

Baptist and Reflector

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Pari-mutuel gambling vote seen as close in Trousdale

Co-chairman of Citizens Against Pari-mutuel Gambling in Trousdale County, Kevin Ezell, agrees with the assessment that the county-wide referendum on pari-mutuel gambling will be decided by a close vote Nov. 7.

The pastor of First Church, Hartsville, the county seat, termed the action "prostitution" of the small county because other counties which have more restaurants and motels will reap the benefits.

Ezell predicted the vote will be close because the only other issues on the ballot are the primary elections for United States representative and governor which will not be highly contested. Bart Gordon and Ned McWhorter are strong candidates in the traditionally democratic county, he noted. Ezell also questioned the choice of this ballot for the referendum instead of the major election for sheriff just two months ago.

Citizens Against Pari-mutuel Gambling has hosted a non-denominational rally at First Church in September, has conducted a county-wide mailout, and is advertizing in newspapers, said Ezell.

The group's co-chairman is Dwight Fuqua, a Church of Christ pastor. Frank Ingraham, Franklin attorney and president of Tennesseans Against Pari-mutuel Gambling, also advised the group.

Harold Carman, member of Southside Church, Gallatin, and realtor, provided signs for the campaign. The organization also has rallied the support of the county commissioners and principals of the high school and

elementary school, reported Ezell.

"We are trying to educate our folks," he said. The gambling forces are well-organized and financed five to ten times better than the anti-gambling group. Tennesseans Against Pari-mutuel Gambling has spent about \$1400, said Ezell.

Not only have racetracks failed across the country, like the one in Paducah, Ky., which went bankrupt, but Williamson, Davidson, and Rutherford counties have defeated the issue, noted Ezell.

Joining the fight is Bledsoe Association. Director of Missions J. C. Lewis also has written letters to Trousdale County newspapers for the association, he reported.

"This has divided our city and county," said Ezell. — *Connie Davis*

Southwestern leaders

Seminary retreat seen as bright light

By Scott Collins

GRAPEVINE, Texas (BP) — Building trust and moving forward out of the 12-year-old controversy which has engulfed the Southern Baptist Convention emerged as the themes from a three-day retreat of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's board of trustees and the school's president, Russell Dilday.

Dilday called the retreat a "bright light of hope," while James T. Draper Jr., trustee chairman, said steps taken during the Oct. 15-17 meeting "enable us to build some trust."

Meeting amid rumors that Dilday would be fired, trustees shared with



NINETY-FIFTH SESSION — Host pastor Milton Knox, right, welcomes moderator Jim Bernard, left, Smyrna pastor; and Omer Painter, director of missions; to First Church, Dayton. Speakers for last week's meeting included Knox, Billy Hines, TBC missions department; and Jerry Levensgood, Yellow Creek pastor.

candor their concerns about the president's recent comments, but the board made no attempt to dismiss Dilday and unanimously approved Bruce Corley, the president's recommendation, as the new dean of the School of Theology.

"This is the first bright light of hope I've seen since the New Orleans convention that we are moving forward to solve our problems," Dilday said. "Maybe God is working through this to show ways Southern Baptists can work together again."

Trustees asked Dilday to explain comments he made during the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans in June, when Dilday described as "satanic" political methods used during the SBC controversy.

Dilday, who issued a written clarification in July, again apologized to trustees for the offensive nature of the word satanic.

"My convictions (about the SBC) are still strong in my heart. For that I make no apology," Dilday said. "But in my attempt to convey those convictions, I used harsh language. I apologize. I'm sorry if I have offended any of you."

"I do not want to be guilty of malice in any way that would be acrimonious," Dilday added. He told board members they "have a great opportunity here and I want to be a part of restoring peace and harmony."

In responding to Dilday's statement to trustees, Draper said he has the same love for the SBC. "But it's difficult to stand knowing you're going to be called a fundamentalist in a negative way when you know that's not what you are," he added. "We don't want everybody to be alike, but to move forward together."

Draper, pastor of First Church, Euless, Texas and a former SBC president, said the actions of Dilday and trustees during the meeting have demonstrated they are "not destructive" as some people have claimed.

"What we did (during the meeting) was to see a willingness to admit mistakes and to reaffirm our commitment to the Lord and to each other," Draper said. He said admitting that mistakes have been made during the past years of conflict can "thrust" Southern Baptists into the future.

Draper emphasized that no one is being asked to compromise convictions. "There are no differences in how we view the Baptist Faith and Message. We must move ahead in conservative scholarship."

The trustees' confidence in Southwestern's faculty is appreciated by the professors, William Tolar, vice president for academic affairs and provost, told trustees. He said the faculty

(Seminary retreat, page 3)

Southern Baptists get record \$140 million

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptists contributed a record \$140.7 million to their convention-wide budget during the 1989-90 fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30.

The Cooperative Program budget helps support 18 Southern Baptist convention organizations that conduct evangelistic, missionary, and educational ministries around the world.

The program received \$140,710,282 in 1989-90, an increase of \$3,377,759 over the 1988-89 budget, reported Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, which disperses the money. That gain is a 2.46 percent increase. It means a decrease in spending power, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The bureau has determined the cost of living rose 5.6 percent in the United States for the 12-month period that ended Aug. 31.

The Cooperative Program's receipts topped its 1989-90 basic operating goal (Southern Baptists, page 3)

SOS means high attendance

Oct. 28 will be a special day in Tennessee Baptist churches.

Average weekly attendance at Sunday Schools across the Tennessee Baptist Convention was 289,382 last year. That's 53 percent of enrollment.

Greer Ruble, TBC Sunday School Department director, wants to be able to report at least 10,618 more present on Oct. 28.

If that happens, Tennessee Baptist Sunday Schools would be able to celebrate 300,000 in attendance.

The increase, according to Ruble, would be in line with action taken by Tennessee Baptist Convention messengers last November, in approving a five-year IMPACT-Tennessee plan. Two goals set then directly relate to Sunday School work.

The goals call for a net increase of three percent in enrollment and five percent average attendance increase. Super Outstanding Sunday (SOS) is the theme for Oct. 28, in conjunction with High Attendance Day.

The Sunday School Department is asking every Tennessee Baptist church to set goals for attendance and contacts. Associational offices will be manned Sunday afternoon to receive attendance reports from the churches.

Sunday School Department phones in Brentwood will be open also to receive reports of attendance totals from the associations.

High Attendance Day Oct. 28 will help TBC churches reach IMPACT-Tennessee goals of increasing enrollment and attendance.

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Editorials

MissionsFest Tennessee: Shedding light on important matters

There should be some way to take the MissionsFest show "on the road," visiting every church in the Southern Baptist Convention with the hands-on approach to foreign missions.

And the same thing could be done for home missions.

MissionsFest Tennessee delighted only a small percentage of folks from Tennessee Baptist Convention churches. That's because only a small percentage participated in person.

But God makes things happen regardless of the size of the crowd. Two weeks ago, MissionsFest proved to be a weekend event that refreshed some jaded ideas about missions. It was a great opportunity for Tennessee Baptists to escape the fog-bound attitudes of unconcern and lack of interest.

You cannot be around forty-two "real live" foreign missionaries without getting a better grasp of the Great Commission. You cannot be exposed to great Gospel music, superlative messages, extraordinary levels of missions excitement — without gaining humility of Christian service.

Much credit for the success of the two-day program can be attributed to in-depth planning and hard work in execution. On the Southern Baptist Convention side, we are grateful to the Foreign Mission Board. There were many accountable among Tennessee Baptists — Clarence Stewart, D. L. Lowrie, Julian Suggs, leaders of Shelby County Association, a publicity group headed by Barbara Owen, and a bevy of others who worked tirelessly behind the scenes.

Accolades are in order also for members and staff of Eudora Church, Memphis, led by Pastor Calvin Harvell.

The Memphis festival was a showcase of ex-

cellence in foreign missions. One possible reason for a smaller attendance than anticipated was that many Tennessee Baptists were reluctant to believe the tremendous scope and powerful message in advance. The almost 2000 who witnessed MissionsFest can testify to the power of the experience.

We share some examples of MissionsFest Tennessee:

- There were testimonies from eleven missionaries: Dartha Babcock, Sierra Leone; Glenn and Patricia Bien, Bangladesh; Charles Boudreaux, Guyana; Glenn and Pauline Nicholson, Panama; John and Martha Clement, Indonesia; Ben Hope, South Brazil; and Jerry and Barbara Schleiff, Zimbabwe.

- Glenn Bien told of 48 new churches in Bangladesh, and said the 5000 members of churches baptized 1500 people. There were only 20 Christians there just a few years ago.

- Glenn Nicholson told of first feeling God's call to foreign missions at a world missions conference. His wife Pauline said that half the population in Panama is under twenty years old. She reminded us of prayer: "You are the unseen missionaries."

- Bill O'Brien, FMB vice president, underscored positive attitudes in missions. "Paul and Barnabas did not talk much about being beaten, stoned, left for dead, when they reported to the church," he said. "They only reported how God had opened the door of faith. Bad happenings were just a part of the great plan."

- On Saturday morning, speaking of Missions: the Bible's Central Theme, Keith Parks said that God has blessed us with opportunities to know Him, His grace, forgiveness, salvation, but "not because

we're Americans or Southern Baptists."

These blessings we have, he said, are "on the way to someone else," like the blessings bestowed on Abraham. He emphasized that salvation is for "all the peoples" of the earth.

The Old Testament is the story of God's choosing a people through whom He could bless all peoples, Parks said. About the Pentecost experience in Acts 2, Parks said God planned it that way. The people weren't there by happenstance. They represented all the major known language groups. Thus, God's basic purpose, redemption for all peoples would be taken to all the people of that day.

- Parks warned the audience not to constrict the Scripture as some had wanted in the early days of Christendom; the Word of God must be unfettered.

- One of the greatest pivotal points in history came when Peter acknowledged to Christ, "You are the long awaited Messiah, the Son of God," Parks said. He told his listeners not to ever let the church feel insignificant; "we are about bringing in the Kingdom of God."

If these words read like a drama, they are. One after another, many of the participants said this was their greatest experience with foreign missions — short of making the trip overseas. And 500 GAs walked among the missionaries — talked to them, looked at their reminders of the work abroad, took photos of them.

Like other Tennessee Baptists, they absorbed hours of foreign missions experiences. We will all be the better for it. As one weary layman said, "I feel just like a sponge — a happy sponge."

Let's have more events like MissionsFest Tennessee — soon. — WFA

Changes in 'communist' East opens door to evangelism

FORT WORTH (BP) — Stunning changes in Russia and Eastern Europe have created an open door for evangelism and church planting, a Southern Baptist missionary told students at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary during a missions day program.

"There is a tremendous hunger on the part of the Russian people for the Bible and the Gospel of Jesus Christ," according to Earl Martin, director of the Institute for Missions and Evangelism at Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland. Martin, who has been involved with mission projects in the Soviet Union, spoke during Southwestern's Missions Day Chapel Oct. 9. This year's theme was "From/To Russia With Love."

Also speaking at the event was George Lozuk, Southern Baptists' first fraternal representative to Russian Baptists. He and his wife, Veda, will leave next month for Moscow where they will be involved in evangelism and religious education.

"God has opened so many doors in Europe," said Lozuk, a former missionary in South America. "And there is all the difference in the world in a closed door and an open door. The openness is an opportunity before you. It's a beckoning."

Lozuk shared with seminary students

the challenge of working in the Soviet Union. "Do you realize that the Soviet Union is a land of some 290 million people?" he asked. "When the sun sets on the western-most part of this land it is already rising on the eastern-most part. This land has 11 time zones from east to west and it covers one-sixth of this globe we call earth."

The Lozüks will be working along side Russian Baptists. The Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists reports a membership of 250,000 in 3000 churches.

Lozuk said the new religious freedom in the Soviet Union, spurred by the recent passage of the "freedom of conscience" act, is opening a door for the fulfillment of the Great Commission.

"We are told to go and disciple all nations," he said. "We see that God has called many, and is calling others, and will continue to call them as he opens doors."

Lozuk said God expects Christians "to be the light in dark places. We can go in and we can share Christ. We can share where true joy comes from," he said.

One Southwestern student did exactly that on a missions trip to Leningrad this summer. Joe Kelley went to the Russian city with a group of Texas Baptist students to help renovate an old cathedral which is now being used

as a Baptist church. During the Missions Day Chapel, he shared with students how he was able to help lead a young Russian college student to Christ.

"The openness of the people there is just awesome," Kelley said in a later dialogue session with students. He was impressed with the openness of the Russian media to Christianity. He and another mission volunteer were interviewed by a correspondent for a television news program in Russia and their comments were aired over national television.

Kelley also was impressed with the reverence of Russian Baptists for the Bible. "One of the women kept her Bible in a plastic bag so it wouldn't get damaged. She really took care of it. They have respect for God's Word."

David Price, another Southwestern student, was part of a group of Mississippi Baptist students who

worked on the same project in Leningrad. He was impressed with the Russian Baptists' zeal for God and evangelism.

"I left challenged and humbled. They don't just wear the name tag that says Christian. They really live it," he said.

As the door to missions opportunity continues to open in Russia, Martin said it is important for Southern Baptists to avoid a "Messianic" mentality. "Russian Baptists don't need us to bring revival to them, they are already experiencing it," he said. "We need to work along side them, as a link and liaison to help make things happen."

Martin said one of the biggest needs among Russian Baptists is theological education. Southern Baptists working through the Baptist World Alliance, will likely play a part in the development of a seminary in Moscow, he said.

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Montana keeps same office site

GREAT FALLS, Mont. (BP) — A recommendation by the executive board of the Montana Southern Baptist Fellowship that the fellowship office be relocated in Helena, Mont., was defeated by messengers at the Oct. 10-11 fellowship meeting.

Following the defeat, a planning document for 1991-1996 was adopted.

Earl Fitzwater, a layman from

Easthaven Church, Kalispell, was elected president. He succeeds another layman, Grant Jackson. Forsyth pastor Garvon Golden was elected vice president.

A 1991 budget of \$782,333 was adopted. The amount designated for world missions through the Cooperative Program unified budget remains at 20 percent.

Furman trustees take power from S.C. convention

GREENVILLE, S.C. — Furman University's board of trustees has voted to elect its own successors, taking that power away from the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

But the board faces a fight from convention leaders who called the action "a shock and tremendous disappointment."

The board, voting 18-6 in a called meeting Oct. 15, amended the university's charter to give trustees the sole power to elect future trustees.

Furman president John E. Johns said the action was taken to keep Furman "out of harm's way" and to prevent the school from becoming a "political football" in the fight between "moderates" and "conservatives."

The 25-member board, in a second meeting Oct. 16, unanimously elected

five trustees to replace five who are rotating off at the end of the year. The five are the same five nominated by the state convention's nominating committee.

A Furman spokesman said the board elected the same slate as had been nominated in order to have "a smooth transition."

