury grievances and to seek earnestly to heal wounds. I believe this because the convention annual of 1866 reveals no malice among the brethren. I have a copy of the proceedings.

The sessions seemed to carry a theme of reconciliation and Christian love.

In a war which took more lives than almost all wars, a heritage of bitterness and tragedy was the victor. But war did change our nation. Slavery was ended. Part of Southern life was altered.

No more could a state deign to secede from the Union. The defeat was felt keenly in Southern states. Baptists were among those who knew deep and bitter loss.

But at Russellville, some steps were taken to harness the boundless courage and Christian compassion of Southern Baptists and ride hard on the paths of lands far and wide where Jesus Christ had not been preached.

Now we cooperate with missions and evangelism, at home and abroad. And there is similar opportunity for Southern Baptists to shed hostile and quibbling actions, and to come to grips with what we can do for Jesus Christ. In other words, wounds which we have inflicted on each other in an uncivil war beg for healing. Hearts hunger for the Gospel.

Can we recapture the spirit of Russellville?



ALLEN

Florida Baptist . . .

(Continued from page 1) on an abortion-related issue.

"Back home the people expected us to take a vote," said W. D. Childers, a Democrat and layman from Pensacola. "This is going to be interpreted as a symbolic vote on this session . . . either pro-choice or pro-life."

One opponent of the motion offered a substitute that would have appointed a committee to investigate the need for stricter regulations, while allowing senators to avoid a vote on Langley's motion. "If you don't want to vote on this, you can go to the restroom or something," Langley argued.

The substitute was withdrawn when lawmakers learned it too would require a two-thirds vote. Senators then voted on Langley's motion, which gained 22 of 18 votes but fell five votes short of the needed two-thirds. The motion to form an investigation committee then was reintroduced and approved without opposition.

The Senate quickly adjourned. The House then reconvened and adjourned within five minutes, bringing an end to pro-lifers' hopes that Florida would be the first state to tighten abortion laws after the U.S. Supreme Court's Webster decision opened the door.

Exercise, fellowship set for TBC meeting

Everyone wins at the Second Annual Tennessee Baptist Joggers' Jubilee.

That's the motto of the Baptist and Reflector staff in planning a "fellowship in exercise" for interested Baptists who attend the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Knoxville next month.

The convention will be held at Central Church, Bearden, Knoxville, Nov. 14-16. The runners' jubilee is slated for 6:30 a.m. Nov. 15 in the upper west parking lot at Central Bearden Church.

According to Wm. Fletcher Allen, Baptist and Reflector editor, there will be a chartered course of up to three miles for walking or running, with shorter distances also marked.

Everyone is encouraged to "move at a personal pace," he said, the event is not a race. Prizes will be awarded to all participants — but not on the basis of competition.

There are shower facilities at the church.

Participants should register with the Baptist and Reflector by Oct. 23. A special T-shirt is available for \$8.00. Checks should be payable to Lonnie Wilkey, earmarked for the TBJJ.

Purchase of a shirt is not necessary for participating. Registration in advance is required for those who want shirts.

AIDS crisis demands love, education experts say

By Linda Lawson

NASHVILLE (BP) — The growing AIDS crisis in the United States presents a challenge to Southern Baptist churches to provide information, equip people for ministry and reach out to hurting people with God's love, according to participants in a two-hour teleconference, "AIDS: Crisis for Church and Family," broadcast live Oct. 8 on the Baptist Telecommunication Network.

The teleconference featured 15 resource people and was jointly sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention Christian Life Commission, Home Mission Board, Woman's Missionary Union, and the family ministry, church administration, discipleship training, and student ministry departments of the Sunday School Board.

More than 100,000 people in the United States have been diagnosed with AIDS, and more than 50,000 have died, participants said. Also, more than one million Americans are infected with the HIV virus and are at risk for contracting AIDS. There is no medical evidence that people get AIDS from casual contact. AIDS is transmitted almost exclusively through in-

travenous drug use, through homosexual or heterosexual intercourse with an infected partner or through a transfusion of contaminated blood.

Despite these facts and an increasing level of awareness about AIDS, "there is still fear about AIDS and a lot of misinformation," said Fred Loper, medical consultant for the Home Mission Board.

Rick Goodgame, a Southern Baptist medical missionary who most recently served in Uganda, said tests were done in that country where people with AIDS were living in homes with 25-30 family members, and only the person with AIDS and that person's sexual partner were infected. "There is good evidence even in situations of poor sanitation and close contact that the AIDS virus is a hard virus to catch," he said.

Education and preparation are needed in developing church policies for preschool care before problems or fears arise, said Mary Holyfield, a member of the Baptist Nursing Fellowship from Jackson, Miss.

"If churches have policies for handling babies so there is no transmission of diarrheal disease or hepatitis A or even respiratory disease, then there is no possibility of the transmission of AIDS," said Goodgame. "All of these other diseases are easily transmitted. If there are barriers to those diseases, then AIDS can't be transmitted."

Morlee Maynard, program and research coordinator in the Sunday School Board's family ministry department, said to prevent the spread of any infectious disease, preschool workers should wash their hands and children's toys with a mixture of one part bleach and ten parts water. Also, some workers recommend the use of plastic gloves to avoid passing infections from worker to child or vice versa.

In another area, participants agreed teenagers are the age group at highest risk to become involved in activities that could lead to AIDS and that counseling condom use for so-called safe sex is inadequate.

"It seems to me that recommending safe sex — which basically means recommending condom use among teenagers — is filled with great danger," said Richard Ross, youth ministry consultant in the Sunday School Board's church administration department. "About all it would take for a teenager to cross over that line (into promiscuity) would be a new belief that church leaders and even parents have given up on them. ... God has the only plan for safe sex, and that is sex within marriage. This may be a time churches can say this better to a society more ready to hear it."

Youth already involved in sexually promiscuous activities should be helped through Christian counseling, said Ross.

A preventive approach through education with pre-teens and teenagers about the issue of sexuality was advocated by Larry Braidfoot, general counsel for the Christian Life Commission.

"AIDS is forcing us more than ever to find ways to get comfortable with the need to talk about Christian sex education," said Braidfoot.

Joe Stacker, director of the SSB church administration department, said, "Churches are going to have to face the AIDS issue. It will be a high-risk issue" with the potential for division within a congregation regarding redemptive ministry to people with

AIDS and with their family members. Churches that minister to people with AIDS may be charged with being 'soft on sin,' warned Roy Edgemon, director of the SSB discipleship training department. "However, we must do what Jesus would do, and certainly He would reach out and touch people with His love."

For the future, participants agreed that providing information about AIDS and developing ministries with AIDS patients and family members must be a priority.

A videotape of the teleconference may be purchased for \$49.95 by calling the Sunday School Board's toll-free order number, 1-800-458-BSSB.

The Christian Life Commission on Nov. 1 will release four pamphlets — AIDS: the Disease, People with AIDS, AIDS: Biblical Insights, and Ministry to People with AIDS. Copies of the set may be obtained by sending one dollar and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the commission, P.O. Box 25266, Nashville, TN 37202-5266.

A national conference on AIDS ministry will be held Feb. 12-13, 1990, in Nashville. Program information is available by writing to the above address.

A book, AIDS: A Christian Response by William M. Tillman Jr., will be released in April 1990 by the Sunday School Board's discipleship training and family ministry departments.

Carson-Newman holds missions emphasis week

Carson-Newman College's Missions Emphasis Week, Oct. 24-26, will feature special chapel services led by missionaries, international displays, and exhibits, and a C-N fast day, where students can give up meals in the cafeteria and donate the money for world hunger.

Guest speakers for the week include former missionaries Kenneth Glenn and Cathy Payne, journeymen George and Terri Husk, and Bob Bell, pastor of Westwood Church, Cleveland. All chapel services will be held at First Church, Jefferson City.

The public is invited to attend the events of Missions Emphasis Week. For more information, contact the campus ministries office at (615) 475-9061 (ext. 343).

Enrollment up in Tennessee Baptist schools

Overall enrollment is up again this year for the fall semester at Tennessee's three Baptist Colleges.

Union University again has the largest enrollment in its history with 2211 students, including 480 at the Baptist Memorial Hospital satellite campus in Memphis. This is a 9.5 percent increase over last year's total enrollment of 2017. Union has 1820 full-time students.

The average ACT score for the freshman class of 473 students is 20.41. School officials reported that 73 percent of students are Baptist and 58.4 percent are Tennessee Baptists.

Belmont College also reported the largest enrollment in its history. Figures reflected a 2.9 percent increase for full-time students over last year's full-time enrollment figures.

Belmont's full-time enrollment is 2116 this fall and total enrollment is 2700, compared to last year's total of 2688.

The average ACT score of entering freshman climbed to 21.3.

Belmont is the second largest private college or university in Tennessee, with 45 states and 43 countries represented in the student body. Enrollment has doubled in the past ten years.

Carson-Newman College topped its enrollment record for the third consecutive year with a total of 2016 students, 1742 of which are full time.

The average ACT score is 19.6, with 292 Presidential Scholars with an ACT score of 28 or higher.

More than 70 percent of Carson-Newman's students are Baptist.

TeamTalk

By D. L. Lowrie

Jesus is still feeding the multitudes. This time He used Baptist laymen under the direction of Cameron Byler, director of Tennessee Brotherhood. In 14 days they fed 54,063 meals. At the same time they saw 11 persons receive Christ as Savior. They also met many other needs in the area devastated in South Carolina.

