

Baptist and Reflector

VOL. 156/NO. 46/NOVEMBER 14, 1990

STATEWIDE EDITION

NEWSJOURNAL OF THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION

Oct. 24-Nov. 2

Eight Tennessee Baptists experience missions 'up close' in Chile

By Wm. Fletcher Allen

The time spent in Chile by the eight Tennessee Baptists was split into thirds. We were a survey team — with an assignment and purpose.

The first part of the survey trip was spent in Santiago, the capital city, as we met with Southern Baptist mission personnel led by Charles Alexander and Richard Poe. It was a time of orientation, getting acquainted with Chile (customs, culture, people).

The second third involved our going four different directions in pairs, to get a firsthand look at the work done by Chilean Baptists and our missionaries. We stayed in missionaries' homes — and had missionaries as our guides.

Finally, we returned to Santiago for a time of debriefing — first with leaders of the Baptist mission and later in a combined group with Chilean Baptist leaders and Foreign Mission Board representatives.

On those final days, the four representative groups hammered out a tentative agreement for partnership missions and agreed on the kinds of ministries in which Tennessee Baptists would be able to cooperate. Some specific projects were discussed — and a tentative master list was proposed.

Tennessee Baptists and Chile Baptist

troussdale County

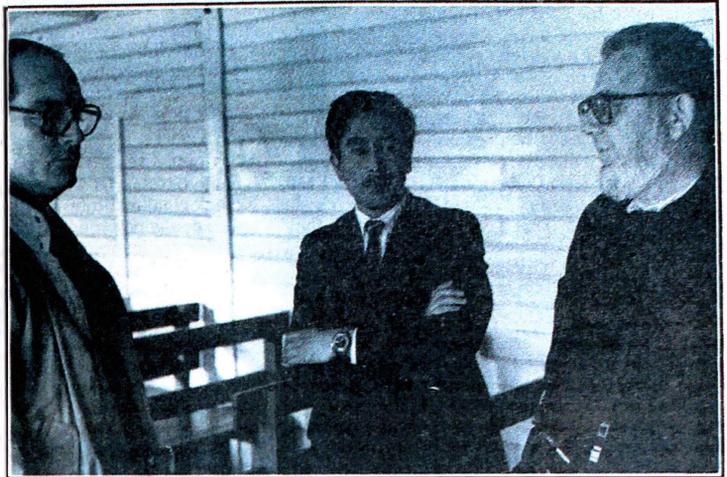
tists will be working on the details of the partnership (if approved at the Nov. 13-15 convention in Nashville) well in advance of its initiation in January 1992.

The concept of volunteer missions certainly is not new. Tennessee Baptists have "partnered" with Michigan for ten years. And we have been involved in partnership missions with Burkina Faso (Upper Volta), Venezuela, and currently with the Philippine Islands.

Nor is it new to many Southern Baptist missionaries. As Clarence Stewart and I surveyed the "southern" area of Chile with Archie Jones, veteran missionary from North Carolina, he told us, "I was working with volunteers when there was no volunteer program. So I am already sold on partnership missions."

"We multiply ourselves as missionaries when we get involved with volunteerism," he went on as we traveled toward Osorno on the Pan American Highway.

Jones told us he had used Tennessee volunteers previously. "Some helped us build our home," he said, "and Lottie Moon offerings bought land for our church (Baptist Center in Puerto Varas).



LOOKING AT BUILDING — Missionaries Buzz Clark, left, and Archie Jones, right, talk with Jose Luis Condia at Mision Rey Jesus (King Jesus Mission) near Osorno.

He talked about the European influence in his part of the land, where today, buildings, language, and businesses reflect German and other European culture. "We are a homogenous country," he said, "but there is a strong influence from Europe, a cosmopolitan influence. Chileans are hard-working, family oriented."

Jones said Baptist churches now support about half their work, but pay for pastors is insufficient.

On that Friday, we met Miguel Gon-

zalez, pastor of La Union Church which has two missions, and his family. He went with us to visit the missions — including one outside town, built by Indians. There we met Juan Rail, the chief.

Missionaries Buzz and Wanda Clark serve with their children in Osorno. They have dreams of greatly expanded work there. Over lunch in a hotel diner, Buzz unfolded some ideas.

On Saturday, Archie Jones took us further south to where the Pan

(Eight Tennessee, page 5)

Citizens' coalition says fight against betting to continue

By Connie Davis, assistant editor

In Nov. 6 elections Trousdale County became the second Tennessee municipality to adopt pari-mutuel betting on horse racing since it was legalized in 1987 by the state legislature.