Furman is one of four colleges supported by the South Carolina Baptist Convention. Founded in 1826, the university received about \$1.6 million of its \$43.4 million budget from the state convention last year.

Johns said the charter change will not affect Furman's day-to-day operations and that the school will continue to provide "the finest possible education under Christian influences."

State convention leaders appear

ready to fight Furman's action.

Ray P. Rust, executive secretary-treasurer of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, said in a prepared statement that he believes the trustees have no legal right to take the action they did.

He bases his belief on Furman's 1956 amended charter which says "the charter shall not be amended, altered, or added to without the approval of the State Baptist Convention."

However, the trustees maintain they, in their fiduciary role to the University, have the right to rescind the 1956 action and therefore amend the charter.

Since its founding, Furman's trustees have been elected by the convention. Trustees have had to be members of cooperating South Carolina Baptist Convention churches.

Johns said the board has not set qualifications for new trustees but it is likely that non-South Carolina Baptists may be considered.

Furman's action follows a similar move by Baylor University trustees who voted last month to give that board more power to elect trustees

than the Texas Baptist Convention has had.

Rust said he was disappointed with Furman's action. "Unlike the situation with Southern Baptist institutions there appears to be no imminent threat to any South Carolina Baptist Convention institution from any group attempting to 'take over,'" Rust said.

Board calls meeting

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The General Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention will be called into special session Nov. 12 to consider action by Furman University to revise its charter to create a self-perpetuating board of trustees.

The executive committee of the General Board met in emergency session Oct. 18 to consider response to the Furman action.

After the meeting, Ken Harmon, pastor of First Church, Newberry, chairman of the executive committee, announced the special meeting of the 87-member General Board will be called for 2 p.m. Monday, Nov. 12, "to further discuss this matter and make other decisions about its resolution."

Seminary retreat seen as . . .

(Continued from page 1)
was grateful the board did not implement further doctrinal guidelines, such as the SBC Peace Committee Report adopted in 1987. Southwestern's faculty currently signs the Baptist Faith and Message as a doctrinal statement.

In other actions, trustees elected Bruce Corley dean of the seminary's School of Theology and affirmed the Cooperative Program, the Southern Baptist Convention's unified plan of giving.

Corley, who has taught New Testament at Southwestern for 15 years, was recommended by Southwestern President Russell Dilday. Prior to the election, board members spent nearly two hours interviewing Corley. The trustees' Academic Affairs Committee then unanimously endorsed the recommendation.

Corley, 47, succeeds William Tolar, who was elected vice president for

academic affairs and provost during the board's spring meeting, following the retirement of John Newport from that position.

The seminary's trustees joined a growing list of Southern Baptist Convention boards passing resolutions in support of the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptist's unified funding mechanism.

The resolution came as a response to alternative funding plans which have been discussed in the SBC, including an August meeting in Atlanta which explored bypassing the Cooperative Program.

The board's resolution "strongly affirms the Cooperative Program as the best method God has given our denomination to support missionary, benevolent, and educational causes. We strongly encourage all churches of our convention to fully and generously support the Cooperative Program."

Southern Baptists give record . . .

(Continued from page 1)
by \$5,922,739, Bennett noted.

Of the overage, \$2,431,880 was spent to retire the debt on the SBC Building in Nashville, Bennett said. The building, which houses eight SBC organizations, was completed in early 1985.

The balance of the overage was divided between the 18 recipients of the budget in the same proportion as they received basic operations allocations, he added.

"I am absolutely delighted by the 2.4 percent increase over the budget a

year ago," Bennett said, noting estimates indicated the gain would be about two percent.

"Southern Baptists are continuing to be concerned about supporting world missions through the Cooperative Program and will give strong support to it."

The Cooperative Program has become a focal point in the SBC's 12-year-old controversy.

Some moderates, who say they have been excluded from meaningful participation in the convention by conservatives in control of its agencies, have begun designating or escrowing their national contributions to the program. Some of them have organized a national mechanism, the Baptist Cooperative Missions Program, Inc., to disperse money to SBC agencies without channeling it through the Executive Committee.

Some "conservatives," meanwhile, have accused the "moderates" of sabotaging the convention's missions-funding mechanism. They have condemned escrowing or designating funds and called for increased Cooperative Program giving.

"The effect of the financial skirmish has not been determined," Bennett said. Designated receipts — two missions offerings as well as designated gifts and other special contributions — were up only 3.9 percent, he noted.

"We have not been impacted as yet by any withholding or designations to any degree," he said. "A quarter from now, we may see a trend. It will have to be after the Baptists state conventions (in November) before we see appreciable changes occurring."

The goal for the current Cooperative Program basic operating budget is \$137,332,523. Any overage will be divided 50-50 between a "program advance" component, which distributes funds proportionately to the 18 recipients, and a "capital needs" component, which will go toward meeting \$22 million in building fund commitments the convention has made to some agencies.

Carson-Newman awards degree to Parton

JEFFERSON CITY — Carson-Newman College President Cordell Maddox conferred the honorary doctor of letters degree to Sevier County native Dolly Parton Oct. 21 in a special convocation.

Approximately 3000 people filed into the college's football stadium to see the country music star honored for her contributions to the education of young people in Sevier County.

An honorary doctorate is the highest

honor given by the college, Maddox said, noting the degree is awarded based upon three criteria — demonstrated commitment to education, to service, and to Christian faith.

Recipients must also have distinguished themselves in their vocation or field of service, he added.

"We have come together today as a college and a community to honor a person who has found the meaning of her life and has touched the lives of millions," Maddox said.

Describing Parton as "an ambassador for Appalachia," Maddox noted the singer was being recognized for "her personal and very intense" interest in education.

Through the Dollywood Foundation, Parton has been instrumental in developing innovative programs at reducing the dropout rate of Sevier County students and in encouraging students to pursue college plans, Maddox said, adding that three C-N students have been awarded scholarships through Parton's foundation.

Greetings were brought by individuals representing the trustees, faculty, alumni, and students.

Samuel Dean, pastor of First Church, Clinton, and immediate past chairman of the trustees, noted there is a need today for more advocates of education.

People are needed who will proclaim education "is more than a minor sub-

ject in the curriculum of life," he said.

The citation presented to Parton acknowledged her success as an actress, singer, and a business woman while noting she "has been dedicated to her family, her community, and her Christian faith."

The citation stated that Parton "grew up singing in her grandfather's church congregation (Church of God) and today her music is a testimony to that religious heritage."

Parton acknowledged she was proud to accept the honor from Carson-Newman, an institution she "has admired since she was a little girl."

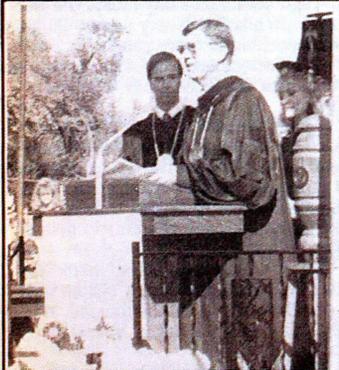
She noted the school represents not only the finest in education, but also "a warm Christian environment which feeds the soul as well as the mind."

Parton said she has been offered degrees from other institutions but declined because she felt they were honoring her only for her career as an entertainer. The degree from C-N also recognizes her concern for education, she added.

Parton, who has a high school education, stressed education is more important today than ever before.

"Today, the world has gotten smaller through communications and transportation. Everyone needs to be fluent in this new world.

"And, that fluency comes through education." — Lonnie Wilkey



CONFERRING DEGREE — Carson-Newman College President Cordell Maddox, center, and Michael Carter, vice president of academic affairs, present Dolly Parton with the honorary doctor of letters degree.

Fellowship approves funding plans; sets convocation

ATLANTA — An interim steering committee of the new "Fellowship" of Southern Baptists organized this summer in Atlanta has approved mission funding tracks for churches that choose to bypass the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. Plans for a national convocation next spring were announced.

Meeting there Oct. 11-13, the provisional panel elected officers, organized working committees, expanded its membership, and established communications strategies.

Acting on the issue of most apparent concern to the 3000 participants at the August organizational meeting of the yet-unnamed Fellowship, the interim steering committee agreed to a two-track funding plan, both of which delete any funding for the SBC Executive Committee, Baptist Press news service, Christian Life Commission, Public Affairs Committee, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.

Jimmy R. Allen of Fort Worth, co-chairman of the funding committee, explained the five organizations eliminated from the funding plans are those "most flagrantly violating Baptist principles at the point of religious liberty, freedom of information, and priesthood of the believer."

One track, a venture plan, specifies

that 25 percent of the monies received will be set aside for new mission initiatives of the Fellowship and a safety net to provide emergency assistance to SBC employees discharged or otherwise forced out of their jobs by "conservative" boards of trustees. An additional 1.58 percent will be set aside for administrative expenses of the Fellowship and of Baptist Cooperative Missions Program Inc., a separate unit established during the August gathering to receive and disburse mission funds from churches and individuals.

Under the venture plan, each of the other SBC agencies and institutions will receive a share of the remaining funds based on a formula adopted in June at the annual SBC meeting.

Churches choosing the second track, called the regular plan, will send their missions gifts through BCMP Inc. according to the SBC formula with the noted exceptions.

Both plans provide funding for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Associated Baptist Press, and the Baptist World Alliance.

Additionally, churches choosing to use BCMP Inc. as a simple bypass mechanism may continue to send mission monies to all SBC agencies and institutions under terms of the convention-adopted formula. Or they may tailor-make their own mission giving

plan and use BCMP Inc. as a receiving and disbursing agent.

BCMP Inc. President Grady Cothen told members of the steering committee funds have begun "to trickle in," with many more churches and individuals expected to begin using the funding alternative as a result of the committee's actions.

Steering committee members also approved a spring convocation to be held May 9-11, 1991, in Atlanta. The specific site is yet to be determined.

At the recommendation of the nominating committee, 14 new members were elected, bringing total membership of the steering committee

to 70, the number authorized by participants in the August gathering. Overall, the committee is composed of 37 clergy and 33 laity. Forty-six are men, 24 women.

Committee members agreed to accept an offer from the independent newspaper SBC Today of a free page in each issue leading up to the May convocation. Communications committee member Relma Hargus, a newspaper reporter from Baton Rouge, La., was designated editor of the page.

Members voted to hold their next meeting Jan. 17-19, 1991, in Dallas and scheduled a third meeting March 7-9, 1991, at a site to be chosen. — ABP

Texas board studys Baylor relationship

DALLAS (BP) — In a called meeting Oct. 17, the executive board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas named a special 26-member committee to examine the legal, financial, and relational issues arising from recent actions by the trustees of Baylor University distancing the school from convention control.

The Baylor board of trustees on Sept. 21 revised its charter to establish a board of regents "with sole responsibility for governance of Baylor" and elected 16 people to the new body. Previously, Baylor's charter provided for school governance by a 48-member board of trustees, elected by the BGCT.

The committee on the BGCT/Baylor relationship was named to study the Baylor trustees' action and to recommend responses by the BGCT and its coordinating entities for education and human welfare institutions. Legal and other counsel will be retained to assist in the study.

The first major assignment of the committee, chaired by Robert Naylor, president emeritus of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, is to study Texas Baptists' Cooperative Program funding for Baylor.

The committee will make recommendations to appropriate committees and boards of the BGCT for action, and it will present changes that require convention approval to the annual BGCT

meeting in Waco, Nov. 11-12, 1991.

The 193-member executive board also approved a motion asking that the upcoming 1990 BGCT meeting in Houston, Nov. 13-14, be asked to "recognize the executive board's authority to amend the 1991 budget" based on recommendations of the special committee.

Currently, following action taken by the Texas Baptist Christian education coordinating board and affirmed by the 15-member BGCT administrative committee on Oct. 2, funds normally allocated by the BGCT for Baylor University are being held in interest-bearing accounts until a determination can be made about their appropriate distribution.

Boys' Ranch dedication set

The Boys' Ranch, newest ministry of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, will be dedicated Oct. 25 at 3:30.

The 224-acre ranch, located near Millington, will be the site of a groundbreaking ceremony. The program will provide care, counseling, and spiritual guidance to boys who have behavioral problems caused by sometimes difficult family backgrounds.

Tennessee Baptists are welcome to attend.

MWBTS trustees laud, criticize faculty

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Trustees at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary adopted a resolution affirming the faculty and then spent about an hour expressing concerns about the theological stance of faculty members.

The resolution of affirmation was passed without question or discussion, and said:

"We affirm and commend the faculty and administration and express our confidence in them that they are acting within the spirit of the Baptist Faith and Message and the Peace Committee report."

Following adoption of the resolution, drafted by the trustee instruction committee at the Kansas City, Mo., seminary, trustees adopted a resolution to consider increased trustee involvement in the seminary's faculty selection process, and heard a discussion on another motion — later withdrawn — asking that students be allowed to tape record lectures and chapel sessions.

After the hour-long discussion, trustee Graydon K. Kitchens Jr., of Minden, La., told the board: "In view of the discussion we've had here, I'd like to make one observation. I've sat here and heard discussions of students' complaints about faculty, about imbalance of faculty, about trustee input

concerning faculty selection, and then I pulled out this resolution of affirmation ... and read it again.

"If the majority of this board feels anywhere near like the discussion that's been going on here this morning, then we are grossly hypocritical in sending the faculty a piece of paper with this resolution on it. I don't think we ought to be sending them any more pieces of paper like this until we resolve how we really feel about it."

Kitchens' remarks came at the conclusion of discussion of the two motions introduced immediately following adoption of the resolution of affirmation. Sid Peterson of Bakersfield, Calif., moved that the board's executive committee "study the method by which faculty are elected and, if feasible, recommend a plan by which the trustees can be involved earlier in the process of faculty selection."

Peterson said trustees do not have enough early involvement in the faculty selection process. "By the time it comes to the trustees, it has already gone through the dean, the president, the faculty. Everyone has already determined who's going to be here except the trustees, whose duty it is to elect the faculty."

His motion was adopted by 25 of the 27 trustees present.

and traditional Russian hymns, western Protestant music, and contemporary American Gospel songs.

Between songs, the director of the choir, Evgeni Goncharenko, will explain the historic significance of the growth of Evangelical-Baptist and other Protestant churches in the Soviet Union.

Logos Choir will also perform Oct. 31 at 6:30 p.m. at First Church, Nashville, and Nov. 2 at chapel services for the Southern Baptist Convention and Baptist Sunday School Board.

Russian choir to make Nashville appearance

The Logos Choir from the Moscow Church of Evangelical-Baptists in the Soviet Union will present a concert Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. at Belmont Heights Church, Nashville.

The 42-member chamber choir/orchestra will perform for church groups in 11 states during a tour sponsored by New Call to Peacemaking, a cooperative effort of the Church of the Brethren, Friends, and Mennonites, and the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America.