You can depend on God's people to do the right thing. Many trucks loaded with food and supplies have crossed the mountain to South Carolina. Others have gone with their tools and saws to help with the emergency needs. Others have sent money that found its way into the ministry of South Carolina Baptists. This is the way it ought to be.

Your giving through the Golden State Missions Offering and the Cooperative Program has helped with all this. You

bought the trucks and equipment. You trained the leaders that led the way. Thanks for what you have done.

Let me commend those of you who have responded to this need through your churches and Baptist state convention! When you do it this way, the Lord gets all of the glory. Also, you can be sure that every dime gets to the proper destination.

All of this makes me proud to be a part of the people of God. One leader of the relief operation reported that they could not have made it if it had not been for the response of Southern Baptists. Let's put it on the front page, Jesus is still working through His people to minister.

There will be other opportunities for you to help in South Carolina. Our brothers there have been hit hard, and we must not forget them. Your church may want to take a work crew later to be a part of this effort.

Jesus is still ministering! Today we are His hands and His feet. Is it not a privilege to be so identified with Him?



LOWRIE



OFFICERS ELECTED — Stone association recently held its annual meeting at Cedar Hill Church in Baxter. New officers are, from left, Russell Platt, pastor, First Church, Gainesboro, moderator; Michael Prowse, director of missions; Anna Lee Wiles, Silver Point Church, Silver Point, clerk; and Jim McAfee, pastor, Cedar Hill Church, vice moderator.

— Photo by Lonnie Wilkey

Habitat house

Second Church builds home for Memphis family

MEMPHIS — If you turn right off Poplar Avenue in downtown Memphis onto Dunlap Street, go three blocks and then turn right on Lane, you run into Manassas Street.

There on the corner, surrounded by vacant lots and tumble-down buildings, stands the new home of David and Angela Anthony and their two children.

The house, a Habitat for Humanity project, was built in a week's time with most of the labor furnished by members of Second Church, Memphis.

The idea for such a project developed last fall shortly after Roger Lovette became the new pastor of the Memphis congregation.

He recalled he was sitting in a local restaurant with a group of men from the church discussing things the church might become involved with.

"Wouldn't it be wonderful if our church could build a house for some needy Memphis family?" Lovette remembered asking the group.

In the process of learning a new church family, however, Lovette forgot that conversation.

But, Joel Smith, a deacon at Second Church who was one of the men around that table, did not forget.

Last spring, Lovette had to miss a deacons' meeting. When he returned he received a call from deacon chairman Joe Skelton.

Skelton told Lovette that Smith had challenged the church to build a Habitat for Humanity house with the Pickering Firm of Memphis. Smith's father, Don, also a member of the church, is president of that firm.

Habitat is a non-profit Christian organization dedicated to providing affordable housing for the poor. The Georgia-based group, which has an office in Memphis, selects a family to receive the house.

Lovette noted the family repays the



HELPING HANDS — Volunteers from Second Church, Memphis, and others in the community work to build a Habitat for Humanity house for a Memphis family.

cost of the house through an interest-free mortgage. Those payments are channeled back into the Habitat program to construct other houses, he noted.

The Pickering Firm pledged to raise the funds needed to construct the house for the Anthonys and wanted Second Church to supply volunteer labor.

Lovette noted the Smiths spent countless hours raising the \$35,000 needed for construction. In addition, the church had a garage sale and raised \$3375.

The church's youth began clearing off the lot in mid-summer and work began early this fall. More than 200 volunteers were recruited from the church family for various aspects of the work.

A 79-year-old new member worked all day before he was scheduled to leave for vacation. Other members took vacation days to work on the house during the week of Sept. 18-22.

The project officially began Sept. 9 with a nail-driving ceremony. Lovette said "we drive these nails today

because we believe in the challenge of the Scriptures:

"If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead," (James 15-17 RSV).

In addition to volunteers from the church, Don Smith enlisted help from the city.

He contacted Judge William Ray Ingram of General Sessions Court who agreed to let those in his Alternative Sentencing Program work off their fines by working on the house if they chose to do so. About 23 people convicted of misdemeanors volunteered their time.

On Sept. 18 the walls began to go up. Two days later the siding was on, the drywall was complete, the driveway was poured, and kitchen cabinets were hung.

Mrs. Anthony expressed her gratitude. "This is the first time my children will ever live in a real house.



FINISHED PRODUCT — In only a week's time, this house on the corner of Manassas Street in Memphis, was built, mostly with volunteer labor provided by Second Church, Memphis.

"We've only lived in apartments before this," she said.

On Sept. 23, after the building was finished, approximately 100 people gathered on Manassas Street. Many had tears in their eyes, Lovette said.

Probably nobody in the crowd was as proud as Joel Smith, Lovette said, noting the 31-year-old businessman had taken the challenge and followed through.

Lovette predicted that Manassas Street will never be quite the same again nor will the Anthony family.

"For the first time in their lives they will live in their own home because a group of Christians in Memphis took seriously the message from the book of James one week in September," he said.

Lovette added that the project was a "wonderful experience" for the church and that the church already is considering building another house next spring.

Twenty-four SBC churches report more than 300 baptisms

ATLANTA (BP) — Twenty-four Southern Baptist churches reported more than 300 baptisms in 1988, a net gain of one from the previous year, according to figures released by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. Bellevue of Memphis was fifth with 640.

Although one additional church was on the 1988 list, the average church in the group baptized fewer individuals.

HMB offers toll-free number for assistance on abortion alternatives

ATLANTA (BP) — The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board has established a toll-free number for churches and individuals to call for assistance in offering abortion alternatives in their communities.

The toll-free number, 1-800-962-0851, went into operation October 1.

Sylvia Boothe, coordinator of alternatives to abortion ministries for the Home Mission Board, said the new service is directed to churches and individuals who are concerned about abortion but do not know what to do or what resources are available.

Pregnant females who are struggling with the abortion question can also call the toll-free number, Boothe said. "We want to refer them to local churches

The 23 churches in 1987 reported 11,458 total baptisms, while the 24 in 1988 reported 11,546, or a net increase of 88. The average per church dipped from 498 to 481.

Phil Jones, a director in the board's research division, based the report on information compiled from the Southern Baptist 1988 Uniform Church Letter statistical survey.

Five churches that were on the 1987

and contact persons for counseling, rather than trying to do the counseling on the telephone. Our experience is that counseling is best done on the local level where the resources of a local church can be made available."

Boothe is developing a computerized data base listing available resources nationwide for alternatives to abortion. When the data base is complete, people who call the toll free number can be referred to local resources they might not otherwise know about.

The toll-free number also will enable churches and individuals interested in establishing a crisis pregnancy center to seek assistance from the Home Mission Board in setting up such centers, Boothe added.

roster did not make it on the 1988 list, but six newcomers made the ranks of churches with the highest number of baptisms in the denomination, Jones said.

The top five churches were the same as the previous year, but only one — Bellevue in Memphis, in fifth place — reported an increase.

Leading the list was North Phoenix Church, Phoenix, Ariz., which again reported the most baptisms in the denomination with 1118, down from 1206. Richard Jackson is pastor of the congregation.

Second was First Church, Jackson-

ville, Fla., where current SBC President Jerry Vines is pastor. The Florida congregation reported 915 baptisms, down from 950.

Remaining churches in the top five, and their current and previous years' baptisms, are First, Dallas, 683 (919); Second, Houston, 655 (701); and Bellevue, 640 (622).

With the exception of the Arizona congregation, 19 of the 24 top churches are from the Bible Belt, where Southern Baptists are deeply rooted, Jones said. The top-ranking states were Texas with eight churches, Florida, six, and Georgia, five.

Training meetings set for Tennessee churches

Unlock your potential by attending the Discipleship Training Fall Planning and Church Stewardship Committee Training meeting, which will begin in October and continue through November.

Dates and churches follow:

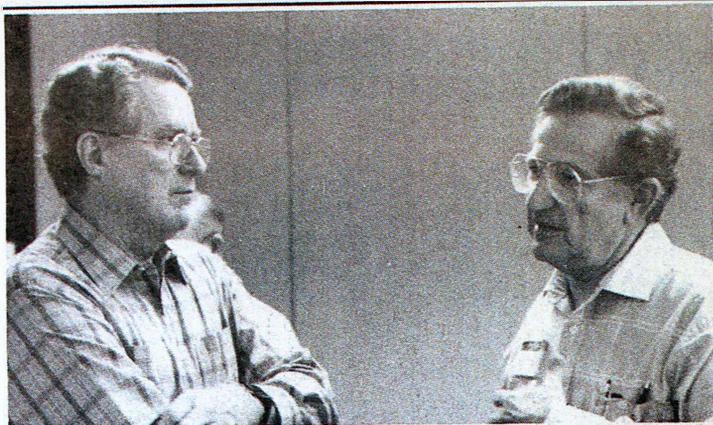
Oct. 23 — Highland Heights Church, Memphis; Oct. 24 — First Church, Paris; Oct. 26 — First Church, Shelbyville; Oct. 27 — Judson Church, Nashville; Oct. 30 — First Church, Cookeville; Oct. 31 — East Ridge Church, Chattanooga; Nov. 2 — Manley Church, Morristown; and

Nov. 3 — First Church, Kingston.