Music during the concert will include classical church music, contemporary

TeamTalk

By D. L. Lowrie

Piney Grove Church, Harriman, has its high attendance goal set for this Sunday. Their pastor, Jeff Nave, has led them to set a goal of 130. In light of their present attendance, this is a good goal for them. It thrilled me to hear about their goal as I preached for them recently.

I believe in high attendance efforts in Sunday School. Such a day helps everyone realize just how important Sunday School is to the program of the church.

High attendance day will have a positive impact on the attendance for several weeks to come.

High attendance day will help you discover new prospects. Such an effort by your church will result in visitors in

the Sunday School.

High attendance day builds the worship attendance. Every pastor delights in preaching to more people.

High attendance day stirs up new enthusiasm about the study of God's Word.

These are just a few reasons that Greer Ruble and our Sunday School staff have selected the last Sunday in October as high attendance day. Our statewide goal is 300,000. This is achievable if each church will give a good effort.

Let me encourage you to be in Sunday School, and to take a visitor with you. Both of you will be blessed. Without you and your visitor, we might have only 299,998.

Piney Grove is giving a new Bible to the person bringing the most visitors with them. Your church may not offer a prize, but the Lord will.

Let's go across the top in Sunday School.



LOWRIE

FMB appoints missionaries with Tennessee ties



JETTS



McPHERSONS

RICHMOND — Two couples with strong Tennessee ties were among 38 recently appointed missionaries by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Steven and Susan Jett were appointed to Germany where he will start and develop churches and together they will be involved in a variety of outreach ministries.

A native of Knoxville, Jett has served as pastor of Stock Creek Church in that city since 1984. He con-

Samford speakers

Reconciliation debate shows common ground, distance

BIRMINGHAM (BP) — Southern Baptists have been debating issues informally for years but at Samford University last week the debate was planned, organized, moderated, and even timed.

Samford University's Student Government Association sponsored the debate "The Southern Baptist Convention: Hope for Reconciliation" with Randall Fields of San Antonio, and David Montoya formerly Gravette, Ark., and now of Fort Worth, representing "moderates" and Paul Pressler of Houston and Wayne

siders Valley Grove Church, Knoxville, as his home church.

Jett is a graduate of Cumberland College, Williamsburg, Ky.; Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; and Oxford (England) Graduate School.

He is a member of the American Baptist Theological Seminary Commission and vice chairman of the committee on resolutions for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Mrs. Jett is the former Susan Drake of Williamsburg. The Jetts have two children, Elizabeth Ashleigh and Steven Matthew.

David and Melanie McPherson were appointed to Austria where he will start and develop churches and together they will be involved in outreach ministries.

A native of Stillwater, Okla., McPherson has been minister of students at Central Church, Oak Ridge, since 1988.

Dorsett of Birmingham, Ala., speaking for "conservatives."

Samford law student Maryanne Matthews-Walser, a former Birmingham radio and television journalist, moderated the debate, cutting off responses and discussions in mid-sentence when necessary to keep the program on schedule.

While the panelists did find areas of common ground, they also illustrated the distance between the two camps of Southern Baptists.

In his opening statement, Montoya, a student at Southwestern Baptist Theo-



IN KNOX COUNTY — Participating in Knox County Association's annual meeting at Immanuel Church, Knoxville, were, from left, Gene Fleming, associate pastor, Cumberland Church, clerk; Alan Smith, pastor, Mars Hill Church, vice moderator; Tom Gatton, pastor, Second Church, Knoxville, outgoing moderator; and Director of Missions Walter Taylor. Calvin Metcalf, pastor of Central Church, Fountain City, was elected moderator.

logical Seminary, recounted his own involvement with the "conservative" movement in Arkansas. He called that movement a brilliant and powerful, organized political machine which worked informally through friendship networks to place "conservatives" in certain leadership roles and even in influential pastorates.

Montoya said he participated in the movement because he felt he was defending the Bible and left the movement when he realized he was part of a machine with an organized effort to gain control.

In Pressler's opening remarks the appeals court judge read a portion of 2 Timothy 3, focusing attention on his insistence that the controversy is theological rather than political. He said the SBC would not be having the problems of today if 11 years ago Baptist leaders had acknowledged the sincerity of "conservatives" concerned over liberalism in Southern Baptist schools, admitted that there was a problem, and been willing to work together for solutions.

He countered Montoya's concerns about the political nature of "conservatives" by presenting documents indicating that "moderates" had an organized effort too. Montoya said "moderates" had made a mistake in attempting to run a national campaign to counter a movement which was operated like a local campaign.

Randall Fields, an attorney and president of Baylor University's alumni association, used his allotted time for questioning Pressler to seek common ground. He asked such basic questions as; how does one become a Christian? and what does priesthood of the believer mean? On those points he said he could find no disagreement with Pressler. Differences began to surface, however, when Pressler was asked to define "liberal."

Pressler said that in matters of Biblical interpretation "I don't know anyone I agree with 100 percent," yet he maintained there should be parameters of belief that qualify or disqualify for teaching in Baptist colleges and seminaries.

Montoya said that the 1987 Peace Committee report is being used as a creed for Southern Baptists and suggested that there is still a penalty for

those who refuse to comply.

Pressler said that although "conservatives" have spoken of "enlarging the tent" he said they could not bring in "those who are still throwing hand grenades."

Mention of "destructive acts" brought up recent firings of Baptist Press employees. Pressler said, "If the media had not tried to discredit me" more progress would have been made toward reconciliation. He said, "I'm tired of extending my hand in fellowship and having it come back a bloody nose."

Fields and Dorsett, who were both students in Baptist colleges until the late 1970s, expressed more optimism, however. Fields said he was willing to be an instrument of reconciliation. Dorsett, pastor of Central Park Church in Birmingham, said his entire ministry had been conducted thus far under the shadow of SBC controversy and he and a whole generation of young Baptists are tired of controversy and are ready to talk about ways to end it.

One Word More

By Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

October's days are rushing past, hurling us toward shortened hours of winter when sunny days are a bonus.

Nevermind the approaching blasts, there is blue splendor in October skies. Each day is a psalm of the Lord's goodness. The bounty of His grace and love reach out to weary pilgrims and lost travelers alike.

Spare not the praise for such a God, unawed by His own creation. He already has looked at it and declared it "good."

Clutch each treasure of gold and red and other hues of autumn — crush them closely to your heart. But not forever — don't squeeze them selfishly until they have no merit. Pass them on.

Tennessee is an uncommon place, rare and distinctive. It has a lively personality, beautiful in appearance, strong in vigor.

If you doubt these descriptive words, ride across the Volunteer State east to west, south to north — in October. Do it at any season, but especially do it in October.

We are in the "big month" of associational meetings. From Memphis to Dayton, Hohenwald and Savannah to Rockwood, I am flirting with the extraordinary. Tennessee Baptists are experiencing that unique fellowship of associational commonality. I am deeply grateful and humbled by the privilege of being a participant.

More than others, we who work from the Baptist Center have that exclusive

opportunity of witnessing firsthand the bonds of Baptist fellowship as expressed in cooperation and calm of the association meeting.

It is indeed a blessing. People from large and small churches, town and country churches, people with diverse theological attitudes, meet together to pray and praise, plan and promise, pledge and promote. There is also some good preaching — and the customary good Baptist food.

But the message presaged by October's blues and reds and yellows — is abundantly clear: God is love. Jesus saves. Salvation is for all. Preach the Word. Pray without ceasing. Rescue the perishing. Love one another. Tell the Good News. Be salt and light.

Preaching during the Big Emory meeting at Rockwood's First Church, Ronnie Owens talked about Samson's taking the honey from the lion's skeleton, eating some and then sharing with his family. The Word is like honey, he said. Pass it on.

And dipping spoons into a honey jar, he fed the sweetness to several listeners on the front row. Indeed, pass it on. The blessings encountered on October days are like those creations blessed by God. They are good.



ALLEN



LIVENGOOD HONORED — Charles Livengood, left, is honored by Alpha Association on his retirement as director of missions. He has served in that capacity since 1972. Program participants at the associational meeting event included Marvin Suiter, right, chairman of the special committee; Leslie Baumgartner, retired TBC Missions Director; D. L. Lowrie, TBC executive director; Margaret Smithson, member of Fairfield Church; and Lawrence Steiner, pastor of Petros Church, Petros. The meeting was at First Church, Hohenwald.

FMB eyes Korea tax puzzle; votes to sell property

SEOUL, South Korea (BP)— Southern Baptist mission leaders are working on two fronts to try to solve a \$1.6 million Korean tax puzzle.

Under a new government ruling, that is what it would cost the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board annually in taxes unless it sells about two-thirds of its property in South Korea that the nation's government now classifies as "excess" property.

The board, through its missionary organization in South Korea, has been seeking a way for some time to sell property it no longer considers vital to its work in the country. It had hoped to take at least part of the proceeds, along with sale of unneeded property in several other countries, and use the money to help meet missionary housing and other property needs worldwide.

But the Korean government agency that regulates religious activity in the country says proceeds from such prop-

erty sales must be reinvested in Korean property.

Sam James, director for the Foreign Mission Board's work in East Asia, said he sees some hope for a solution. Government officials have told him and Korean mission leaders that they will work with them to try to determine ways the funds could be used in line with the Korea Baptist Mission's charter.

As a first step toward seeking a solution, Foreign Mission Board trustees at their October meeting in Richmond, Va., authorized the mission organization in South Korea to sell three missionary properties containing multiple missionary residences, two in Seoul and one in Taejon. The land, purchased in the 1950s and 1960s at costs ranging from \$10,000 to \$25,000, now has an estimated combined value of more than \$16 million. Proceeds from the sale would be applied against operating or capital expenditures of

the Korean mission in accordance with Korean legal restrictions, the actions stipulated.

The board also authorized sale of a Taiwan residence property, bought in 1962 for \$4400 and valued today at \$1 million. Proceeds would be applied against operating expenses of the Taiwan Baptist Mission in accordance with Taiwan legal restrictions, the action said.

In South Korea, as in a number of other countries, the Southern Baptist mission organization bought large lots in the 1950s and 1960s for single-family residences when property was relatively inexpensive. When missionaries completed work in an area and moved away, the property was sold. As property values escalated in South Korea, the mission organization received considerably more funds for the land than

In Middle East

it originally had paid.

Implementing the law that went into effect this year, the Korean Ministry of Construction said that the Korea Baptist Mission, to avoid a heavy tax liability, must dispose of a large portion of its property. The construction minister calculated "excessive" property as any land around a structure more than four times larger than the square footage of the residence's ground floor.

South Korea's new tax law is aimed at keeping major corporations from buying land as speculative investments.

A tax accounting firm hired by the mission organization says the Foreign Mission Board would need to sell approximately 57,000 square yards of land in five major Korean cities where the government applied the law.

HMB chaplains report baptisms

ATLANTA (BP)— Along with scorpions and viper bites, Southern Baptist chaplains report professions of faith and baptisms during Operation Desert Shield.

Letters received by the chaplaincy division of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board reveal both physical hardships and spiritual renewal. As of Oct. 11, more than 70 Southern Baptist chaplains from every branch of the military were stationed in the Middle East.

Due to military security, names and locations of chaplains are omitted from this story.

One chaplain reported nine professions of faith. Without rivers, lakes, or swimming pools, the chaplain used a decontamination tank for a baptism. The tank's rubberized liner on a metal frame is designed to decontaminate people and equipment after chemical warfare.

Another chaplain wrote that "soldiers are anxious to hear from

God. I've even done a baptism in the desert; it may be the first in this Moslem land."

That chaplain is with the most forwardly deployed ground unit. He says he conducts "platoon-size" worship services, and it takes four days to cover his 13 ministry points because the troops are so dispersed.

Another chaplain reported eight professions of faith and asked for 25 copies of the Survival Kit for New Christians workbook for adults and 600 evangelistic tracts. The HMB chaplaincy division will send the material to him.

"Worship services have been fantastic," another chaplain wrote. Attendance at the morning worship service he leads has grown from 11 to 52, and the evening attendance has grown from 12 to 42. Daily Bible study attendance has grown from six to 43 with nine choir members. He reported seven professions of faith.

RAISING THE ROOF — In photo below, Brotherhood volunteers from about nine churches recently constructed an equipment facility on the Franklin campus of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes. In photo at right, Leroy Perryman, left, and J. D. Shipp, associate pastor of Second Church, Union City, discuss the progress of the building. Perryman, a member of Second Church, served as construction coordinator. Other churches sending volunteers included First Church, Troy; Mt. Pelia Church, Martin; Pleasant View Church, Bradford; Poplar Corner Church, Brownsville; First Church, Bells; New Bethlehem Church, Bradford; First Church, Dyer; and Haywood Hills Church, Nashville.

— Photos by Wm. Fletcher Allen



SEVIER COUNTY OFFICERS — Officers elected during Sevier County Association's annual meeting included, from left, Leon Mayo, Dupont Church, moderator; Melvin Carr, Shiloh Church, vice moderator; Nancy Carpenter, Sevier County Association secretary, clerk; Charles E. McCarter, Boyd's Creek Church, treasurer; and Director of Missions Frank Proffitt.

Oak Grove WMU project featured in missions book

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)— When the schoolbell first rang this fall, 120 students in eastern Tennessee found themselves more well-supplied for class than ever before, thanks to members of a nearby Southern Baptist church.

The Woman's Missionary Union of Oak Grove Church, Mount Carmel, provided school supplies for the children in a low-income area of a neighboring town. After buying textbooks, many of the families had no money left to purchase other school supplies.

Working with the local school principal, the women learned what the children would need for the year.

"We made a list of the school supplies the kids would need, and we gave the list out during Sunday School," said Carolyn Reed, Oak Grove's WMU director. John Compton is pastor.

More than 250 members of the 500-plus-member church participated. "They bought pencils, paper, crayons, glue, construction paper, watercolors, composition books, backpacks for the small kids, pencil boxes, scissors, and rulers," Reed said.

An activity center operated by neighboring Sullivan Baptist Associ-

ation became the distribution site for the supplies. The neighborhood surrounding the center is full of children from low-income families.

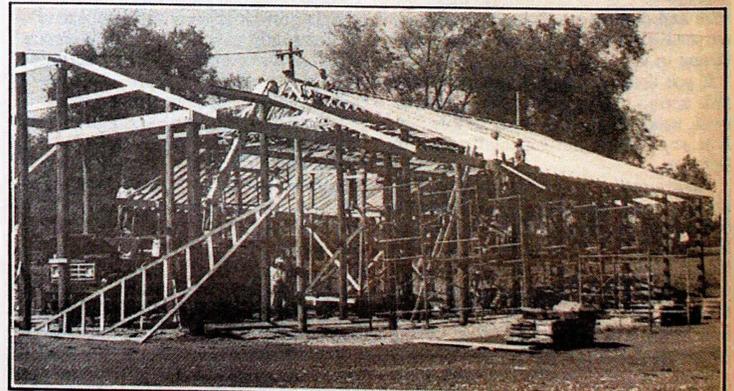
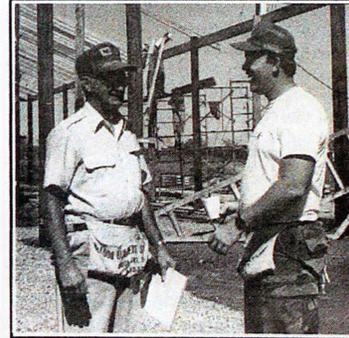
Fliers were circulated in the neighborhood the week before the distribution date, Reed said.