Associational leaders and/or local church leaders will attend meetings at 7 p.m. General officers, youth Bible drill and speakers' tournament leaders, and children's Bible drill leaders will meet at 8 p.m.

Church/associational stewardship committees, budget and finance committees, and church treasurers will meet 7-9 p.m.

For information on specific meetings contact the TBC's Discipleship Training department at (615) 371-2053.



VISITING WITH SPEAKER — Featured speaker John Sims, left, gets to know James Ebersole, who served as chaplain at St. Joseph's Hospital in Memphis.

By Connie Davis, assistant editor
PIKEVILLE — Those who have therapeutic ministries need therapy, was advice heard by Tennessee Baptist chaplains attending the annual chaplains' retreat. And the experience Oct. 5-6 at Fall Creek Falls State Park near Pikeville was therapeutic for many of the 62 chaplains and spouses who attended.

MUSICAL WORSHIP — Susan Callaway, Memphis, led several worship experiences with her husband, Chaplain Richard Callaway.



The retreat, sponsored by the Tennessee Baptist Convention and Home Mission Board for HMB-endorsed chaplains, featured John Sims, director, department of pastoral care and counseling, Baptist Medical Center Princeton, Birmingham, Ala.

Sims shared professional and personal experiences with an emphasis on the personal — depression while a seminary student, trauma after cancer surgery, marital counseling, and retreat in a monastery.

A former church staff member and music professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Sims also was a fellow in religion and psychiatry at The Menninger Foundation, Topeka, Kan.

In the first of three sessions, Sims reminded the chaplains that they need to experience God and encouraged the use of meditation or guided imagery although some people resist it because they relate it to hypnosis.

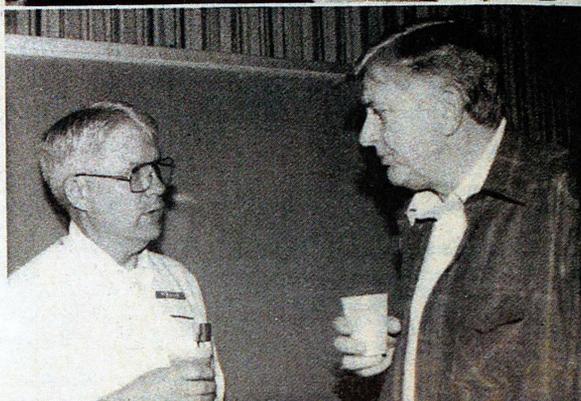
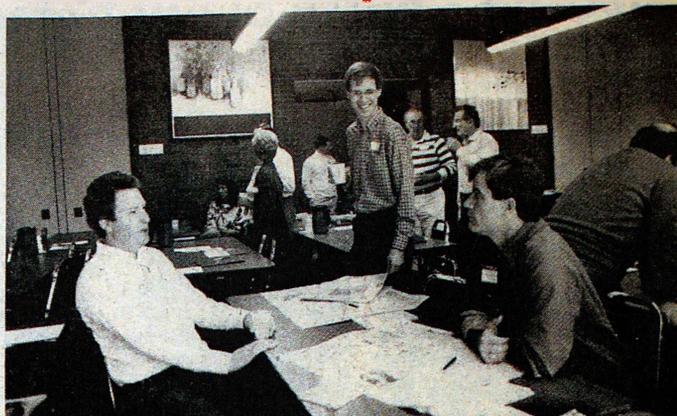
"What if spiritual means the deepest meaning of every experience of life?"

Sims asked the chaplains to be bold in their work but to remember the danger of removing people's defenses.

He suggested in another session that two ideas exist related to finding God's will: seek God first in everything and seek personal fulfillment which completes God's will.

Many would claim the second is "heretical, absurd, and disrespectful," said Sims, but he related it to his ex-

Tennessee chaplains retreat



Photos by Connie Davis

RETREATING — Tennessee chaplains, photo at top, from left, Richard Callaway, Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, and Claude Huguley and John Morris, both of Baptist Hospital, Nashville, visit, as does Ken Cook, photo above, from left, Moccasin Bend Mental Health Institute, Chattanooga; and Deryl Watson, army reserve chaplain and director of missions, Hardeman County Association.

perience as a father of three sons. He noted that he "indoctrinated" them but had "less and less influence over them every year that went by."

He believes both philosophies, he added, which allows "a wonderful freedom ... where God doesn't just make us bite the bullet."

Sims related his change in attitude toward pastors when he was encouraged by the Birmingham hospital to provide counseling and training for area pastors.

"I was insecure about my acceptance among pastors. You know, they

say, 'Chaplains are not for real, they're mavericks, unstable; look at how many of them get divorced.'"

Sims encouraged the chaplains to emphasize with pastors, who need counselors.

"You have some skills that many pastors don't have," he stated.

One of his few directives to the chaplains was clear.

"Anybody in here that gives therapy ought to be in therapy not because you're crazy but because you're human and you deal with other people's lives," stated Sims.

Military chaplains in Korea visited by HMB president

By Jim Burton

SEOUL, Korea (BP) — Southern Baptist military chaplains are a mighty missionary force and a vital part of the denomination's Home Mission Board's evangelism/missions strategy, board President Larry Lewis told chaplains in Korea.

"You are in places that no missionary can go," Lewis told ten Southern Baptist chaplains, including Tennessean Barry W. Presley of Brownsville, during a speaking tour in Korea.

"You are touching the lives of people no pastor can reach. You, by the grace of God, have been scattered around the world ... positioned to be a vital part of Southern Baptists' effort to share Christ with every person."

At a luncheon for chaplains hosted by South Korean businessman Choi Soon-Young, Lewis challenged them to focus their ministry on redemptive grace and on ministries to the critical family problems faced by military

personnel.

"The best way in the world that I know to reach people for God is to minister to their needs," said Lewis. "We exist as Jesus did to feed the hungry, heal the sick, cleanse the leper."

Air Force Col. Bruce Coltharp said Lewis' visit with military chaplains serving in Korea helped affirm their ministry. "For Dr. Lewis to do this is very meaningful," said Coltharp, a Baytown, Texas, native and the highest ranking Southern Baptist chaplain in Korea. It was a "shot in the arm" for the Home Mission Board president to "indicate an interest in us," he added.

Coltharp, who has served in four overseas assignments, said the military chaplains in Korea minister to young airmen suffering from loneliness and discouragement. Many fill that void through marriage to Koreans.

He estimated that about 65 percent of single men in the Air Force will



TENNESSEE CHAPLAIN — SBC Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis (left), expresses appreciation to Chaplain Barry W. Presley of Brownsville, for his ministry as an Air Force chaplain in Korea.

marry before they leave Korea, and 85 percent of those marriages will last less than five years.

Army Capt. Ron Thomas of Huntsville, Ark., has served in Korea three months. He also focuses his ministry on families and on personal problems servicemen face. Thomas said many of the servicemen seek escape by going to a place off post which he described as a virtual "Sodom and Gomorrah."

Most of these young men do not really know who they are as a person, he said. "I try to interject that they are still incomplete without Christ. I can counsel with them so far. Then I've got to share Christ with them. He is the real answer."

Southern Baptist military chaplains are employed by the military following endorsement by Home Mission Board's chaplains commission. Currently, more than 1000 Southern Baptist military chaplains serve worldwide.

"We estimate that if we had to pay the salaries of these chaplains it would cost over \$70 million a year for this great group of missionaries," said Lewis.

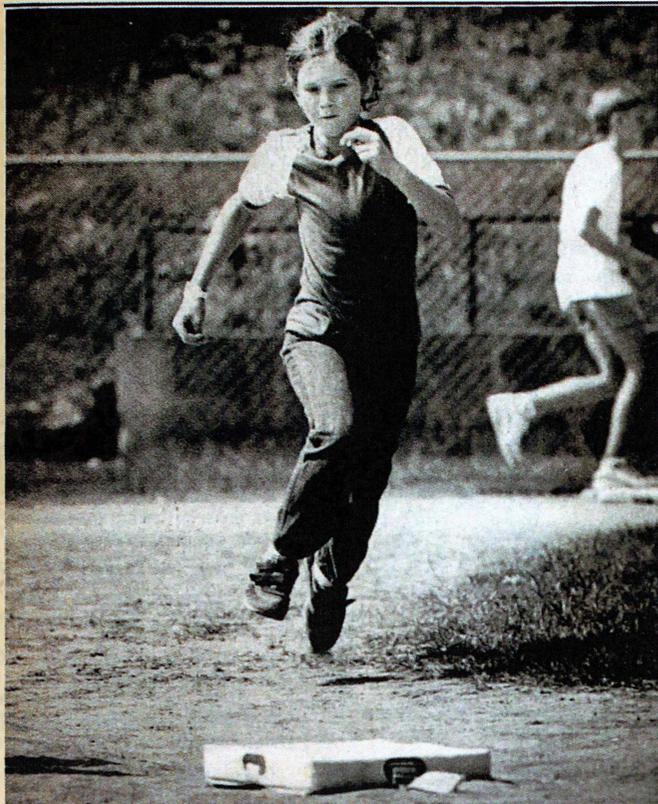
Church recreation — useful for outreach?

'Having a facility doesn't mean you have a country club . . .'

' . . . more a ministry to the congregation . . . '

' . . . it's an alternative to being on the streets.'

' . . . takes more time than it's worth.'



— Photo by Jim Veneman

By Connie Davis, assistant editor

The 1980s might be known as the age of fitness for Americans.

During the past decade Americans have begun jogging, walking, or participating in some regular exercise regimen. A 1987 Gallup Poll reported 69 percent of adults exercise regularly.

Churches are not only offering sports activities, but health and recreation programs in multi-million dollar facilities directed by ministers of recreation.

Where should the church draw the line so as not to become a "country club" or social service agency?

About 16 percent of Tennessee churches have full- or part-time recreation directors, a higher than expected figure, since only 12.8 percent of the state's churches report more than 500 members.

A poll of 11 of the 68 directors of missions (DOMs) across Tennessee revealed that only 22 of 450 churches have gymnasiums or recreation centers and 101 of the 450 sponsor sports teams. Or in the 11 associations five percent have gyms or recreation centers and 23 percent sponsor sports teams.

Recreation as a ministry

"I see the possibility of some situations benefiting greatly from them," said DOM Charles Earl of Holston Valley Association, although involvement by churches has fallen off possibly because of the involvement of schools, he added.

DOM Walter Taylor of Knox County Association pointed out that recreation programs may not include sports teams, but both have the positive aspects of good health, fellowship, and outreach, especially to young adults and youth.

"It's not a bad approach" for reaching people, said Charles Conley, DOM of Sequatchie Valley Association. "I'm fearful that it takes more time than it's worth. . . . Sports comes before almost everything," he proposed, describing the havoc it plays on

associational schedules.

DOM Bob Polk of Lawrence County Association said sports and recreation are "very useful tools to reach people." He feels that the majority of participants have a positive experience and impact on others.

Riverside Association's associational volleyball, basketball, and softball league tournaments have been positive in that they've drawn hundreds of people, reported DOM Terry Geren.

"It is a ministry. I can get a kid out in the ballpark that you can't get in the church," stressed Geren.

DOM Al Patterson of Copper Basin Association noted that "there are some reservations about it among people in the churches here," but church groups have participated in associational volleyball games.

"Some churches don't have enough young people to get together a team. . . . But it's an alternative to being on the streets."

J. C. Lewis, DOM, Bledsoe Association, noted that small churches don't have money to sponsor teams or other recreation programs, in addition to lack of leadership and participants.

But he told of a young man who became a Christian and eventually a church leader through the influence of a church softball team. A group that plays together can work together, Lewis added.

Sports teams

Sports teams must be "carefully monitored and controlled" to resist "an emphasis on winning" that might allow team members to adopt actions resulting in a negative witness, explained Charles Earl.

Chilhowee Association's softball league is a ministry, reported John Churchman, who believes church attendance should be a qualification for membership on a church team.

Bob Polk of Lawrence County Association also feels membership guidelines for teams should include church attendance requirements.

"Sometimes competition will destroy

the intent of the fellowship. That's the reason we haven't opened it up to other churches. . . . I can regulate what's happening among my churches," said Geren, who sets rules that directs the coach to control the team and members to accept referees' decisions without arguments.

Recreation facilities

"The Lord has equipped the church to provide for every one of our needs. We just must not lose sight of our priorities," said Geren, citing one church which did not use its family life center because of lack of leadership and another which had an increase of 160 baptisms one year.

William Powell, DOM of Watauga Association, reported that recreation centers are more a ministry to the congregation than to the community.

Churchman supports recreation centers "provided a church is large enough to have a paid church staff member to organize a program." He added that the center can benefit other churches and ministries that use them.

Charles Conley, a former baseball and football player, said he has reservations about family life centers because of his commitment to Baptists, even in the United States, who are "struggling to get a church building. I think, boy, that money could go elsewhere."

Dyer Association's Joe Naylor
Lee Porter

Baptist referee shares good, bad

By Connie Davis

Lee Porter, a sports referee for the past 40 years, "shudders" when he thinks of his "embarrassment" and his "horrible experiences" officiating Christian teams.

He has penalized and even evicted Christian players and coaches from games for fighting and profanity, said Porter, who is a registered referee for basketball, football, baseball, and softball.

He knows some officials who won't referee church adult leagues because of their reputation for bad sportsmanship. Porter believes it stems from frustration. "The body fails to do what they think it should. Then they get angry at themselves."

However, Porter believes "church recreation very definitely is a ministry."

"A majority of the time good sportsmanship, good fellowship, and a good time is experienced."

The Baptist Sunday School Board employee and pastor of Bell Road Church, Nashville, also supports church sports teams and leagues, and

reported that he had seen churches build activity centers but neglect to provide personnel and organization which results in negligible "visible results."

TBC Church Recreation

To explain her commitment to church recreation, Eleanor Yarborough, program associate, Tennessee Baptist Convention church recreation program, cites the fact that the average Baptist minister dies at the age of 57.

"Having a facility doesn't mean you have a country club any more than having Sunday School classrooms means you have a school or having a worship center means you have a civic auditorium."

"When you play with somebody you're going to get to know more about a person than sitting with a person 52 weeks a year in a Sunday School classroom. And it creates new groups . . . so you get to know the greater church body."

Church recreation includes special events, fellowships, first aid, fitness/nutrition, drama/puppetry/clowning, crafts, camping, and sports, explained Yarborough.

She helps small churches develop recreation programs through a church recreation committee.

"It is one avenue toward getting people into activities . . . where they feel they belong," she concluded.

recreation facilities.

"I think it often depends on the coach . . . The problem comes when he tries to be like some coach he's seen on television. He's much more concerned about winning and about being the best coach in the league or in the city." He noted that the coach must understand the sport.

Porter encouraged church team members to remember that they might negatively influence a weak or non-Christian team member or person viewing a game.

Team members should be required to attend Sunday morning training and worship three out of four weeks, said Porter.

Churches and church recreation committees should monitor the teams to help them meet their purpose, which is evangelism, fellowship, growth, and recreation, he continued. And they might consider new team approaches, like co-ed teams, he added.

"It's my recreation and my hobby. . . . I like to be around children and Christians. . . . I believe in it," stated Porter.

Tennessee Baptist churches call new pastors

Tennessee Baptists are encouraged to send information about pastors and new church staff to *Baptist and Reflector*, P. O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn. 37024.

Brownsville Church

Robert F. Connerley Jr., has accepted the pastorate of Brownsville Church, Brownsville, in the Haywood Association, effective Aug. 27.

Connerley is the 36th pastor of the 164-year-old church.

Connerley came to Brownsville from Second Church, Greenville, Miss., where he was pastor.

The Mississippi native graduated from Mississippi College, Clinton, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Connerley and his wife, Patsy, have four children.



CONNERLEY

First Church, LaFollette

Bob Brown joined the staff of First Church, LaFollette Oct. 1 as full-time pastor.

Ordained in 1985, Brown came to LaFollette from First Church, Concord, where he was minister of youth. He also served as associate pastor of Greenwich Church, Greenwich, Conn.

A native of Knoxville, Brown earned a bachelor's degree from University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and a master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Brown and his wife, Linnie, have three children.

New Blackwell Church

Gary Satterfield accepted the pastorate of New Blackwell Church, Rutledge. His first day in the pulpit was Sept. 3.

Most recently pastor of First Church, Bean Station, Satterfield also served

as pastor of Calvary Church, Mooresburg; and Lea Springs Church, Blaine.

Satterfield and his wife, Tonya, have one son.

Mack's Grove Church

Mack's Grove Church, Dresden, called Jim Frazier as full-time pastor.

Frazier was most recently minister of education at Washington Avenue Church, Evansville, Ind. He also served as pastor at churches in Ohio and Kentucky.

He received a diploma in theology from Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, Ky.; a bachelor's degree in religion from Cumberland College, Williamsburg, Ky.; and a master's of religious education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Second Church, Millington

Scott Walker has joined the staff of Second Church, Millington, as pastor. Walker came to Second Church from Grace Community Church, Memphis, where he was associate pastor.

A graduate of Crichton College, Walker and his wife, Kelley, have two children.

Peabody Church

Robert Griffin accepted the call of Peabody Church, Memphis, to serve as pastor.

Griffin served as executive director of the Bible Memory Association International, a literature and conference ministry in the United States and several other countries, in Ringgold, La., for the past 13 years. He also served as pastor of churches in Alabama, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Missouri.

He earned a bachelor's degree from



GRIFFIN

Auburn University and master of theology and doctor of ministry degrees from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Griffin and his wife, the former Gayle Cameron of Alabama, have two children.

Fairview Church

Donald C. Pharris, pastor of North Etowah Church, Etowah, has been called as pastor of Fairview Church, Lebanon.

He served in Etowah nine years and led the church in an extensive renovation program.

Pharris' wife, Carol, is Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union president, and they both are members of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board.

Former service as pastor includes First Church, Livingston; Shellsford Church, McMinnville; Mill Creek, Sand Springs, and Verble Churches, Monterey.

The native of Cookeville is a graduate of Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.



PHARRIS

Broadway Church

Chris Burns has been called as full-time pastor of Broadway Church, Maryville, effective Sept. 10.

Burns comes to Broadway from Ebenezer Church, Knoxville, where he was pastor for five years. He has also served as pastor of churches in Alabama and Louisiana.

Ordained in 1976 by Ridgecrest Church, Birmingham, Ala., Burns earned a bachelor's degree from Samford University, Birmingham, and a master of divinity degree from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Burns and his wife, Gail, have three children.