"We told the mothers they had to come and pick up the supplies," she said. This gave the WMU women an opportunity to witness to the parents and invite them to activities at the center.

The school supply drive was such a success the year it was launched that Oak Grove Church has now completed its second year of distributing school supplies.

Members of Oak Grove Church never know how many parents and children will show up to claim supplies, but there always have been enough to go around with some left over. Extra supplies are given to the local school staff to distribute to children throughout the year who aren't able to replenish their own supplies.

This mission action project has been so successful it was chosen as one of 100 mission projects featured in "100 Plus Ways to Involve People in Missions," a book recently released by WMU.



Tennessee Baptist Convention Guide

BELMONT HEIGHTS CHURCH, NASHVILLE

116th ANNUAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 13-15, 1990

116th annual session

Tennessee Baptist Convention meets Nov. 13-15 in Nashville

The 116th annual session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention will be held Nov. 13-15 at Belmont Heights Church in Nashville.

Featured on the program are sermons by TBC President F. Murray Mathis and Franklin pastor Bob Norman, and the presentation of a proposed \$26.7 million budget. Messengers may also have the opportunity to vote on a proposed foreign missions partnership with Chile.

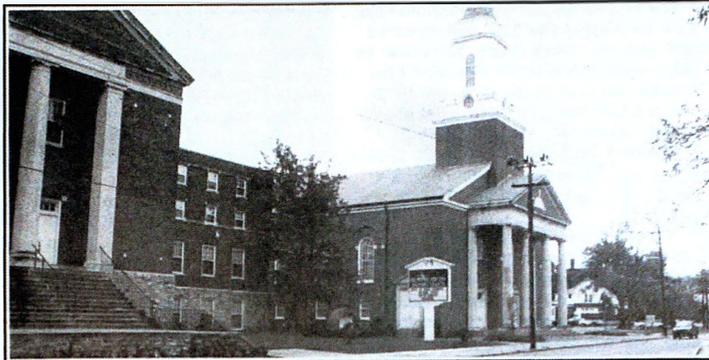
The theme of the three-day meeting is "ImpacTennessee — Touching Lives."

Mathis, pastor of Third Church, Murfreesboro, will call the convention to order at 9 a.m. on Tuesday. The subtheme of the session is "evangelism."

Judson Hays and Paul Peak will report for the committees on credentials and arrangements, respectively.

The first order of business, after a devotional by Milan pastor Don Whitt and a welcome by host pastor Perry Michel, is the treasurer's report and presentation of the budget by D. L. Lowrie, TBC executive director-treasurer. The \$27.6 budget proposed for 1991 is the same as the 1990 budget.

In September, the TBC Executive Board approved an amendment to allocate .29 percent, or approximately \$28,000, of the Southern Baptist Convention's portion of the Cooperative



CONVENTION SITE — Belmont Heights Church, located at 2100 Belmont Boulevard in Nashville, will host the 1990 annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Program to the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

The budget and program committee of the Executive Board, however, at a recent meeting voted unanimously to request the Board to rescind its amendment.

The Board will meet Nov. 12, prior to the beginning of the convention. If the board rescinds its action, the 1991 budget would be presented without amendments and voted on Nov. 14 by TBC messengers.

A ten-minute slot for miscellaneous business is scheduled during the opening session.

Tuesday morning business also includes reports from the committee on audits, Tennessee Baptist Health Care Systems, and the annual convention sermon presented by Bob Norman, pastor of Clearview Church, Franklin. Clearview's choir will present special music prior to the message.

Messengers reconvene at 2 p.m. on Tuesday. The business session will include recognition of new pastors and church staff in Tennessee and fraternal messengers, miscellaneous business, and a report from the constitution and bylaws committee.

Messengers will have the opportunity to approve on second reading an amendment related to the purpose of the convention. Both the present and proposed purposes are found on page ten.

Two other recommendations also will be made by the committee and may be found on page ten also.

During the afternoon, a devotional by Maynard Tribble, minister of education at First Church, Knoxville, a report about the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes will be given along with special music presented by Messianic Jews from Woodmont Church, Nashville. The subtheme of the afternoon session is "Cooperative Program giving."

The afternoon session will close with a message by Zeb Moss, associate area director for eastern and southern Africa with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

The highlight of the Tuesday evening session, with a subtheme of making disciples, will be the annual president's

address by Mathis, preceded with special music from the choir of Third Church, Murfreesboro.

Other activities include a devotional by Andersonville pastor Don Adams, reports from the Church Programs Division, and recognition of TBC retirees by Executive Board President Howard Olive.

Following the evening session, TBC messengers are invited to a reception in honor of Vern Powers, Gerry Mayes, and Lyn Brasfield in fellowship hall two at Belmont Heights.

The subtheme of the Wednesday morning session is "ministry." Following a devotional by Kingsport pastor Franklin Hawkins, messengers will elect officers for the coming year at 9:25, with subsequent times at 10:20 and 2:30, if needed.

Mathis is not eligible for a second year at the helm since the presidency is a one-year, non-successive term. His successor traditionally would come from west Tennessee.

Guy Milam, pastor of North Knoxville Church, Knoxville, is vice president while Andrew J. Prince, pastor of West Hills Church, Knoxville, is second vice president. Other officers are Wallace E. Anderson, recording and statistical secretary; Pat Porter, registration secretary; and Lowrie is treasurer, elected by the Executive Board.

The report of the Executive Board and the adoption of the budget will be made following the election of officers.

During the Executive Board report, messengers may have the opportunity to vote on a proposed foreign missions partnership with Chile.

A planning team from the Tennessee Baptist Convention leaves today (Oct. 24) to investigate the feasibility of a Tennessee/Chile Partnership Mission to begin in 1992.

The Tennessee group, which returns Nov. 1, will meet with Spanish South America leadership of the Foreign Mission Board, and leaders of the Evangelical Baptist Convention of Chile. The partnership would overlap the current Tennessee partnership with the Philippines by three or four months.

Representing the TBC on the plan-

ning team are Lowrie, Bill Wilson, director, Convention Ministries Division; Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor, Baptist and Reflector, Katharine Bryan, executive director, Woman's Missionary Union; Clarence Stewart, Partnership Missions director;

Bill Bargiol, director of missions, Big Emory Association and chairman of the TBC DOM group; Don Givens, chairman, convention ministries committee; and Howard Olive, president of the Executive Board.

Tom Vassar and James Cecil of the FMB also will be on the planning trip.

The Tennessee team will report upon return. Any action toward forming the partnership with Chile will be presented to messengers for vote.

Also scheduled on Wednesday morning are reports from the committee on resolutions, ministers' aid committee, church staff compensation study committee, TBC schools, and special music from Belmont College.

Jackie Kay, pastor of Bartlett Church, Bartlett, will deliver the morning message.

When the convention reconvenes Wednesday afternoon, the subtheme will be "prayer." Carol Martin, of First Church, Chattanooga, will give the devotional.

Afternoon happenings include reports from various committees.

On Wednesday night the subtheme is "church growth." Following a devotional by Martin pastor Roger Oldham, reports will continue from the Convention Ministries Division along with special music for the adult choir of Two Rivers Church, Nashville.

Ken Hemphill, pastor of First Church, Norfolk, Va., will deliver the closing sermon on Wednesday night.

The last session of the 116th annual convention will convene Thursday morning with a subtheme of "invitation to challenge."

After a devotional by Lebanon pastor Bobby Johnson, reports will be given by the American Bible Society, United Tennessee League, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, Committee on the Journal, the Historical Committee, and the Baptist and Reflector. The directors of missions' chorus will present special music.

D. L. Lowrie will present the final message of the convention.

Throughout the three-day meeting there will be a variety of special music and congregational singing coordinated by Julian Suggs, director of the TBC's Church Music Department.

Parliamentarian for the 1990 TBC meeting is Frank Ingraham, a Nashville attorney and member of First Church, Franklin.

Mathis said he has positive feelings for the upcoming convention meeting. "It will be a time when people will express themselves, but at the same time it will be in the context of love."

Mathis also noted people "are concerned about the convention. They are tired of in-fighting and want to get back to the basics and priority of reaching people for Christ."

Registration instructions

Registration for the 116th annual session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention will begin Monday, Nov. 12, at 2 p.m. at Belmont Heights Church, Nashville, according to Pat Porter, TBC registration secretary.

Three areas of registration will be available to assist messengers. Registration area #1 will be in the church foyer, and registration areas #2 and #3 will be in the hallways outside the church offices on the second floor.

The Committee on Credentials reminds messengers of the following:

- A pastor is not automatically considered a messenger and should be voted on by the church along with other messengers.
- Be sure the messenger card is completely filled in and properly signed by the moderator or church clerk.
- Only one name should appear on the messenger card.
- No church, regardless of size, can have more than ten messengers.
- The TBC Constitution does not provide for alternates.
- If lost, ballots and name badges cannot be replaced.
- Visitors are encouraged to register. They will not receive a name badge or ballots, but can receive a program.

Judson Hays of Old Hickory is chairman of the Committee on Credentials.

Belmont Heights prepares for anticipated record crowd

By Connie Davis, assistant editor

The record-breaking crowd expected at the Tennessee Baptist Convention annual meeting may tax the capacity of Belmont Heights Church.

About 1800 messengers can be seated with the addition of an overflow room in the fellowship hall where the proceedings will be televised on an eight foot square screen.

But the 1989 record of 2028 in Knoxville will be broken, according to Pat Porter, TBC registration secretary. About 700 more registration cards have been sent out to associations than last year, and "We have four more weeks to go," said Porter. About 1400 more have been distributed than the last time the meeting was held in Nashville, which drew only 1725 messengers in 1987.

Perry Michel, pastor, Belmont Heights Church, noted if the church's chapel and several other large rooms could be equipped with television equipment, several hundred more messengers could participate.

Parking also should not be a prob-

lem, said Michel. "I think we can handle it even if we have the 2500 or 3000 some are talking about." Parking attendants will direct traffic. And students at Belmont College, which is north of the church, have been asked to help by vacating parking spaces in college lots near the church, reported Michel.

The church is accustomed to hosting TBC meetings. The TBC met there in 1927 and four other times, as recent as 1984. The Tennessee Evangelism Conference has met there since the 1950s.

Hosts and hostesses will be available to help the crowd, added Michel.

Exhibits, including the Baptist Book Store, will be located in the church's family life center, south of the sanctuary.

A free nursery is provided by the convention at the church for preschoolers during convention sessions. Also a registered nurse from Baptist Health Care System, Nashville, will be available. She will be located at the back of the sanctuary.

The church may be reached from In-

terstate 440. If going west take 21st Avenue South Exit and go north to Blair Boulevard; turn right and the church is at the end of Blair. If going east on I-440 take 21st Avenue South Exit and go north to Blair Boulevard; turn right onto Blair which becomes Belmont Boulevard. Travel several blocks; the church is on the left.

Reservations for the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention must be made by Nov. 1 or the rooms allotted by area hotels will be released, said Pat Malloy of the TBC Executive Office.

From Interstate 65 exit at Wedgewood. Go west until reaching 15th Avenue and turn left on 15th. Go about five blocks; the church is on the right.

Lodging may be found at the following motels: Hampton Inn, 1919 West End Ave., (615) 329-1144, \$52 single or \$59.00 double; Days Inn Convention Center, 711 Union Street, 242-3411, \$55 single or double; La Quinta, Sidco Drive (I-65 South), 834-6900, \$35 single,

\$40 double; Park Plaza Hotel, 920 Broadway, 244-0150, \$49 single or double; Ramada Inn - South (I-65 South), 737 Harding Place, 834-5000, \$45 single or double; and Shoney's Inn, 1521 Demonbreun, 255-9977, \$38 single, \$45 double. Request TBC rooms.

A restaurant guide will be available when registering.

For further help with local arrangements, messengers may contact Pat Malloy, TBC, (615) 373-2255.

Seminary alumni meet in conjunction with TBC

Five of the six Southern Baptist seminaries will hold annual alumni meetings in conjunction with the Tennessee Baptist Convention Nov. 13-15 in Nashville.

Southern Seminary - Nov. 14, noon, Belmont College, CBA Building, Rooms 102-103; Speaker, R. Alan Culpepper, professor of New Testament; Tickets, \$9; contact Raymond Langlois at 4900 Franklin Road, Nashville, Tenn. 37220.

New Orleans Seminary - Nov. 14, 12:30 p.m., Belmont College; contact Fred Baldwin at (615) 643-4255 or 643-4507.

Southwestern Seminary - Nov. 14, noon, Two Rivers Church, Room 100; Speaker, Harry Hunt, associate professor of Old Testament; contact Jerry Sutton at (615) 889-3950.

Midwestern Seminary - Nov. 14, 7 a.m., Shoney's Restaurant, 3415 Murphy Road, Nashville; cost is yet to be determined; contact Wrex Hauth at 1030 Jefferson Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104.

Southeastern Seminary - Nov. 14, 12:30 p.m., Calhoun's Restaurant, off White Bridge Road; Speaker, Paul Brock, director of communications; cost, order from menu; contact Bob Polk at (615) 543-1451.

Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., will not have an alumni function during the annual TBC meeting, according to spokesman Eddy Oliver.

WMU members examine empowering power

National and state missions, especially work by Woman's Missionary Union members, will be presented at the Tennessee WMU annual meeting Nov. 12 at Woodmont Church, Nashville.

"His Power . . . Empowering" is the theme based on the 1990-91 national WMU theme, Empowered, relating to Ephesians 3:20-21, explained Katharine Bryan, Tennessee WMU executive director.

The program will include features on Tennessee Baptist Women, Baptist Young Women, Acteens, Girls in Ac-

tion, Missions Friends, and churches. Members of First Church, Calhoun, will report on their relationship with Missionaries Art and Ruth Robinson of Taiwan.

A new organizational structure, approved at last year's meeting, will be installed during the election of officers. Instead of eight vice presidents leading the organization, three vice presidents and eight promotional directors will be elected, added Bryan. The board of directors, which is made up of the state's associational WMU directors, will be expanded from 67 to 75 to in-

clude the promotional directors, said Bryan.

Because of Tennessee Baptists' project with Burkina Faso, Dana Nottingham, former missionary to Burkina Faso and widow of Barry Nottingham, will speak. She is from Azle, Texas. Other missionaries on the program include Stephen and Claudia Hall of Brazil and Dottie Babcock of Sierra Leone.

Margrette Stevenson of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Zeb Moss, Foreign Mission Board, and the six Tennessee Acteens Panelists also will address the gathering.