Sunnyside Church

After serving for 24 years, J. C. Parrott recently resigned the pastorate of Black Oak Heights Church, Knoxville, to accept the pastorate of Sunnyside

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Church, Kingsport.

Parrott has served as moderator of Knox County Association, vice president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and trustee of East Tennessee Baptist Hospital. He presently serves on the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Haley's Grove Church

Haley's Grove Church, Crab Orchard, called Claude Edward Chumley, Knoxville, as bivocational pastor.

Chumley has served as pastor of churches in Kentucky, Virginia, Ohio, and Tennessee, including Haynes Flatt Church, Speedwell.

Ordained in 1958 in Kentucky, Chumley attended Clear Creek Baptist College, Pineville, Ky., and has taken off-campus classes through Carson Newman College, Jefferson City.

Mill Creek Church

David I. Guinn became pastor of Mill Creek Church, Fall Branch, effective Sept. 6.

Guinn was ordained Oct. 8 by Boones Creek Church, Gray, where he was a member.

A native of Tennessee, Guinn and his wife, Patricia, have two children.

New Era Church

New Era Church, Sevierville, recently called Fred Wohlwend as pastor.

Wohlwend came out of retirement to accept the New Era Church pastorate. He retired from First Church, Inglewood, in 1982, where he served for 17 years.

He also served as pastor at Boyd's Creek Church, Sevierville, and East Alcoa Church, Alcoa, as well as at churches in Texas and Ohio.

Ordained in 1953, Wohlwend earned bachelor's degrees from Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

A native of Knoxville, Wohlwend and his wife, Edith, have three children.



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Baptist Beliefs

By Herschel Hobbs

God: No respecter of persons

"For there is no respect of persons with God" — Romans 2:11.

The question is often asked, "If a pagan never hears the Gospel, never sees a Bible, and never hears the name of Jesus, is he lost?" The implication being that if so, then God is not just. Paul deals with this matter in Romans 2, verse 11.



HOBBS

"No respect of persons" means that God does not judge a person by his/her face or racial differences, or He has no favorites. In Paul's day, Jews divided the race as Jews and Gentiles (pagans). Racial differences are not in the color of the skin but in facial features. God shows no partiality on this basis.

Paul points out that the Jews have God's written law. We would say the Bible (v. 17). But the pagan has God's law written in his conscience or heart (vv. 14-15). Both will be judged accord-

ing to the light of God's revelation he has (vv. 12-13).

If a Jew keeps the law he has, will he be saved? Yes. If a pagan does the best he knows, will he be saved? Yes. The catch is that each must do so perfectly. And neither does. Therefore, both are lost and need a Savior. It is precisely for this reason that salvation must be by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Stated in the modern scene, a man lives in a Christian environment, reads the Bible, hears the Gospel, yet does not trust in Jesus. A pagan in Africa has none of these, yet does not do as good as he knows, and does not trust in Jesus. Both will be in hell. But the degree of punishment of the former will be greater than that of the latter. God is just; He holds us responsible for the light we have.

For those who claim to be Christian, Charles Spurgeon asked the more penetrating question. Asked if the pagan who never hears the Gospel is lost, Spurgeon replied, "Are we saved if we do not preach the Gospel to him?" It is a question to ponder.

TenneScene

It's 500 miles from Memphis to Bristol — but you can start at Edith, rest a while in Henrietta, and stop at Norma rested ...

Associations ...

Sequatchie Valley Association recently gathered a truckload of supplies for victims of Hurricane Hugo. A layman from the association furnished the truck and fuel. Ernie Cordell of Cartwright Church, Whitwell, and Terry Humbert, pastor of Kimball Church, Jasper, drove the truck to Providence Church in Macedonia, S.C., where the Tennessee Baptist Convention's disaster relief units were set up. Director of Missions Charles Conley reported the items were collected in a week's time. There was a "good response" from the association's churches, he said.

Judson Association will hold its quarterly singing Oct. 28 at Maple Grove Church, Dickson, beginning at 7:30 p.m. It will feature The Faith Seekers and The Prophets, reported Gerald Pendergrass, associational music director.

Christian artist Angie Griffin of Central Church, Hixson, will perform at First Church, Bethel Springs, Oct. 28 for an associational youth concert sponsored by Shiloh Association. No admission will be charged. A love offering will be received.

Churches ...

Ridgeway Church, Knoxville, organized last November with 46 members, is scheduled to meet with Knox County Association in December for consideration of membership in the association. The congregation paid off its loan this year, and baptized 13. A bus and piano have been purchased. In September, Pastor Ray Carr baptized family members of three generations, the oldest being 85.

Homecoming services were held Oct. 15 at Balmoral Church, Memphis, to celebrate the church's 20th anniversary. The special services kicked off fall revival, which will conclude Oct. 18.

Beaumont Avenue Church, Knoxville, celebrated their 80th anniversary Oct. 8. Jim Wilcox, pastor of First Church, Caryville, was special guest speaker.



NEW RIVER OFFICERS — Members of New River Association elected to an office during its annual meeting Oct. 10 at Emmanuel Church, Jacksboro, are, front row, from left, Harold Jeffers, First Church, Oneida, Sunday School director; Claude Jeffers, Low Gap Church, Robbins, Christian education director; Rose Krahn, First Church, Huntsville, assistant WMU director; back row, George Hensley, minister of music and youth, First Church, Oneida, music director; David Shivar, pastor, New Haven Church, Oneida, associate moderator; David Acres, pastor, First Church, Huntsville, moderator; Alvin Krahn, First Church, Huntsville, Brotherhood director; Alean England, Bethlehem Church, Oneida, associate clerk; and Director of Missions Dale Smith.

First Church, Franklin, will hold a ladies retreat Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Special guest will be Lora Allison, Laporte, Texas, speaking about religious warfare and presenting a banner processional. The cost for the retreat is \$15. For reservations, call (615) 794-2812 by Nov. 2.

Members of Pigeon Valley Church, Hartford, will celebrate the church's centennial anniversary Oct. 22. D. L. Lowrie, executive director/treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, will speak during the morning and afternoon services. Dinner will be served. A history of the church entitled 100 Glorious Years will be released that day.

Homecoming will be celebrated Oct. 22 at Brown Springs Church, Mosheim. A covered-dish dinner will follow the service.

Members of Forty-Five Church, Moscow, celebrated the church's 50th anniversary Sept. 24.

First Church, White House, had its 79th anniversary Sept. 27. The church celebrated Sept. 24.

The congregation of Halls, Westside Church, Halls, dedicated their new activities building Aug. 27.

Roellen Church, Dyersburg, held a groundbreaking service for a new multi-purpose room Sept. 3.

Members of Chestnut Church, Cleveland, are holding worship services in a new auditorium.

New Union Church, Dayton, will begin observance of its centennial year Oct. 22 with a special 11 a.m. service. Music from the adult choir will be featured, along with recognition of the 27 charter members who began New Union Church a century ago. Many descendants of these original members are part of the congregation today.

A variety of events are scheduled for the coming year to celebrate this milestone. They include a family retreat, special Bible studies, a tent revival, and the observance of homecoming next summer.

Ordinations ...

Rocky Point Church, Cookeville, ordained Joe Johnson, Roy Neal, Hubert Copeland, and Freeman Harness as deacons.

First Church, Humboldt, ordained Mike Mitchell and Milton Parks as deacons Oct. 1.

Chuck Beatty, Dan Ferrell, and David Veridal were ordained as deacons Oct. 1 by Lincoya Hills Church, Nashville.

Donald Lumms was ordained Sept. 24 by Southside Church, Dyersburg.

Trimble Church, Trimble, ordained James Bell and Eddie Tharpe as deacons Sept. 24.

Block Springs Church, Blaine, will ordain John Conley, Eddie Watkins, Jim Frost, Steve Roach, and Allen Webb as deacons Oct. 15.

Members of Russwood Church, Springville, recently elected their first deacons since becoming a church. Elected and previously ordained were M. L. Crane and Bob Kail. Ordained Sept. 10 were Art Crews, Tom Mack, and Bill Sain.

Leadership ...

Blaine Dyess recently accepted the call of Greenhills Church, Collierville, to serve as youth director.

Ken Kirby was called to First Church, Millington, as director of bus and activities.

Finley Church, Finley, called James Miller as minister of youth.

Hal Davis, pastor of Bear Creek Church, Cookeville, recently announced his retirement from the ministry. He served as pastor of several churches in Tennessee and Michigan.

Roy Hargrave has resigned as pastor of Trinity Church, Memphis, to become pastor of First Church, Ormond Beach, Fla.

First Church, Bluff City, called Bill Denington, Cincinnati, Ohio, as minister of youth/education effective Oct. 16. He holds a master's degree from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Revivals ...

Brown Springs Church, Mosheim, will hold revival Oct. 20-22 with Kenneth Richey, First Church, White Pine.

Grace Church, Springfield, will hold revival Oct. 22-26. Richard Green will be evangelist. Services will begin at 7 p.m.

Walter Ayers recently led revival at Stevens Street Church, Cookeville. There were eight professions of faith and ten additions to the church by letter.

First Church, Covington, held revival Sept. 24-28. Henry Linginfelter was evangelist and Dick Barrett led music. There were 51 professions of faith, 63 rededications, and 13 other decisions.



SECRETARY HONORED — First Church, Athens, recently recognized Erylne Ensminger for 32 years of service as financial secretary. She was honored by the church on Sept. 24 with the presentation of a silver tray and a check representing a love gift from the church during a reception in her honor. She retired Sept. 30. Presenting the tray is Pastor Carlos Peterson.

First Church, Jellico, will hold revival Oct. 22-25 with evangelist Dick Allison, who was pastor of the church from 1958 to 1971. Jack Mitchell will lead music.

Kenneth Hemphill, pastor of First Church, Norfolk, Va., will speak at revival services Oct. 22-25 at Manley Church, Morristown.

First Church, Sparta, will hold revival services Oct. 22-25. Richard Holden, pastor of Calvary Church, Lenoir City, will be evangelist.

William Mattox of Clifton Forge Church, Clifton Forge, Va., will speak at revival Oct. 22-25 at First Church, Dandridge.

Second Church, Savannah, will hold revival Oct. 22-27 with evangelist Chuck Beutow of First Southern Church, Walnut Grove.

Ron Dunn will speak at revival services Oct. 22-29 at Calvary Church, Knoxville.

Zion Church, Brownsville, will hold revival Oct. 22-27 with evangelist Walter K. Ayers. Pat Roper, Greenville, S.C. will lead music.

Jimmy Bond led revival services at Bear Cove Church, Sparta, Sept. 24-29. Wayne Ray led music.

The following churches in Sevier County Association held revivals during September: Mount Zion Church, Sevierville, Andy Ball; Friendship Church, Sevierville, Edward Adams; Dripping Springs Church, Seymour, Ronnie White; Dupont Church, Seymour, J. C. Parrott; and Zion Hill Church, Sevierville, Amos Jarman.

Calvary Church, Pulaski, held revival Aug. 27-Sept. 1 with evangelist Dwight Mercer.

Carroll Fowler spoke at revival services Sept. 10-15 at First Church, Minor Hill.

First Church, Gatlinburg, held revival Sept. 10-13 with Montrose Streeter, Sam Dean, Calvin Metcalf, and Carl Mays.

First Church, Troy, held revival Sept. 10-13 with LaVerne Butler.

— Photo by Connie Davis



Dr. Lowell Adams
Memphis



Rev. James Best
Greeneville



Rev. William Blackwell
Nashville



Don Bowman
Apison



Lloyd Comer
Lawrenceburg



Talmage Crinfield, Sr.
Ripley



Vivian Cunningham
Maryville



Helen Downey
Springfield



Roy Fisher
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R.J. Haines
Chattanooga



Frank Hawkins
Kingsport



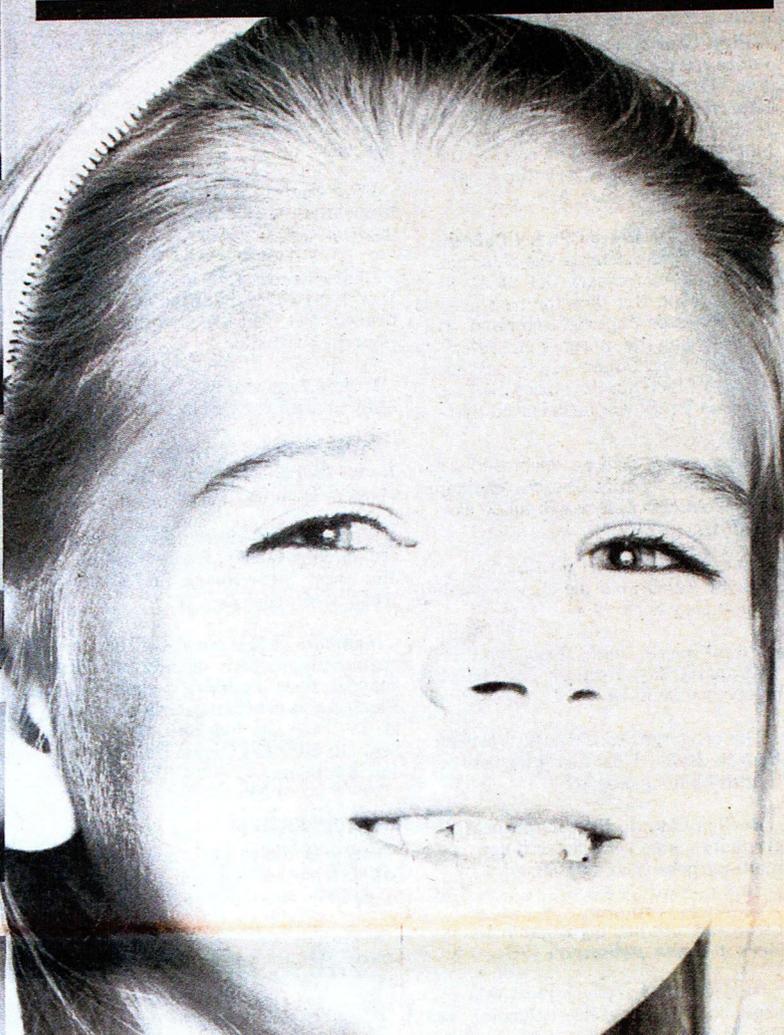
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Frank Ingraham
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Rev. James Kinsey
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Pat Kough
Brownsville



Hershel Lake
Pulaski



Eugene Mims
Cleveland



Rev. Verlon Moore
Clarksville



Kenneth Newman
Oakfield



Jack Roddy
Elizabethton



Rev. Bob Segrest
Chattanooga



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Some of them will be leaving our board at the end of this month. We use this means to recognize their faithful labors and say thanks for a job well done.

We are grateful for the tireless work of the fourteen pastors and thirteen lay persons on our board who are pictured on this page.

Again, from the staff of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, THANK YOU for your compassion, your prayers and your support.



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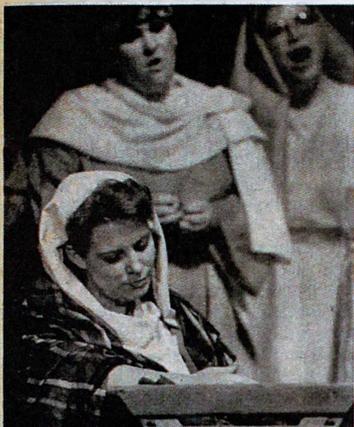
(Advertisement)

Central, Bearden, cited

New orchestrations update popularity of Celebrate Life

By Linda Lawson
 NASHVILLE — When "Celebrate Life," a musical/drama depicting the life of Christ, was introduced in 1972 at a Church Training Youth Celebration, it was expected to be primarily a production for youth choirs.

Seventeen years later, the youth of the 1970s are continuing to present "Celebrate Life" as adult choir members, making it one of the all-time, best-selling Christian musicals with more than 350,000 copies sold. In



CENTRAL SINGERS — Members of a 110-voice choir of Central Church, Bearden, in Knoxville, sing in the background as Mary and the infant Christ are portrayed during a presentation of "Celebrate Life" at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

October it is being updated with new orchestrations and an expanded family of support products for use by churches.

The book and lyrics of "Celebrate Life" were written by Ragan Courtney, a writer and dramatist at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., with music by Buryl Red, composer in New York City.

Fes Robertson, director of the Genevox Music Group at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, attributed the longevity of "Celebrate Life" to its Biblical content, variety of musical styles, and the fact that effective presentations can be done by a smaller choir in a simple setting or by large groups with elaborate sets and costumes.

Wendell Boertje, minister of music at Central Church, Bearden, in Knoxville, directed recent presentations of "Celebrate Life" with a 110-voice choir at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center and in a Knoxville high school auditorium.

The key to the success of "Celebrate Life," Boertje said, is the fact that it is "Christ-centered. It is one of the most succinct settings of the life of Christ from His birth to His resurrection."

Because the Gospel is presented clearly and simply through the musical, people responded, he said. Several, including the fiance of a choir member, made professions of faith when the choir presented "Celebrate Life" in Knoxville.

The new orchestrations by Red will be released in October. They present a more contemporary sound and break new ground for combining live and taped instrumental music, Robertson said.

Taped in New York and Nashville, the music combines traditional instruments such as strings and brass with synthesized sounds and instruments from Oriental and Middle Eastern countries, said Sam Sanders, Genevox music editor.

A minister of music will be able to combine a live orchestra with use of a tape track of "synthesized sample

sounds," Sanders said. "The choir will be following a track but following it with a live orchestra. This is something new for a Christian musical."

Both four-part and two-part scores will be available and could be used together, said Sanders. For example, a youth choir might use the two-part score and the adult choir, four parts. Or the two-part score could be used by a smaller choir.

"These scores are provided to make 'Celebrate Life' accessible to choirs of all sizes," said Sanders.

Dramatic arts workshop planned

A dramatic arts in ministry workshop will be held Oct. 21 at the Baptist Center in Brentwood. The meeting begins at 9 a.m. and concludes at 3:30 p.m.

The workshop, sponsored by the Tennessee Baptist Convention's church recreation office, is designed to provide practical help for directors and other adult leaders in the area of Christian creative arts.

It will also aid in the preparation for the 1990 Drama/Puppetry/Clowning Festival scheduled for April 27-28 at First Church, Nashville.

At the workshop, church study course credit will be given for The Dramatic Arts in Ministry, a new book written and taught by Ev Robertson, drama specialist, church recreation department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Registration fee is \$20 per person or \$15 per person if more than one person from a church attends.

For additional information, contact the TBC church recreation office at (615) 371-2033.