Music will be presented by Nashville area vocalists, instrumentalists, a men's ensemble, and choirs of Woodmont Church, including the Mission Friends choir.

WMU annual meeting schedule

Theme: His power . . . empowering

Monday morning — 10 a.m.	Music
His power . . . equipping	Report of executive
EmpoweredKarrin Ford	directorKatharine Bryan
Jenny Tamblyn	Acteens, Baptist
Brenda Jewell	Young Women . . .Charlene Gray
Welcome,	Girls in Action . . .Leighann McCoy
Call to orderCarol Pharris	Music
PrayerBecky DeWaal	Special musicSusan Hearn
A missionary	His power . . .
momentStephen and	enablingDana Nottingham
Claudia Hall	Empowered!
Monday evening — 7:30 p.m.	Monday evening — 7:30 p.m.
His power . . . empowering	His power . . . empowering
Empowered!Jenny Tamblyn	Empowered!Jenny Tamblyn
Elise Dumser	Elise Dumser
Karrin Ford	Karrin Ford
Brenda Jewell	Brenda Jewell
Combined choirs,	Woodmont Church
A missionary moment	A missionary moment
PrayerElisa and LeAnn Denney	PrayerElisa and LeAnn Denney
Music	Music
Report of executive	Report of executive
directorKatharine Bryan	directorKatharine Bryan
Mission Friends . . .Leighann McCoy	ActeensCharlene Gray
Baptist WomenCarrol Kelly	WMUCarrol Kelly
ActeensCharlene Gray	Recognition of 1990-91
Special musicRon Alley,	officers
Leanne Robbins	Prayer of
His power . . .	dedication . . .William Hazlewood
equippingMargrette Stevenson	Music
Empowered!	Special musicMen's Ensemble
A missionary	His power . . .
momentDottie Babcock	empoweringZeb Moss
PrayerSherri Edgington	Empowered!Combined choirs
	Woodmont Church

Recommendations from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to the Tennessee Baptist Convention Nov. 13, 1990

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee recommends that the Tennessee Baptist Convention approve the second reading of the amendment of Article III. PURPOSE of its Constitution:

Present

Article III. Purpose: The Convention shall promote the evangelistic, educational, missionary, benevolent, and other interests of Tennessee Baptists and cooperate in promoting such objectives fostered by Baptists through the Southern Baptist Convention as it deems proper.

Proposed

Article III. Purpose: The mission of the Tennessee Baptist Convention is to fulfill the Great Commission by assisting, encouraging, and strengthening affiliated churches to reach the evangelistic, educational, missionary, benevolent, and other ministry goals in a cooperative relationship with the Southern Baptist Convention.

II. Recommendation from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to the Tennessee Baptist Convention

Bylaw 2. Standing Committees

(9) Duties

G. Historical Committee (proposed addition in boldface type)

c. Encourage the writing and publication of histories of individuals, churches, associations, institutions, and conventions.

III. Joint recommendation from the Committee on the Journal and the Constitution and Bylaws Committee:

That the Committee on the Journal be dissolved and its duties to be deleted from each reference in Bylaw 2. Standing Committees.

Tennessee Baptist Convention

"IMPACTennessee — Touching Lives"

Convention Officers

President F. Murray Mathis
 Vice president Guy Milam
 Second vice president Andrew J. Prince
 Recording and statistical sec. Wallace Anderson
 Registration secretary Pat Porter
 Treasurer D. L. Lowrie
 Music coordinator Julian Suggs
 Parliamentarian Frank Ingraham

Committee on Audits — Roger Shelton
 Miscellaneous business
 Tennessee Baptist Health Care Systems Inc.
 — David Stringfield
 Congregational singing — Allen Bowling
 Special music — Adult Choir, Clearview
 Church, Franklin
 Convention sermon — Robert J. Norman
 Benediction — Rodney Dunn

Benediction — M. B. Howard
Tuesday evening session
 6:45-9:20 p.m.
 Music Director: Julian Suggs
 Organist: Mary McDonald
 Pianist: Suzanne Adams
 Tennessee Baptist Chorale — Julian Suggs
 Invocation — Ray Maynard
 Devotional — Don Adams
 Tennessee Baptist Chorale — Julian Suggs
CHURCH PROGRAMS DIVISION — D. L. Lowrie
 (Sunday School, Discipleship Training,
 Church Music, Brotherhood, Church
 Media Library and Church Recreation,
 Woman's Missionary Union)
 Congregational singing — Bill Morris
 Recognition of retirees — Howard Olive
 Presentation of president's family — Guy
 Milam

Organist: Stanley Shayer
 Pianist: Fay Thompson
 Congregational singing — Beryl Vick
 Invocation — Curtis Fowler
 Devotional — Franklin Hawkins
 Election of officers
 Report of Executive Board and adoption of
 budget — Howard Olive
 Election of officers
 Congregational singing — Mark Caruth
 Committee on Resolutions — Robert L. Orr
 Ministers Aid Committee — W. D.
 Thomason
 Church Staff Compensation Study Commit-
 tee — Roy Gilleland III
 TBC schools — William Troutt
 Special music — Belmont College
 Message — Jackie Kay
 Benediction — Beverly Smothers

November 13

Tuesday morning session 8:45 a.m.-Noon

Music Director: Norman Gardner
 Organist: Joanne Willis
 Pianist: Sharon Jenkins
 Pre-session music
 Call to order — Murray Mathis
 Invocation — Billy Hines
ORGANIZATION OF CONVENTION
 Committee on Credentials — Judson Hays
 Committee on Arrangements — Paul Peak
 Congregational singing — Norman Gardner
 Devotional — Don Whit
 Welcome — Perry Michel
 President's announcements — Murray
 Mathis
 Treasurer's report and presentation of
 budget — D. L. Lowrie

Tuesday afternoon session
 2:00-4:45 p.m.
 Music Director: Don Norris
 Organist: Rentz Barkley
 Pianist: Mary Jo Kiker
 Congregational singing — Don Norris
 Invocation — Tammy S. Baker
 Devotional — Maynard Tribble
 Recognition of new pastors/church staff —
 D. L. Lowrie
 Recognition of fraternal messengers —
 Murray Mathis
 Miscellaneous business
 Constitution and Bylaws Committee —
 Sidney Waits
 BSSB centennial highlights — Lloyd Elder
 Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes Inc. —
 Gerald Stow
 Congregational singing — Don Norris
 Special music — Messianic Jews, Wood-
 mont Church, Nashville
 Message — Zeb Moss

Tuesday evening session
 6:45-9:20 p.m.
 Music Director: Julian Suggs
 Organist: Mary McDonald
 Pianist: Suzanne Adams
 Tennessee Baptist Chorale — Julian Suggs
 Invocation — Ray Maynard
 Devotional — Don Adams
 Tennessee Baptist Chorale — Julian Suggs
CHURCH PROGRAMS DIVISION — D. L. Lowrie
 (Sunday School, Discipleship Training,
 Church Music, Brotherhood, Church
 Media Library and Church Recreation,
 Woman's Missionary Union)
 Congregational singing — Bill Morris
 Recognition of retirees — Howard Olive
 Presentation of president's family — Guy
 Milam
 Scripture reading — Archie Mathis
 Special music — Adult Choir, Third Church,
 Murfreesboro
 President's address — Murray Mathis
 Benediction — Wayne Simpson

Wednesday afternoon session
 2:00-4:30 p.m.
 Music Director: Joe Morrell
 Organist: Pat Mulloy
 Pianist: Lauryn Moody
 Congregational singing — Joe Morrell
 Invocation — Emerson Wiles
 Devotional — Carol Martin
 Committee on Arrangements — Paul Peak
 Election of officers
 Miscellaneous business
 Committee on Boards — Stephen L. Witt
 Committee on Committees — Gary
 Rickman
 Congregational singing — Joe Morrell
 Constitution and Bylaws Committee —
 Sidney Waits
 Tennessee Baptist Foundation — Earl
 Wilson
CONVENTION MINISTRIES DIVISION —
 William G. Wilson
 (Church Ministers Information, Protection
 Plans, Telecommunications, Partnership
 Missions)
 Benediction — Carolyn Outland

November 14

Wednesday morning session 9:00 a.m.-12:05 p.m.

Music Director: Beryl Vick

Wednesday evening session
 6:45-9:45 p.m.
 Music Director: Jim Burleson
 Organist: Kaye Grable
 Pianist: Betty Bergen
 Pre-session music — Adult Choir, Belmont
 Heights Church
 Invocation — George Hill
 Devotional — Roger Oldham
CONVENTION MINISTRIES DIVISION —
 William G. Wilson
 (Evangelism, Missions, Student,
 Cooperative Program and Stewardship
 Promotion)
 Congregational singing — Jim Burleson
 Special music — Adult Choir, Two Rivers
 Church, Nashville
 Message — Ken Hemphill
 Benediction — Phil Glisson

Tennessee Baptist Convention week activities

Monday, November 12

9:30 a.m. Convention Details
 Meeting, TB Center —
 Conference Room D
 9:30 a.m. Pastors' Conference, Bel-
 mont Heights Church
 10:00 a.m. Woman's Missionary
 Union, Woodmont
 Church
 11:30 a.m. Committee on Boards,
 Dining Room — TB
 Center
 11:30 a.m. Committee on Commit-
 tees, Dining Room — TB
 Center
 11:30 a.m. Constitution and Bylaws
 Committee, Dining
 Room — TB Center
 11:30 a.m. Committee on Creden-
 tials, Dining Room —
 TB Center
 1:30 p.m. Woman's Missionary
 Union, Woodmont Church
 1:30 p.m. Pastors' Conference, Bel-
 mont Heights Church
 2:00 p.m. Registration, Belmont
 Heights Church
 3:30 p.m. Executive Board, Bel-
 mont Heights Church —
 Chapel
 5:30 p.m. Committee on Arrange-
 ments, TB Center —
 Dining Room
 5:30 p.m. Committee on Resolu-
 tions — TB Center —
 Dining Room
 5:30 p.m. Tennessee Baptist
 Church Music Con-
 ference Banquet, Bel-
 mont College, White
 Dining Room
 6:30 p.m. Pastor's Conference,
 Belmont Heights Church
 6:30 p.m. Tennessee Baptist
 Recreation Association
 Banquet and Alumni
 Meeting, Belmont
 Heights Church
 7:30 p.m. Woman's Missionary
 Union, Woodmont
 Church

Tuesday, November 13

7:30 a.m. Michigan Cluster Coor-
 dinators and Michigan
 Leadership Breakfast,
 TB Center Dining Room
 9:00 a.m. Tennessee Baptist Con-
 vention, Belmont
 Heights Church
 2:00 p.m. Tennessee Baptist
 Convention
 5:00 p.m. Union University Alum-
 ni and Friends Dinner,
 Woodmont Church, 2100
 Woodmont Boulevard
 5:00 p.m. Belmont College Alumni
 and Friends Dinner, The
 Jack C. Massey Business
 Center, Neely Dining
 Room
 5:00 p.m. Annuitants Dinner, Ten-
 nessee Baptist Center,
 Brentwood
 5:15 p.m. Chaplains' Fellowship
 Dinner, Baptist Hospi-
 tal, 2000 Church Street
 5:30 p.m. Tennessee Baptist Youth
 Minister's Association,
 Hermitage Hills Country
 Club
 6:45 p.m. Tennessee Baptist
 Convention
 9:20 p.m. Reception for TBC
 Retirees, Belmont
 Heights Church, Fellow-
 ship Hall II — Room
 1100
 9:20 p.m. Carson Newman College
 Dessert Fellowship, Bel-
 mont Plaza Retirement
 Center

Wednesday, November 14

6:30 a.m. Baptist Joggers' Jubilee,
 Centennial Park
 7:00 a.m. Midwestern Seminary
 Breakfast, Shoney's,
 3415 Murphy Road
 7:30 a.m. Agency/Institution
 Leadership Breakfast,
 Baptist Hospital, 2000
 Church Street
 7:30 a.m. Middle Tennessee DOM

Breakfast, Belmont Col-
 lege, Faculty/Staff Din-
 ing, Student Center
 Building

9:00 a.m. Tennessee Baptist Con-
 vention, Belmont
 Heights Church
 12:00 p.m. Minister's Wives Lunch-
 eon, Belmont College,
 Massey Business Center,
 Neely Dining Room
 12:00 p.m. New Orleans Seminary
 Luncheon, Belmont Col-
 lege, White Dining
 Room, Student Center
 Building
 12:00 p.m. Southwestern Seminary
 Luncheon, Two Rivers
 Church, 2800 McGavock
 Pike
 12:00 p.m. Southern Seminary
 Luncheon, Belmont Col-
 lege, Bunch Building,
 Rooms 102-103
 12:30 p.m. Southeastern Seminary
 Luncheon, Calhoun's
 Restaurant, White Bridge
 Road
 1:00 p.m. Baptist Homes for Ret-
 arded Adults, Baptist
 Homes for Exceptional
 Persons, Christian
 Homes for Retarded In-
 dividuals, Belmont
 Heights Church —
 Chapel
 2:00 p.m. Tennessee Baptist
 Convention
 4:45 p.m. Executive Board, Bel-
 mont Heights Church —
 Chapel
 6:45 p.m. Tennessee Baptist
 Convention
Thursday, November 16
 7:30 a.m. TBC Presidents
 Breakfast, Park Plaza
 Hotel, 820 Broadway
 9:00 a.m. Tennessee Baptist
 Convention

November 15

Thursday morning session 9:00-11:50 a.m.

Music Director: Mark Karki
 Organist: Pat Mulloy
 Pianist: Marty Hennis
 Congregational singing — Mark Karki
 Invocation — Fuad Shorrosh
 Devotional — Bobby Johnson
 Committee on Resolutions — Robert Orr
 Unfinished business
 American Bible Society — Glenn Herndon
 United Tennessee League — Wayman Jones
 Presentation to outgoing officers — D. L.
 Lowrie
 Presentation to incoming officers — Murray
 Mathis
 Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes Inc. — J. L.
 Ford
 Committee on the Journal — Kelver Mullins
 Historical Committee — J. Harold Stephens
 Baptist and Reflector — Fletcher Allen
 Congregational singing — Ron Alley
 Special music — DOAM Chorus
 Message — D. L. Lowrie
 Benediction — Diane Stewart

TBC Pastors' Conference addresses need for 'genuine revival'

Addressing the need for genuine revival in the hearts of our people will be the focus of the 1990 Pastors' Conference, said Larry Gilmore, conference president.

The theme for the meeting, to be held Nov. 12 at Belmont Heights Church, Nashville, is "The Pastor ... Leading His Church in Revival."

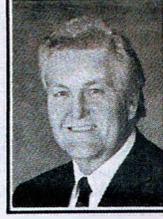
"Revival will not come to the church unless revival is experienced in our hearts individually," said Gilmore, pastor of College Heights Church, Gallatin.



GILMORE



GILYARD



HILL



JACKSON



RING

Gilmore added that revival "is not likely to come to our churches unless we as pastors are willing for our people to see God working renewal in our own lives.

"The pastor must be a leader in seeking the face of God, in honest repentance of known sin, and in

brokenness before God."

Gilmore said in planning the program he attempted to get speakers Tennessee Baptists wanted to hear.

"We wanted to have people who had a message and who would preach that message forcefully," Gilmore added.

The conference, held the day before the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention begins, will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude around 9:15 p.m.

Jackie Kay, pastor of Bartlett Church, Bartlett, will deliver the opening message. Other Tennessee Baptist pastors presenting messages are Frank Crumpler, Brainerd Church, Chattanooga; Rick White, First Church, Franklin;

Frank Samuels, Southland Church, Memphis; Steve Gaines, West Jackson Church, Jackson; and Gilmore, who will deliver the president's address at 7:45 p.m.

The program also features four nationally known Southern Baptists — Darryl Gilyard, pastor, Victory Church, Plano, Texas; Junior Hill, evangelist, Hartsville, Ala.; David Ring, evangelist, Orlando, Fla.; and Richard Jackson, pastor, North Phoenix Church, Phoenix, Ariz.

Jackson will deliver the closing message at 8:25 p.m.

After Jackson's message there will be a time for commitment and prayer for revival, led by the new president who will be elected earlier in the afternoon.

Gilmore also noted there was a special time for prayer set aside in the afternoon so "people can get get on their knees before God to ask Him to bring renewal and revival to their own lives and to their churches."

The Gallatin pastor observed that

the way Tennessee Baptists will impact Tennessee "will be through us joining our hearts and hands together in prayer.

"If we will be a praying people, seeking God in revival, then God will melt down our differences and will break us in our pride and then we will find ourselves useable to God.

"Until that happens, it's not likely we will impact Tennessee regardless of what kind of catchy logo or motto we use," he said.

Special music during the conference will be presented by Jeffrey Benward, Franklin; Kay DeKalb Smith, Franklin; Larry Joe Martin, Gallatin; Lois Jane Huddleston, Gallatin; and Jim Murray, Hendersonville.

Gilmore urged Tennessee Baptists to pray "that God will use this conference to bring Tennessee Baptists together to make the impact on Tennessee that God has in mind."

Ministers' wives plan TBC meeting

The Ministers' Wives Fellowship, auxiliary to the Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference, will have its annual luncheon meeting Nov. 14 in Nashville.

Theme for the noon meeting is "Chosen." Alice Lowrie, wife of TBC Executive Director D. L. Lowrie, is the featured speaker.

Buses will pick up passengers in front of Belmont Heights Church at 11:30 a.m. for the trip to Belmont College. The luncheon will be in Neely Dining Room, Barbara Massey Hall.

Tickets are \$10, and checks should be made to TBC Ministers' Wives Fellowship. Contact auxiliary president, Loretta Mathis, 3745 Columbia Ct., Murfreesboro 37129 or (615) 890-7308.

Pastors' Conference

Theme: "The pastor ... leading his church in revival"

Belmont Heights Church, Nashville

November 12, 1990

MORNING SESSION, 9:30-Noon

Pre-session music
 Congregational singing
 Welcome — Larry Gilmore
 Prayer — Kevin Ezell
 Praise in song — Bruce Gouge
 Devotional — Steve McDonald
 Praise in song — Mike Headrick
 Sermon — Jackie Kay
 Congregational singing
 Praise in song — Jeffrey Benward
 Sermon — Frank Crumpler
 Greeting and prayer for convention — Murray Mathis
 Congregational singing
 Praise in song — Jeffrey Benward
 Sermon — Darryl Gilyard
 Benediction — Mike Gass

AFTERNOON SESSION, 1:20-4:30

Pre-session music
 Congregational singing
 Welcome — Steve McDonald
 Prayer for revival — Hollie Miller
 Devotional — Walter Davis
 Praise in song — Kay DeKalb Smith
 Sermon — Junior Hill
 Congregational singing
 Praise in song — Kay DeKalb Smith
 Sermon — Rick White
 Election of officers
 Congregational singing

Praise in song — Larry Joe Martin
 Sermon — Frank Samuels
 Praise and prayer time — Lois Jane Huddleston
 Praise in song — Larry Joe Martin
 Sermon — Steve Gaines
 Prayer for revival — J. C. Lewis

EVENING SESSION, 6:15-9:15

Pre-session music
 Congregational singing
 Welcome — Larry Gilmore
 Prayer for revival — Bobby Johnson
 Congregational singing
 Praise in song — Lois Jane Huddleston
 Sermon — David Ring
 Congregational singing
 Offering — Steve McDonald
 Recognition of officers
 Annuity Board information — Vern Powers
 Praise in song — Choir, College Heights Church, Gallatin
 President's message — Larry Gilmore
 Congregational singing
 Praise in song — Jim Murray
 Sermon — Richard Jackson
 Time of commitment
 Presentation of new officers
 Prayer for revival — New President

TBC ministers meet prior to convention

Religious educators
 The 1990 Tennessee Baptist Religious Education Association fall banquet will be Monday evening, Nov. 12, at Immanuel Church in Nashville.

The banquet will begin at 6 p.m. and the cost is \$7.50 per person. Steve Simpler, acting dean, School of Biblical Studies and Ministry, Belmont College, will be the speaker. Music will be presented by Dennis and Nan Allen, musical humorists.

All persons with religious education responsibilities in Tennessee and their spouses are invited to attend the "Fall Banquet," the first of the two annual gatherings for the TBREA.

Deadline for banquet reservations is November 5. For information, contact Martha Couch at (615) 371-2054.

Youth ministers

The Tennessee Baptist Youth Ministers' Association will hold its annual meeting Tuesday evening, Nov. 13, at Hermitage Hills Country Club in Nashville.

The 5:30 p.m. meeting will include

dinner and a program. Guest speaker will be Keith Kline, field services and planning coordinator, Sunday School division, Baptist Sunday School Board.

All TBMA members are encouraged to attend and guests are welcome.

For information and reservations call Phil Johnsey at (615) 824-6154.

Music ministers

The Church Music Conference begins Monday, Nov. 12, at Belmont College in Nashville, with a rehearsal of the Tennessee Baptist Chorale in Harton Hall, the music building, from 1:30-4:30 p.m. A business session follows from 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Reservations are \$8.75 per person for the banquet at 6:30 p.m. in the White Dining Room at Belmont. Contact the TBC Church Music Department at (615) 371-2040 for reservations.

The Chorale will rehearse Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 5:15 p.m. at Belmont Heights Church, Nashville, prior to singing at the Tennessee Baptist Con-

vention annual meeting at 6:45 p.m. and at 7:25 p.m.

Recreation ministers

The Tennessee Baptist Recreation Association's annual dinner meeting will be held Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Belmont Heights Church, Nashville.

The meeting will address the question, "Is there more to winning in sports than the game?"

Larry Pursiful, minister of recreation/activities at Carlisle Avenue Church, Louisville, Ky., will be guest speaker. Pursiful was a collegiate basketball player at the University of Kentucky and is a former high school coach.

Special music will be provided by Brent Lamb, a contemporary Christian artist, and a member of Two Rivers Church, Nashville.

The cost of the banquet is \$6. For additional information, contact Eleanor Yarborough, state recreation director, at (615) 371-2033 for reservations.

Call to prayer set for Nov. 11

Murray Mathis, Tennessee Baptist Convention president and pastor of Third Church, Murfreesboro, has issued a Call to Prayer and Solemn Assembly on Nov. 11 in Nashville, at Belmont Heights Church.

Mathis' call extends to all Tennessee Baptists and other interested persons, he said. "There will be many Baptist pastors and others already arriving in Nashville," he said, since the annual meeting of the TBC begins Nov. 13. Belmont Heights is the host church.

Mathis said the prayer assembly will begin at 9 p.m. and last "until." He added, "We plan to pray through the night for the Tennessee Baptist Convention and the decisions to be made during its sessions."

Claude King, with the Discipleship Training department of the Sunday School Board, will assist in the assembly and "offering guidance."

Convention sessions begin on Tuesday, Nov. 13, but several adjunct meetings are scheduled on Monday, including the annual Pastors' Conference.

TenneScene

... North to south, from Eulia to
Elora by way of Lascassas ...

Churches ...

Homecoming was recently held at Dowelltown Church, Dowelltown.

East Tennessee Association reported St. Tide Church and Point Pleasant Church, both in Newport, held homecoming in September.

Excell Church, Clarksville, recently held homecoming. Duane Forderhase was guest speaker and Judy Ann Cunningham, Tracey Webb, The Revelations, and The Heartbeats were guest musicians.

Homecoming was recently celebrated at Wrigley Church, Lyles.

The Bluegrass Gospel Singers performed at homecoming recently at Oaklawn Church, Memphis.

Members of Lynn Garden Church, Kingsport, celebrated the church's 50th anniversary and homecoming Sept. 23.

The renovation of the auditorium at Calvary Church, Greeneville, was recently completed. Changes included new carpet, furniture, and stained-glass windows.

Tom Madden spoke at a homecoming service Sept. 30 at Greenlawn Church, Greeneville.

The congregation of River Bend Church, Bristol, celebrated the

Hannah's Gap Church holds dedication, celebrates anniversary

PETERSBURG — The 163rd anniversary of Hannah's Gap Church proved to be "extra special" for the Petersburg congregation.

Not only did members have time to reflect on their heritage, they also dedicated new kitchen facilities. The kitchen represented the first addition to the church since 1927, the church's centennial year, when Sunday School rooms were constructed.

Paul Hall, retired from the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Missions Department, delivered the morning message.

He congratulated the congregation for their accomplishment. "You have achieved a goal of a new addition," he noted, stressing that "this milestone is important."

church's 100th anniversary in September. Lewis E. Clark, who was pastor of the church in 1949-1951, was guest speaker.

Members of Hillcrest Church, Dyersburg, dedicated a new gymnasium/educational building in September.

Homecoming was held Oct. 7 at New Mitchell Grove Church, Halls.

Missions ...

Two Tennessee churches recently began ethnic ministries. First Church, Athens, began a Korean Bible study, and Calvary Church, Morristown, began a ministry for Spanish migrants.

A group of about 90 pastors, church staff members, and lay people from Nashville Association will leave Oct. 18 on an evangelistic mission trip to London and return Oct. 30. They will serve in Baptist churches through the London area in personal witnessing, outreach, and evangelism.

A mission team from West Jackson Church, Jackson, traveled to Michigan in September to do construction work at Madison Heights Fellowship Church, Madison Heights.

Several missionaries with ties to Tennessee are in the United States on furlough.

Wade and Sherry Akins, missionaries to Brazil, are residing at 305 Park-

Harold Smith, director of missions for New Duck River Association, delivered the message of dedication during an afternoon service.

Pastor Frank Edwards led the congregation of Hannah's Gap in dedicating the new construction.

Edwards also recognized members who played major roles in adding the new kitchen. Plaques were presented to Paul Barham, Fred Richardson, Lester Nichols, and John and Ernestine Cowden.

Edwards, who has been pastor of Hannah's Gap since November 1970, was given a surprise gift from his congregation.

Members presented Edwards a plaque recognizing him for "20 years of service to the Lord" at Hannah's Gap.

wood, West Monroe, La., 71291. The former Sherry Deakins was born in Johnson City and considers Gary her hometown. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1982.

Missionaries to Sierra Leone Steven and Dottie Babcock are residing at 1052 E. Jackson St., Milan, Tenn., 38358. Both consider Milan their hometown. They were appointed in 1985.

Dwain and Kathy Brown, missionaries to French Guiana, can be addressed at Rt. 7, Box 287, Columbia, Tenn., 38401. She is the former Kathryn Sneed of Columbia. They were appointed in 1986.

Missionaries to Japan Fred and Nancy Campbell can be written in care of Loray Baptist Church, 108 S. Firestone, Gastonia, N.C., 28052. He is a native of Oliver Springs. They were appointed in 1987.

Sam and Margaret Drummond, missionaries to El Salvador, are residing at 3700 Nanz Ave., Louisville, Ky., 40207. He was born in Memphis and considers Camden his hometown. They were appointed in 1986.

Bill and Mary Jo Geiger, missionaries to Chile, can be addressed at 4908 Franklin Rd., Nashville, Tenn., 37220. They are natives of Memphis. She is the former Mary Jo Shelton. They were appointed in 1966.

Missionary associates to Korea Jim and Barbara Hampton are residing at 120 Malibu Dr., D 23, Clarksville, Tenn., 37043. He was born in Memphis and considers Clarksville his hometown. They were appointed in 1987.

Ron and Gloria Murff, missionaries to Rwanda, are residing at 111 Lavonia, Chattanooga, Tenn., 37415. She is the former Gloria Price and considers Whitwell her hometown. They were appointed in 1986.

Robert and Olivia Williams, missionaries to Honduras, can be addressed at 600 Redman, B#7, Rome, Ga., 30161. He is a native of Memphis. They were appointed in 1970.

Leadership ...

Lincoya Hills Church, Nashville, called David Elliott as minister of youth/children.

Michael Ledbetter has been called as interim minister of music to First Church, Jamestown.

Charles Simmons retired as pastor of Southside Church, Humboldt, in September.

David Hatfield recently joined the staff of First Church, Dyer, as minister of music and youth.

A reception was held Oct. 21 at Dixie Lee Church, Lenoir City, in honor of the retirement of Pastor John F. Burleson. He served Dixie Lee Church for 12 years. In addition, he served Edgemoor Church, Clinton, from 1962 to 1978. He is currently serving on the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

Nelson W. Turner Jr., recently assumed the duties of minister of music and youth at Haywood Hills Church, Nashville. The Madison native returned to Nashville after serving as pastor of a Laurel, Md., church, and serving with the Home Mission Board Mission Service Corps in New York City. He is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.



TURNER

Revivals ...

First Church, Livingston, will hold revival services Nov. 4-9. Sam Wolfe, Huntsville, Ala., will be evangelist.

Holston Deaf Mission, Johnson City, sponsored by Holston Association, will hold a revival Nov. 2-4 led by Mark Mitchum of Deaf Opportunity Out Reach, Louisville, Ky.

Revival is scheduled Oct. 28-Nov. 1 at White Oak Church, Chattanooga. Larry Ramsour will lead the services.

Unaka Avenue Church, Johnson City, will hold revival Oct. 24-28 led by John Yarbrough, pastor, and Ken Marler, evangelist.

First Church, Shelbyville, will host a crusade Oct. 28-31 with evangelist Jim Wilson and music director Larry McFadden.

Washington Avenue Church, Cookeville, held revival Oct. 6-10 with evangelist Bob Mowrey, pastor of Park Avenue Church, Nashville.

Blount Avenue Church, Knoxville, began revival Oct. 21 with evangelist Al Smith.

Tom Britton recently led revival at Shiloh Church, Woodbury.