Larry Koonce called to Evansville Church

After serving as interim pastor for a year, Larry Koonce was called as bivocational pastor to Evansville Church, Dyersburg.

A native of Ripley, Koonce served as pastor of Poplar Corner Church, Jackson, for 15 years. He was also pastor of Salem Church, Henning.

Ordained in 1971 at Westmont Church, Memphis, Koonce received a bachelor's degree with a religion major from Union University, Jackson.

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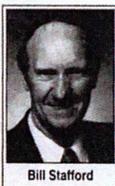
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Living in light of the Lord's return

By Deryl G. Watson, director of missions; Hardeman County Association

This lesson looks at the timeless question of those who are deceased, (4:13-18) as well as the return of the Lord (5:1-2, 5:8-10). We also find guidelines for both church leaders and congregations and principles for a good church (5:12-18).

The church members at Thessalonica questioned whether their deceased relatives would share fully in Jesus' return. Was the salvation of their deceased loved ones in jeopardy? Was this not the message they received from their pagan environment, a message of "no hope" after death?

Verse 14 also points out that Christ at His return will bring with Him the soul personalities of the deceased. Their resurrected bodies will be united with their soul personalities.

We are reminded in chapter 4:15 that these facts are from Jesus, not Paul. Though we do not find these words specifically spoken by Jesus in the Gospels, we rest assured they were. All the acts and words of Jesus were important; however, not all were recorded (John 21:25).

Chapter 4:16-18 sets before us scenes of the end time. The trumpet flourish

and the shout in the Old Testament indicated decisive battle victory and also announced joyous events (Joshua 6:5, 20:2, Ephesians 3:14). The New Testament relates both these sounds to the return of Christ (Matthew 24:31, 1 Corinthians 15:52).

The shouted word of command from Christ causes the graves to be opened. Such was the case also with Lazarus (John 11:43). Jesus taught the resurrection of the just and the unjust (John 5:28-29).

Paul refers here, however, to the resurrection of the deceased believers first and then the living believers. The living believers shall be caught up with them in the clouds. The term caught up means to snatch or catch away. The term rapture does not occur in the Scriptures but Christians generally use rapture to mean caught up.

Many Bible scholars distinguish the rapture from Jesus' return to earth. These scholars believe the great tribulation, an outburst of fury from powers against Christ, will follow the rapture, and the Lord's return to earth will end tribulation.

Chapter 5:1-3

We are reminded in these verses of the question of the Lord's return. The word times here denotes a space of time, whether long or short, or a succession of times. The word seasons generally means time as marked by certain features or events.

Paul makes it clear that the time God will act in history will be the decisive moment He chooses. It is useless for man to calculate God's concept of action in time. It is enough to know that the time of the Lord's return will come like a thief in the night for the unprepared, but believers will not care about the time. Believers have found the light of the eastern star of Bethlehem, and have responded to that light (5:5).

BIBLE BOOK SERIES

October 22 Lesson

Basic Passage: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:28

Focal Passages: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:1-2, 8-10, 12-18

Chapter 5:8-10

These verses assured the Thessalonians and us that we do not need additional direction about the "Day of the Lord." Christians need to be alert, or sober. (As used here, sober is the opposite of being drunk with all that drunkenness implies.)

We are not under the wrath of God. We do not get what we deserve, but are recipients of what Christ has done for us (5:9). Paul apparently wrestled often with the concept spoken of in chapter 5:10, and Philippians 1:21-24. The Christian rejoices that in death as well as in life, we are in the family of God.

Chapter 5:12-18

In these passages, some exhortation guidelines are presented for church life. They are addressed to the whole congregation. The leadership of the congregation is discussed in chapter 5:12-13. In chapter 5:14-18, the interpersonal relationships of the members are discussed.

These Thessalonians were to know their leaders (5:12) and have full knowledge of their leaders' actions. This is the primary meaning of know, as used here. Often lack of knowledge of a leader's style, goals, or perceptions causes needless difficulties.

Paul then began to deal with the congregation as a whole. By use of the term brethren, Paul probably meant all of the problem groups in the Thessalonian church (5:14).

Paul ended by sharing three true principles of a good church and individual congregation members. They are joyous or happy, despite their circumstances. They pray together and, thus, stay together. They live in an attitude of thanksgiving and are able to thank God for living (5:16-18).

It is interesting to note that the term "will of God" in chapter 5:18 means the gracious design of the Lord, not His determined resolve. It seems the more we learn to thank God for life and living in Christ, the more we discern His gracious will for us, and the more we are able to rejoice.

This entire lesson points out that if we have salvation in Christ, we have hope in our personal lives, in our church lives, and in our lives after life on this planet ceases.



WATSON



GIBBS

The need for watchfulness

By Charles E. Gibbs Jr., pastor; Trace Creek Church, New Johnsonville

In first Thessalonians chapters four and five, we are told of the future event of our Lord Jesus Christ returning to earth. In the Old Testament, the Jews' hope was a restored Jerusalem. For the New Testament Christian, his hope is in the New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven (Revelations 21:21).

Let us now look at three things that the writer of this book is trying to tell us in these two chapters. First, what will the Second Coming of Christ be like? Second, when will the Lord come again? Third, what is the best way to watch for His return?

What will the second coming be like? The answer is found in chapter 4:13-18. Paul says, "I would not have you to be ignorant as to the future of the Christian when he dies. When your loved ones die in the Lord, you will not be full of sorrow as those who have no hope." Why will you not be full of sorrow? Because when Jesus returns, God will bring them back with Him. Paul makes this even clearer in the next verse. Those who are still living when the Lord comes will not rise to meet the Lord ahead of those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

The Lord Himself who walked on this planet 2000 years ago shall descend from heaven. Jesus, who died and rose again, will come personally for His own.

In Acts 1:11 "... ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven?"

This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven." What a comfort this is to know that Jesus is coming for His very own.

Those who have been asleep in Jesus and those who are alive at His coming shall be caught up together and we shall be with Him forever. Comfort one another with these words.

The second truth Paul wants to share with them is concerning the time of His coming. Paul says plainly that no one knows. Jesus says in Matthew 24:36 "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father." Paul says the coming of the Lord cometh as a thief in the night. In spite of this, men down through the ages have set dates for His coming only to be proven wrong.

It is interesting to note that Paul uses only eight verses to tell us of the event of His coming and 38 verses to tell us the best way to watch for His return. This is the third truth that Paul wants to share with them.

God is more interested in getting us ready for His coming than for us to

understand all the details of this future event. Jesus is coming for His bride. Are we ready to meet Him?

What is the best way to watch for His return? Verse 4 says, "That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor."

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

October 22 Lesson

Basic Passages: 1 Thessalonians 4:1 to 5:28

Focal Passages: 1 Thessalonians 4:13 to 5:11

This means we are to keep clear of all sexual sin, so each one can marry in holiness and honor, not in lust as heathen do. Verse 7 states, "For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness."

In chapter 5, Paul exhorts Christians to walk "in the light." We walk in the light when we watch for His return and

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The message of missions

By Mattie Carroll Mullins, layperson; Gray Church, Gray

I have a twenty-four hour a day answering service for my office. I check twice a day for messages. They always have messages, which always means work for me or one of my associates. Someone needs something. The good part about this is that, in nearly every case, we can do something to help. Perhaps it is only to call the person back and answer a question for him or her. Often I will follow up on a need or do one of many things to satisfy a customer. Every message is important to the person calling and to me.

There are many different kinds of messages.



MULLINS

When the house is on fire, the firemen receive a message.

What would happen if the fireman would not come when he received the message?

Our lesson today is "The Message of Missions." We have already studied the urgency of missions, the scope of missions, and the call to missions this quarter. We have reviewed the commands Jesus made to "Go into all the world." Have you heard this call? What will happen if Southern Baptists do not obey this call? If we hear the cries of the world, are we going to respond to them?

Jesus shared the message of the Gospel with Nicodemus in John 3:3. Nicodemus was a Pharisee, a member of the Sanhedrin, a leader, and teacher in Israel. Obviously Nicodemus had a personal concern and sought help from Jesus. The Scriptures tell us he came

to the Master by night. Perhaps this was the only time he could arrange to have some quality time alone with Jesus. It may have been the only time to secretly get to see Jesus. He really wanted to have an important question answered. He asked how can a man be born when he is old?

LIFE AND WORK LESSON SERIES October 22 Lesson

Basic Passages: John 3:1-21
Focal Passages: John 3:3-8, 14-18

Jesus' message to Nicodemus was very clear and to the point. He showed Nicodemus that his rebirth was not physical, but spiritual. He said, "Except a man be born of water and of the spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

John 3:7 gives us the message of missions: "Ye must be born again." In verse 8, Jesus used the illustration of the wind saying it blows where it wants to blow. You hear the wind but cannot determine where it came from or where it goes. Jesus stresses to Nicodemus the fact the spirit moves through the world and brings new birth to everyone who accepts Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

In John 3:14-15, Jesus referred to the Old Testament time the children of

Israel had spoken against God and had been punished by fiery serpents, which bit them and many died. The people repented and Moses prayed for them. By God's instruction Moses had made a serpent of brass which he displayed on a pole. All the people who looked on it lived. Jesus said in like manner the Son of man must be lifted up. Jesus' message of missions was, "Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."

John 3:16 states the simple message of missions. God loved the world. He gave His Son. This gift was to the lost. We realize salvation is available for all when we read "whosoever."