BUILDING COMMITTEE — Members of the building committee at Hannah's Gap Church, Petersburg, participated in the dedication of the first construction at the church since 1927, the church's centennial year. From left, John Cowden; Derrell Cowden; Mildred Barham; Paul Barham, chairman; Pastor Frank Edwards; Lorraine Nichols; and Fred Richardson.



DEBT PAID — The building committee of Mt. Gilead Church, Cedar Grove, recently burned the note on the church parsonage after paying off the debt in five and a half years. Pictured from left are Wendall James, Charles Meals, Jimmy White, Chairman Herschel Pierce Jr., Paul Gaston, and Jerry Essary.

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes

A Century of Care, A Lifetime of Love

As the month of November nears, the staff of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes has much reason to give thanks.

As of October 24, a total of 23 Baptist Associations have held celebration events in honor of the Children's Homes' 100th birthday. By March of 1991, every Association will have joined in the recognition of a century of providing love, care, and spiritual guidance to needy children.

"We are so grateful for and blessed by the tremendous response we've had so far," said Dr. Gerald L. Stow, TBCH executive director and treasurer. "We've been touched by the enthusiasm of local churches to help this ministry to the children of Tennessee."

The series of celebration events is part of a statewide Children's Centennial Campaign. Each Association schedules a dinner, and pastors and members of local churches are invited to attend. Following a time of fellowship and the meal, a testimony is given by someone who has been a part of the TBCH ministries — either as an adoptive parent, a fosterparent, or a resident. Participants also view a videotape that overviews that TBCH ministry and Centennial Campaign.

"People have been very responsive and have expressed concern about helping these children," said Rev. Burl McMillan, regional director of the Chattanooga TBCH campus. "They were very interested in learning about the ministry. There are still some people that think we're simply an orphanage, or that we only have one home."

Founded in 1891 in Nashville, the Children's Homes provides care, counseling, and spiritual guidance to the abused, neglected and abandoned children of Tennessee. TBCH also offers an alternative to abortion by

providing shelter and medical care assistance to unwed mothers.

The many services of TBCH are provided at no charge to the children, and are supported solely by the gifts of Baptist congregations and individuals across the state. The Children's Centennial Campaign is a one-time effort to raise \$7 million for endowment and capital needs. Each church has been asked to raise

\$3600 over a three-year period, an amount that could be reached with ten families committing \$10 a month for the three years.

"Through this effort, we hope to review the financial base to carry this ministry into the next 100 years," said Dr. Stow. "We knew going into this that we would not be successful without the support of local churches. I'm pleased to say that the

response has been a true blessing."

There are TBCH main campuses in Chattanooga, Franklin, and Memphis, and satellite cottage homes in Kingsport, Johnson City, and Burrville. A new Boys' Ranch ministry has been established in Millington. Unwed mothers receive care at alternative homes in Greeneville and Franklin, and foster homes in Memphis.



Residents of the Girls' Building pose for a group picture. This photograph, taken on the Franklin TBCH campus in the 1920s, shows the houseparents (standing in the rear, left), Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Sellers. Their son is standing at the far right of the front row. Pictured at the back right is the first superintendent of the Children's Homes (then known as the Tennessee Baptist Orphans' Home), William Jesse Stewart. The Franklin location was the first major campus for TBCH, which was founded in 1891 in Nashville at the site of the former Hotel Delaware.

Children in need of homes during holidays

Baptist families are needed by the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes to welcome children for a Thanksgiving or Christmas visit.

In the TBCH "visiting family" program, a child is allowed to leave campus during the holiday breaks from school, and participate in holiday activities with a family.

"Holidays are hard for these children because the focus is on families," explains Susan Hardison, a TBCH houseparent. "Many of

these children cannot return home because they have been neglected or abused. With a visiting family, they have an opportunity to see how a normal, loving family functions."

Boys and girls on the Memphis, Franklin, and Chattanooga campuses are in need of a loving, Christian home to visit during Thanksgiving and Christmas. In addition, there are children awaiting placement with a visiting family at the Boys' Ranch in Millington, and

the satellite cottage homes in Burrville, Johnson City, and Kingsport.

Families wishing to participate in the program must be active members of a Baptist church. Application forms may be received by contacting one of the following regional offices:

Johnson City/Kingsport —

615-929-2157

Chattanooga — 615-892-2722

Franklin — 615-377-6551

Memphis — 901-386-3961 (or -3971)



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Tennesseans recognized

Retiring missionaries reflect on service, urge others to go

RICHMOND (BP)—Bob and Margie Wakefield's 31-year missionary career ended with a question they could not answer.

One last time before returning to the United States, they visited the Khonds, a tribal group in the eastern highlands of India. The Wakefields, from Hartsville and Tribune, Mo., had worked with the Khonds as itinerant missionaries for several years.

The couple spoke to the Khonds during their final church service in India. When the worship leader asked if anyone in the congregation wanted to say something to them, a small man stood in back of the church and asked a question.

It was a "question we did not know how to answer," said Wakefield during a recognition service for retiring Southern Baptist missionaries Oct. 8 at Bon Air Church, Richmond.

"We want to give the question to you tonight because I have a feeling that some of you have the answer. The question was simply this: 'Is anybody else coming?' ... It's your question."

The Wakefields were among 71 retiring missionaries honored by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. The missionaries served a combined total of 2,164 years in 43 countries.

Several of the retiring missionaries have strong Tennessee connections.

Daniel and Betty Alice Carroll retired as missionaries at the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Texas. Mrs. Carroll considers Shelbyville her hometown and both are graduates of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City. They were appointed in 1953.

Calvin and Harriett Parker retired

recently as missionaries to Japan. Mrs. Parker was born in Hamblen County and considers Morristown her hometown. Both graduated from Carson-Newman College. The Parkers were appointed to Japan in 1951.

Harold and Dorothy Blankenship retired in September after 25 years of service in Libya and Morocco. Blankenship was born in Flag Pond and grew up in Erwin. He is a former minister of youth and recreation at Brainerd Church, Chattanooga.

Albert and Ruth Dyson retired in October after 35 years as missionaries in Sierra Leone and Nigeria. Mrs. Dyson is the former Ruth Widick of Nashville. Crea Ridenour recently retired after 45 years of service as a missionary teacher in Columbia. She was born in Westbourne and is a graduate of Carson-Newman College.

Robert and Thelma Beaty retired last December as missionaries who served in Bophuthatswana and Zimbabwe. Beaty, a native of Memphis, is a former pastor of Lamar Terrace Mission, which was then sponsored by Cherokee Church, Memphis.

Marshall Duncan, missionary to Kenya, retired in October. He is a native of Powell, but considers Knoxville his hometown. He is a graduate of Carson-Newman College. Duncan's wife, Julia, is a native of Tate Springs, but considers Knoxville her hometown.

Donaldson and Ina Frazier retired in March after 34 years of service in Nigeria. Frazier is a native of Blaine while his wife was born in Maryville. Both are graduates of Carson-Newman College.

Foreign Mission Board President Keith Parks called the missionaries "heroes and heroines in the faith." Parks said he found four common themes as he read testimonies the retirees had prepared for the evening service's printed program.

First, the testimonies reflected God's call to serve on a foreign field. "The Lord's calling is woven throughout the tapestry of their testimonies," said Parks.

For some of those missionaries, God's call also moved them to a different location in the middle of their mission careers. That was the case for Bert and Ruth Dyson, Southern Baptist missionaries to Nigeria and Sierra

Leone. The Dysons, of Nashville, and Mobeetie, Texas, had worked for 28 years in Nigeria when they sensed God's call to begin mission work in Sierra Leone.

"My first thought was, 'We're too old to start over again,'" admitted Mrs. Dyson. But during a church service in Nigeria, a sermon on Abraham helped the couple make the decision to pull up roots again.

"We didn't go with the great spirit of Abraham," she said. "We went more like Jonah, kicking and squawking. . . . But God was so good to us. God spoke to Abraham and to us in that same way: 'Go from your country.' But the

bottom line for Abraham and the bottom line for us was, 'I will go with you and I will bless you.'"

The missionaries' testimonies also reflected a "sharp awareness of the Lord's presence in all kinds of circumstances," Parks noted.

David King said his Bible now almost automatically falls open to Psalm 91 because he read it so much while working in bloody Lebanon. The psalm speaks of God's protection.

"God has been faithful," King, of Livingston, N.J., said of his service there. "God has blessed, God has kept us in His care and God is still active there."

One Woman's View By June McEwen

"I am enchanted by the Sermon on the Mount. Being merciful, it seems to me, is the only good idea we have received so far." These unlikely words are taken from a sermon by the novelist Kurt Vonnegut delivered on Palm Sunday in 1980 to an Episcopal church. One is reminded of Shakespeare's "the quality of mercy is not strained." People frequently remark that what we want individually is mercy, never justice.



McEWEN

Jesus promised that those who show mercy will receive mercy. Paul urged Christians by the mercies of God to present their bodies as living sacrifices. Micah summed up the law in the statement, "He hath shown thee, O Man what is good, and what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God."

Mercy means compassion and forbearance. It is a blessing that is an

act of divine compassion. Synonyms include charity and grace. According to one dictionary, mercy implies compassion that does not punish even when punishment is demanded by justice. Charity stresses goodwill and benevolence while grace implies a benign attitude toward dependents and lowlier persons.

To be at the mercy of is to be wholly in the power of another with no way to protect one's self against that person. Humankind is often in powerless and unprotected situations in relationships with other people and agencies and institutions. Therefore it is a Christian virtue to show mercy and thus to earn Jesus promise, "Happy are those who are merciful to others; God will be merciful to them (TEV Matt. 5:7)."

We begin our Christian life by some form of the prayer, "Lord, be merciful to me a sinner." Often we cry out with the Psalmist, "Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy." To receive mercy and not justice is a demonstration of God's grace. As Christians we need to be merciful to each other and to all with whom we live and work. God will then be merciful to us.

Union presents organ concerts

Union University will sponsor a series of free organ concerts and recognize construction of the Frances Hilliard McAfee Commons Building during a Nov. 3-6 music emphasis.

In addition to the concerts, building recognition, and an organ workshop, former organ professor John Hughes will return to the campus for his first Union performance in 20 years. Hughes is composer of the school's alma mater and will participate in the alumni organ concert which opens the four-day event.

The musical emphasis will revolve around the second annual Carolyn Townsend McAfee Organ Concert, set for Nov. 5. Mrs. McAfee is formerly of Parsons while her husband, James T. McAfee Jr., is formerly of Jackson. The Atlanta residents are major benefactors of the college.

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East Tennessee pastors to meet



MacGORMAN



PARKS

The East Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference will hold its fall meeting Nov. 1 in the recital hall of the new music building at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City.

Jack MacGorman, professor of New Testament at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth,

Chuck Branch accepts Chattanooga pastorate

Chuck Branch recently became pastor of East Chattanooga Church, Chattanooga.

Branch was ordained in 1985 at Hunters Station Church, Montgomery, Ala. He has attended Samford University, Birmingham, and Chattanooga State University, Chattanooga.

He and his wife, Janie, have two children.

Texas, and author of the 1991 January Bible study book, Acts: The Gospel for all People, will present an overview of the book of Acts.

Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will speak on "Boldness in World Missions." The conference will begin at 9 a.m. and will conclude after lunch at 1 p.m.

Jerry Mantooth, pastor of Robertsville Church, Oak Ridge, is president of the East Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference.

Literacy missions rally scheduled

The annual literacy missions rally, sponsored by the Missions Department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, will be held Oct. 27 at 10 a.m. at Brentwood Church, Brentwood.

The rally is designed for those who have literacy missions programs or are interested in beginning one.

Conference leaders are Bob and Rene Sugg, literacy missions workers in Mississippi.

For additional information, contact J. C. Carpenter, TBC Missions Department, at (615) 371-2044.



JUDSON OFFICERS — Judson Association held its annual meeting Oct. 5-6 at Maple Grove Church, Dickson. Participating in the meeting were, from left, host pastor Bob Talbert; Ted Daugherty, Mt. Zion Church, vice moderator; Director of Missions Charles Livengood; John E. Tidwell, Missionary Ridge Church, moderator; and Thomas Sullivan, Mt. Zion Church, clerk.



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Reception Following Concert

Sunday, November 4, 1990
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Ceremony Recognizing Construction of the Frances Hilliard McAfee Commons Building

3:00 p.m.

Betty Jones Organ Concert
Organist, First Baptist Church, Dyersburg

Monday, November 5, 1990
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Ezekiel 22:30

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Jesus begins His ministry

By Dennis P. Lunsford, pastor; Antioch Church, Humboldt

Last week we discovered the source of power and strength for Jesus. Every time Jesus was buffeted by a temptation from Satan, He met the challenge by claiming the power and authority of God's Word.

Jesus was endowed with power from on high. His ministry, to be lived through this power, was thus inaugurated. His purpose was to establish God's rule in people's hearts. The temptations were to continue throughout Jesus' earthly sojourn, but Jesus had passed His entrance exam at a young age of 30. He was now ready to launch His ministry. Worship was important (Luke 4:14-30)

Have you noticed the importance Jesus placed upon worship? It was our Lord's custom to attend public worship. He could have given excuses for

not attending worship as modern man is prone to do. Jesus, however made His way to the place of prayer on the Sabbath.

Jesus was asked to read the text and present the message. His passage included Isaiah 62:1-2. John stated it well when he wrote; "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory" (John 1:14). The people present at the worship service that day experienced something they had never experienced before. Jesus spoke of Himself that day!

Jesus boldly declared the text was written about Him and that He had come to usher in the "acceptable year of the Lord." According to Leviticus 25, this year was set aside to release people from debt, fields were to remain idle, slaves were to be set free. The people were aware of the intent of Leviticus 25. They were unprepared to hear about freedom from spiritual bondage.

Jesus focused upon setting people free from sin and corrupt religion. His

ministry came alive before their eyes. The good news of salvation finally came to broken sinners.

The problem? Jesus challenged the core of pride. The Jews were not in need of salvation. They had the exclusivism of the congregation — a need to repent like the Gentiles was not evident. The people gathered were so angry they sought to carry Jesus out of the city to toss Him over the cliffs. They took action to kill Jesus.

BIBLE BOOK
October 28 Lesson
 Basic Passage: Luke 4:14 to 5:16

How significant that Jesus stopped reading the passage from Isaiah where He did. The people who do not want Him and reject "the acceptable year of the Lord" will one day face "the day of vengeance of our God" (Isaiah 61:2).

From dejection to success (Luke 5:1-11)
 The next lesson Jesus taught came from a floating pulpit, Peter's boat.

Jesus "fished" for the hearts of men from Peter's boat. Everything Jesus asked of Peter was contrary to common fishing practices along the shores of the Galilee. One does not fish during

the day on the Sea of Galilee. It was common to fish at night. This the fishermen had done, but caught nothing. Jesus told them to try again. Peter obeyed. Ironic? Sure. They had fished all night and were exhausted, but Peter and the others obeyed the voice of authority. The key was Peter's faith in the spoken Word of God: "Nevertheless, at thy Word" (Luke 5:5). They caught fish and their nets broke!

Conclusion
 Jesus used fishermen to teach an important lesson. Fishermen were to catch fish which would be killed for food. Jesus challenged them to fish for that which were dead, sinful men, to cause them to be made alive through the spoken Word of God. These men would never be the same. They were to be "empowered" to become "fishers of men."

We are called to be fishers of men. We are called to catch a world lost in trespasses and sin. The call and the challenge the disciples experienced has not changed for Christians of today. We are to share the Gospel message to enable the "lost" to come alive.



LUNSFORD

Isaiah and Hezekiah

By Carlos R. Peterson, pastor; First Church, Athens

How much does a prayer weigh? I read about a man, the owner of a small grocery store, who tried to weigh one. It was the week before Christmas, shortly after World War I.

A tired looking woman came into his store and asked for enough food to make Christmas dinner for the children. The grocer asked how much she could spend. She answered, "My husband did not come back; he was killed in the war. I have nothing to offer but a little prayer."

The store keeper was not very sentimental nor religious, so he said mockingly, "Write it on paper and I'll weigh it."

To his surprise, the woman took a piece of paper from the pocket of her dress and handed it to the man saying, "I wrote it last night."

The surprised grocer took the paper because other customers in the store had heard his commitment to the woman. He placed the unread prayer on the weight side of the scales. He then began piling food on the other side, but to his amazement, the scale would not go down. Angry and frustrated, he finally said, "That's all the scale will hold. Here's a bag. Fill it yourself, I'm busy." And with trembling hands, the woman filled the bag and through tear moistened eyes, expressed her gratitude and left.

Once the store was empty of customers, the grocer examined the scales. Yes, they were broken, but amazingly, they had become broken just in time for God to answer the

prayer of a humble mother with a trusting heart.

As the years passed, the grocer often wondered about the incident. Why did the woman come in at just the right time? Why had she already written the prayer, catching the grocer by surprise? He is an old man now, but the weight of that prayer still lingers with him. And he treasures the slip of paper upon which the woman's prayer had been written — simple words, but from a heart of faith: "Please, Lord, give us this day our daily bread."

CONVENTION UNIFORM
October 28 Lesson
 Basic Passage: 2 Kings 19:8-22, 32-34

In our lesson this week, we observe Hezekiah as he faces a crisis and how he handles that crisis by taking the matter to God in prayer.

Hezekiah's prayer (19:14-19)
 Assyria was encamped outside Jerusalem and Hezekiah received a letter calling for their surrender. With such overwhelming odds against him,

the king did the only thing that seemed hopeful; he prayed. As he voiced his concern over the crisis situation, Hezekiah demonstrated an intimacy with God that came from consistent time with Him in prayer. Hezekiah knew who God was and how He related to him as sovereign. There was no fear in coming to God to make his requests for divine intervention.

Hezekiah expressed to God the dilemma he faced and confidently asked Him to save His people as an answer to Assyria's contempt for God as sovereign. His prayer was direct, simple, and laid before God in faith that He cared and would respond with positive, decisive action against the enemy nation.

Isaiah's response (19:20, 32-37)
 The prophet came to Hezekiah with God's answer to his prayer. God promised that Assyria would not even come against Jerusalem. The city would be spared by the intervention of God as a demonstration of His power and in defense of His own honor.

Prayer is a powerful weapon.



PETERSON

Accepting God's commission

God is able to make great things happen when willing servants obey His leadership. He expects us to serve despite inadequacies, real or imagined. In our lesson, Moses is still standing on that holy ground, the place of the burning bush. What will be his ultimate answer to God's call? What will be ours when comes our time to serve?

Moses took a long walk in a short time — while still standing at the bush. From the quietude of minding the flock in the wilderness — he had an unexpected encounter with God that changed his life, and changed the lives of hundreds of thousands of Hebrews and Egyptians.

From that first moment of eager "Here I am," Moses' mood swung around to reluctance and a common answer that is still alive today: "O my Lord, I am not eloquent — neither before or after your speaking to me. What's more, I can't even command the attention of a small group," (v. 10 paraphrased).

The reply could have been expected.

God reminded Moses that He makes the mouths and ears and eyes of all people — and that if He, the Lord, commissions a task, we must accept willingly. He will make us able.

Only minutes earlier, God had revealed His name to Moses, and His very personality. "I am the one who always is," or, "I am that I am." Now in a tone of some rudeness, Moses explained that he was not able to speak to Pharaoh nor lead the children of Israel to the land of milk and honey. He also seemed to imply God wasn't able either.

What God makes He can empower for any task. The Great I Am told Moses to get on with the work. God will "be with your mouth and Aaron's mouth and tell you what to say," He said. That instruction is good for us all. Our service glorifies God and enlightens us.

Moses' next problem is familiar to all who have at some time been reluctant to obey. He said to God, "Here I am, but can't you send someone else?"

(v. 10). Visiting or witnessing, ministering or praying, we know the feeling.

God's voice exploded from the ever-burning bush. Though God was angry, He did not destroy Moses. He also has patience with us. He said to Moses that Aaron was coming to meet him even "now." And Aaron would be the speaker! The problem was already solved, (v. 12).

LIFE AND WORK
October 28 Lesson
 Basic Passage: Exodus 4:10-31

The brothers met in the desert. Joined by God the Equiper, they turned to the work of freeing Israel. The assurance was that God would teach them as they went, (v. 15).

Then Moses had to walk past the familiar part of his life, vv. 19-20. From Midian, God told him to go back to Egypt. Moses, in obedience, gathered his family, taking "the rod of

God in his hand," (v. 20). He had gained the courage and faith to walk away from the familiar into the unknown, pursuing the will of God.

All was ready. Moses' accusers were dead (in Egypt). Moses and Aaron were prepared. Pharaoh's heart was hardened. The rod of God was Moses' shepherding staff — ready to be something holy when used by God.

Then they must walk past fear (vv. 29-31). The two men gathered the elders of Israel. As God promised, they believed Aaron and Moses. When they realized at last that God had always had them in mind and had not forgotten them, they "bowed their heads and worshiped," (v. 31).

Being obedient to God demands our acceptance of the Lord's commission to us. The people reacted by worshipping God — not the message or the messengers.

When we are aware of the presence of God, we cannot help responding. Doing so, we will dare to grow. — *Wm. Fletcher Allen*

(BP) BRIEFLY

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

Supreme Court upholds religious access case

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court has let stand a lower court ruling that a Pennsylvania school district cannot exclude religious groups from after-school access to school buildings available to other organizations.

The court declined Oct. 9 to review a decision by the Third U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that a Centennial, Pa., school district policy allowing school facilities to be rented to a wide variety of civic organizations but excluding their use for religious activities violates the free speech clause of the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment.

The school district had denied a request by a Campus Crusade for Christ group to rent a local high school for a performance by a magician who concludes the show with a Christian testimony and invitation. The district denied permission because of a policy prohibiting the use of school buildings for religious services, instruction, or activities. At the time of the request, the school district had allowed more than 65 other groups access to school buildings, including the county board of elections, labor unions, adult education, and college classes as well as commercial dramatic and musical performances.

By allowing the other groups to use its buildings, the school district had created a "limited open forum," in which both religious discussion and worship are protected as free speech, ruled the appellate court in the case *Gregoire v. Centennial School District*. The ruling has important church/state ramifications, said J. Brent Walker, associate general counsel of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, a Washington religious liberty watchdog agency representing nine national Baptist bodies including the Southern Baptist Convention.

Walker hailed the decision as "a logical extension of the equal access concept that the Baptist Joint Committee has advocated for years."

CLC opposes end of 'X' rating

NASHVILLE — The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has expressed strong objections to the new motion picture rating system which will replace the "X" designation with a new "NC-17" rating. The commission's executive director Richard D. Land said the new rating "waters down the 'X' rating and opens the way for material that is objectionable and pornographic to work its way into neighborhood theaters."

Land joined representatives of other national religious bodies including the United States Catholic Conference and the National Council of Churches in calling upon the Motion Picture Association to rescind its action taken in late September and reinstate the old "X" rating. He said the public is familiar with the "X" designation and knows what it means when a film is rated "X."

"The NC-17 rating is not nearly as appropriate a rating as the 'X,'" he said. "The change has all the appearances of watering down an effective wall that helped people stay away from pornographic materials."

By accepting the new rating code, the Motion Picture Association of America has bowed to the pressures and demands of the pornographic industry, Land said.

Camp attendance, giving, decisions increase for 1990

NASHVILLE — Total registration, mission collections, and spiritual decisions at Centrifuge and Crosspoint camps this summer pushed significantly ahead of last year's numbers, statistics reveal.

Centrifuge and Crosspoint campers collected \$167,477 for missions in 1990, 36 percent or \$60,447 more than in 1989, according to Joe Palmer, special services coordinator in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church recreation department which facilitates the camps.

Registration for the combined conferences was 37,752 in 1990 as compared to 31,328 in 1989, according to statistics compiled in the church recreation department. A total of 4351 spiritual decisions was registered, up from 3877 last year. Crosspoint is a Christian sports camp for girls and boys, grades four through eight. Centrifuge is a Christian camp for teens, seventh through 12th grades.

A total of 775 professions of faith was made during the 80 Centrifuge weeks; 338 church vocations; and 3082 rededications and other decisions, according to statistics. At Crosspoint camps where total attendance was 1555, 65 young people accepted Christ, 87 rededicated their lives, and four made other types of decisions, Palmer said.

The camps were held in North Carolina, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Alabama, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Georgia.

Religious liberties act opens door for Baptist Seminary in Moscow

WAKE FOREST, N.C. — The first theological seminary in the history of Russian Baptists has been established in Moscow. Classes are scheduled to begin in January 1991.

Lewis A. Drummond, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Wake Forest, N.C., returned recently from the Soviet Union and reported the historic news to the seminary.

A committee of five educators, appointed by Denton Lotz, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, will serve as a consultation committee to aid in the development of the new work in Moscow. The committee is composed of chairman Andrew MacRae, principle of the Acadia Divinity School in Nova Scotia; John David Hopper, president of Rueschlikon Seminary in Switzerland; Larry McSwain, dean at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.; Wiard Popkes, dean of the Baptist Seminary in Hamburg, Germany; and Drummond.

The group met in the Moscow Church the day Soviet Parliament passed the revolutionary new religious liberty act granting full religious liberty to all groups.

FBC, Fort Worth, closer to membership with association

FORT WORTH, Texas — First Church, Fort Worth, cleared one hurdle on its way back to Southern Baptist ranks Oct. 8 when it was accepted "under watchcare" by Tarrant Association messengers in their annual meeting.

The former church of the late fundamentalist pastor J. Frank Norris will have a year to establish Southern Baptist relationships before it will be considered for full membership in the association.

Several provisions were laid down for the church to follow before the 1991 annual meeting. They include a study by the church of its constitution and bylaws concerning the authority of the pastor, a study of the 1963 Statement on Baptist Faith and Message, and invitations by the church to a "number" of Southern Baptist pastors over the next year for times of fellowship and inspiration. The committee specified that one of the Southern Baptists to be invited to the church is to be Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary President Russell H. Dilday Jr.

The provisions give the association opportunity to look at the church and the church to look at the association for a year, a spokesman said. "We have not said, 'No, you can't be part of the fellowship,'" he said. Before the church can be considered again for membership it must file another petition to join. The church will be considered in light of the provisions and a recommendation made to the 1991 annual meeting.

Refugee shelter closed at Jordan Baptist school

AMMAN, Jordan — The sheltering of refugees from Iraqi-occupied Kuwait at the Amman Baptist School in Jordan has ended.

Refugee aid at the Baptist school, and at a Catholic school in Amman, was discontinued at the request of the Jordanian government. The government has moved most of the thousands of refugees in Jordan to a large camp at Azrak, 40 miles northeast of Amman, the capital.

Most of the hundreds of Philippine workers fleeing Kuwait who received food, shelter, and spiritual aid at the Baptist school gymnasium have returned to the Philippines, although a few had to go to a camp, a Baptist worker said.

Jordanian Baptists still are preparing and delivering food to other refugees from Kuwait, the worker said.

Jerusalem church construction stalls

JERUSALEM — Lack of money is doing what arson, firebombs, robberies, legal battles, and years of harassment could not do — halting reconstruction of the Narkis Street Baptist Congregation's building.

The 310-member congregation in Jerusalem used the last of its available construction funds in August, but still needs \$315,000 to complete its building before its permit expires next March. Reconstruction has dragged on since the original chapel, built in 1933, burned in October 1982.

Authorities attributed that fire to arson carried out by extremists. No arrests were ever made in the case. After the 1982 fire, the church battled six years for a rebuilding permit from the local government. Getting the permit became a "political football" between staunchly Orthodox Jewish leaders who wanted to kill the project outright and secular Jewish officials who thought the church should be permitted to rebuild, said Southern Baptist representative Pat Hoalridge, pastor at Narkis Street.

The legal struggle over the permit ultimately reached Israel's supreme court, where three justices encouraged the Baptist congregation to move to a different location. Eventually the case was settled out of court and the congregation stayed put.

Associations increase CP giving despite hurricane devastation

CHARLESTON, S.C. — Six Baptist associations most directly affected by Hurricane Hugo increased their missions giving through the Cooperative Program by 23 percent in 1989 despite tremendous losses to personal and church property.

George Bullard, South Carolina Baptist Convention missions director, said the state convention staff expected decreased giving from the areas ravaged by Hurricane Hugo. Instead, they found the tragedy increased churches' awareness of mission needs.

For example, Charleston's Citadel Square Church voted to give 30 percent of its December income to the Cooperative Program. Jim Long, education minister, said the church's 1991 budget proposes giving 12 percent rather than ten percent to the Cooperative Program.

The church suffered \$1.25 million in damage, and all of the repairs have not been completed.

Johnson named office manager of new funding organization

ATLANTA — Hettie Johnson has been named office manager for Baptist Cooperative Missions Program, Inc., the alternate funding mechanism for Southern Baptist mission support, created in Atlanta in August.

Johnson retired in 1981 after 13 years as director of the business services division of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. Earlier, she was administrative assistant for Georgia Baptist Woman's Missionary Union for six years. Johnson will be nominated to become a board member and treasurer of the BCMP when that board meets in early October.

BCMP is related to "The Fellowship," the group coalition of moderate Southern Baptists who met in Atlanta in August to talk about how to continue support of Southern Baptist mission causes without abiding by new features of the SBC Cooperative Program unified budget, as drafted by the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

Youth commit lives, prayers, during summer conferences

NASHVILLE — A total of 979 public decisions were made by youth during four Sunday School Board Discipleship Training department conferences where almost 1250 young people placed their names on the Youth Prayer Corps roster. The conferences were held at Glorieta (N.M.) and Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist conference centers.