I cannot think of any Scripture, sermon, or personal testimony that gives us a clearer explanation of the message of missions than the words of the well known hymn, "O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling, to tell to all the world that God is light. That He who made all nations is not willing, one soul should perish, lost in shades of night." We sing the next stanza, "Behold how many thousands still are lying, bound in the darksome prison house of sin, with none to tell them of the Savior's dying, or of the life He died for them to win."

But the last verse capitalizes on the dedication and commitment when we sing, "Give of thy sons to bear the message glorious, give of thy wealth to speed them on their way. Pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious, and all thou spendest Jesus will repay." The message of missions - "Glad tidings, tidings of peace, tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release."

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(BP) BRIEFLY

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

Caribbean Hugo relief gains momentum, workers

PLYMOUTH, Montserrat — Hurricane Hugo stripped the Caribbean's "emerald island" to a brown, barren wasteland.

Southern Baptists are bringing help and hope to Montserrat, nicknamed the "emerald island," and other Caribbean islands hit hard by Hugo. The Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission and Foreign Mission Board are coordinating relief efforts. The Foreign Mission Board sent emergency food and supplies Oct. 4 to Antigua. Hamilton was expected to coordinate distribution with Baptists on Montserrat Oct. 5. In addition, weekly food shipments will go from New Orleans to Guadeloupe and Antigua.

While food is the main need on Montserrat, the priority on the French island of Guadeloupe is shelter, said Dan O'Dell, Southern Baptist missionary there. The French government has helped with food and supplies, he said, "but for a good many people, the need is just to be in out of the rain. There are still many homes without roofs." Ten Georgia Baptist volunteers spent Sept. 25 through Oct. 1 rebuilding a church and homes on Guadeloupe. Three other Southern Baptist teams were working in the Caribbean in early October.

The mission board's first food shipment was supposed to have arrived on Antigua Sept. 30, but transportation problems caused delays, said Bill Damon, associate area director for Brazil and the Caribbean. Relief coordinators urged Southern Baptists to contribute food and supplies for weekly shipments to the islands. They need rice, beans, canned meat, baby food, powdered milk and cooking oil in plastic containers or cans. Contributions should be sent to KMA Enterprises, Napoleon and River Building, J-Cube 9, New Orleans, La. 70175. Donations should be designated for Foreign Mission Board/Brotherhood Disaster Relief for Antigua/Guadeloupe.

Samford professor wanted in student's death

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — An arrest warrant has been issued for Samford University professor William L. Slagle in connection with the murder of student Rex B. Copeland. Copeland, 20, a junior from Birmingham, Ala., was found stabbed to death in his off-campus apartment Sept. 22. Shelby County, Ala., law enforcement officials have reported Slagle sent them a letter admitting he killed the student.

Samford is an Alabama Baptist school located in Birmingham. Copeland lived in neighboring Shelby County, where sheriff's office investigators are handling the case. Shelby County Sheriff Buddy Glasgow told the Birmingham Post-Herald his office received a letter Oct. 2 with a Sept. 29 Nashville postmark from Slagle in which the assistant professor of debate and director of debate confessed to the crime. A second letter was received Oct. 3 from the West Coast.

Harold Hunt, head of Samford's speech, communications and theater department, also received a letter Oct. 3. The contents of the Oct. 3 letters have not been released.

The Birmingham News reported that Los Angeles authorities found a car rented to Slagle from a Birmingham car rental business in the parking lot at Los Angeles International Airport.

Copeland had been a member of the Samford debate team since his freshman year. In his first letter, Slagle said he and Copeland had argued about Copeland's involvement in the Samford debate program, Glasgow reported. Slagle said he was upset with Copeland's study habits because he felt the young man had not been applying himself as he should.

The pair apparently had argued during a debate team meeting Wednesday evening, Sept. 20, and continued the argument later that night at Copeland's apartment, the sheriff added. Copeland was killed in the apartment early the next morning, Glasgow said, citing Slagle's letter. The Shelby County sheriff's office issued a warrant for Slagle's arrest Oct. 2.

Lewis encourages Korean Baptists to start churches

CHUNAHN, Korea — The best strategy for winning the world to Christ is starting churches wherever non-Christians are found, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis told the Korea Baptist Convention.

Comparing the estimated 30 million non-Christians in Korea to the population of Mexico City, Lewis said to Korean Baptist leaders: "How many churches do you need to start in Korea to reach that city of lost people? I believe every lost soul is crying out, 'Somebody help me, help me find God.' Nowhere does the Bible say that people should go to the church. But it does say the church should go out after the people."

Lewis was invited 18 months ago to deliver the main address of the annual convention, which celebrated 100 years of Korean Baptist history. In addition, Lewis spoke in Seoul at three Baptist churches, at the Korea Baptist College and Theological Seminary in Taejeon, and at Seoul's Yoido Full Gospel Church, the world's largest church.

Addressing about 30,000 people during eight meetings over six days, Lewis encouraged Korean Christians to have a strong commitment to God, the Bible, and ministry while making evangelism and church starting a top priority. He praised Korean Baptists for basing all their work on prayer.

South Carolina Southern Baptists join interfaith relief effort

COLUMBIA, S.C. — South Carolina Southern Baptists have joined an interfaith task force designed to supply \$2 million and long-term relief to victims of Hurricane Hugo.

George Bullard, missions division director for the South Carolina Baptist Convention, said the two-year program is a cooperative effort of Church World Services and the South Carolina Christian Action Council, of which the South Carolina Baptist Convention is a member. The task force, called South Carolina Interfaith Recovery Ministry, held its first organizational meeting Oct. 3. Bullard is temporary chairman of the task force until a permanent chairman is appointed.

Build people, not churches, building committees told

By Charles Willis

NASHVILLE (BP) — "The church's mission in the world is not to build buildings but to build people into mature, effective disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ," a Southern Baptist leader told participants during a recent National Church Building Conference.

Jimmy D. Edwards, vice president for marketing and distribution at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board,

said, "The church building is a tool to help accomplish that purpose."

Edwards, who has been pastor of three churches involved in building programs, said he believes a church building program is "at best a mixed blessing."

"Before launching a building program, I would urge a church to make certain they are making maximum use of the space they have," continued Edwards.

Polish Baptists launch school; FMB provides grant, assistance

WROCLAW, Poland (BP) — A new English-language school opened by Polish Baptists in October already has registered 280 students and turned away 1000 applicants for lack of classroom space.

Another 2000 Poles have requested information about the school, and Southern Baptists plan to send resident workers to Poland to help staff the institution.

A ministry of 250-member Wroclaw Baptist Church, the school will be a Baptist contribution to Poland's development under a new democratic government, said school Director Ruth Kowalczyk during an opening ceremony Sept. 23.

Several local government leaders, including representatives of the religious affairs and education offices, attended the ceremony to praise the high standards in the new program. One official said he was so impressed with Baptist work that he approved a permit needed for the program to proceed.

Kowalczyk, a teacher with 25 years of university-level experience, will direct an eight-member teaching staff — four English-speaking Poles and four teachers from Great Britain and the United States.

During a Sunday morning service, church leaders held a dedication ceremony for the teachers, laying hands on them and asking God to bless their ministry.

A \$4000 grant from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board provided video equipment and other materials for the school, said Jim Smith, a Southern Baptist fraternal representative to Eastern Europe.

The mission board is seeking both volunteers and career personnel to work at the school, Smith said. They will be the first Southern Baptist personnel assigned to Poland. The board has helped finance the church's new building, which will include an apartment to house the new Southern Baptist workers.

In addition to the positive aspects to building, is "the hard, laborious task of planning" that is only the beginning of work that takes time away from ministry, he said.

"When we speak of building for people, we obviously must consider not only people who are members of the church but people who are prospects," he said. "We must know the new ministries and programs the church plans to implement in the future. Thorough studies should be done to project what the facility needs of the church would be five, ten, or 20 years into the future."

He cited the need to consider age-group and life-situation needs, as well as good stewardship in financing new facilities.

Edwards said positive results of a building program can include:

- The excitement and involvement of people who have been nominally active.
 - Significant giving by some who have not contributed regularly to support the ongoing work of the church.
 - Enhanced church image and outreach when the community realizes the church is growing.
 - Strengthened congregational fellowship.
 - Opportunity for emphasis on church doctrine, worship, witnessing and outreach.
 - Increased attendance in Sunday School and worship, offerings, baptisms and missions support.
- "Let's not kid ourselves," Edwards cautioned. "Simply erecting a building doesn't guarantee any of these things

will happen. The building is only a tool that makes it possible to enlarge the scope of our ministry to reach more people for the Lord Jesus Christ."

Some churches experience a letdown after a new building is completed as though the congregation feels "it's time to take a break," he observed. "They have struggled and labored together, given sacrificially to erect a new building; thus they have achieved their goal.

"But commencement is not the end of anything. It is the beginning."

WMU accepting grant applications

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union will accept applications for Second Century Fund grants through Nov. 1, officials said.

Applications are being accepted for projects in three categories:

- for WMU leadership development in the United States, including development of WMU in new areas or among new groups;
- for leadership development of Baptist women and girls abroad, including assistance to organizations similar to WMU; and
- for WMU emphases at Southern Baptist seminaries.

Grant applications are available from Anne Gore, Woman's Missionary Union, P. O. Box 830010, Birmingham, AL 35283-0010.

Grant recipients will be announced during the January 1990 WMU executive board meeting.