The city of Memphis approved a horse track in 1987. Voters defeated referendums in Davidson and Rutherford counties twice and in Williamson County once.

Opponents hope legislators will follow Gov. Ned McWherter's call to repeal the statute allowing race track gambling. He called for the repeal last year when the Rocky Top public corruption probe became public, and repeated it after the Trousdale County election. Memphis race track investors have not been approved.

Opponents also point to the slim margin of victory in Trousdale County — 1149-1088 or 61 votes. It was accomplished by promises made by race track gambling promoters that it would increase revenue and lower taxes, explained Kevin Ezell, co-chairman of Citizens Against Pari-mutuel Gambling in Trousdale County

and pastor of First Church, Hartsville. "It's an embarrassing day for the county," he said. "They (gambling proponents) have jumped the easiest hurdle. ... They haven't come out of the gate yet," said Ezell.

Frank Ingraham, chairman of Tennesseans Against Pari-mutuel Gambling, said, "Of course, the very close vote shows how divided the county is. ... It will be a blight and parasite on that county."

Ingraham, a Nashville attorney and

member of First Church, Franklin, pledged to continue the fight. "The issue is not religion ... the issue is public integrity," he said. He referred to the Rocky Top public corruption probe involving the bingo industry.

Proponents of race track gambling present "a farce from a tax point of view. The race track industry is a dying industry," said Ingraham, adding a race track built for gambling also is an "abuse of the horse industry."

Before a racetrack is built, investors

must be found. Then the county zoning commission must rezone the county from agricultural to commercial at the site of the track, which has not been chosen yet. And the Tennessee State Racing Commission would have to approve the venture.

"It's not like they dominate. I'd be leery of opening a business anywhere where half of the people were for it and half were against it," stated Ezell.

Ezell and Dwight Fuqua, co-chair-

(Citizens' coalition, page 5)

Health care team planned for Philippines

More than 150 mission volunteers from Tennessee have ministered in the Philippines thus far this year.

The Philippines/Tennessee Partnership Mission will involve health care projects in 1991. When the partnership began in April, Philippine Baptist leaders expressed interest in medical ministries during the partnership.

Dr. and Mrs. Dewey Dunn, Nashville, met during the summer with health care leaders in the Philippines. While there, they worked out

plans for health care persons to serve in several areas throughout the islands.

The Duns will lead a health care group to the Philippines March 1-15. He is on the Vanderbilt University Hospital staff.

Orientation for the health care volunteers will be held Jan. 5 and Feb. 2 at the Baptist Center in Brentwood. The orientation will be directed by Clarence Stewart, Partnership Missions director, Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Tennessee Baptists interested in the health care project should contact Stewart at the Baptist Center.

Philippine Baptist leaders have requested, through the Foreign Mission Board, 84 health care persons to serve

on five islands — including Luzon and Mindanao. Spouses and family members can participate.

Dunn says the project will involve academic physicians at medical schools, specialists at hospitals, health care teams in church clinics, and field teams going out to villages.

There will be teaching and clinic work — including physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health, according to Dunn.

Dunn says the team will need 28 specialists, ten additional physicians, nine dentists, six dental assistants, 14 nurses (including two nurse academicians), six dietitians, five pharmacists, two laboratory technicians, a pastor, a soil scientist, and two veterinarians. Other health care professionals may contact Dunn.

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Editorials

Planting churches — Tennessee, Michigan, the Philippines, Chile

Beginning a partnership with another group of Baptists sometimes is difficult — sometimes a tedious procedure.

When the survey team of eight Tennessee Baptists spent eight days recently in Chile, the process was thorough, involved — but smooth.

First we needed to know something about Chile and the people. We needed to witness firsthand the work of Foreign Mission Board missionaries alongside the Chilean Baptists. We went to experience the culture, the atmosphere of the countryside and the cities, the people.

We learned — enough to sit down for two days with mission leaders, Chilean Baptist leaders, FMB representatives — and come together with a foundation for partnership. This week, messengers to the Tennessee Baptist Convention will act on a recommendation for that Chile/Tennessee Partnership Mission. If the vote is favorable, the partnership will begin in 1992.

The Evangelical Baptist Convention of Chile was organized in 1908.

The convention has goals that all Baptist groups would do well to emulate:

- Each Baptist an evangelist.
- Obeying the commands of the Lord.
- Each home a center of Christian testimony.
- Each church organization a missionary instrument.

The convention also is moving toward increased giving, filling pulpits with pastors, and planting and starting churches.

Chile Baptists are engaged in Advance-2000, their Bold Mission Thrust. The goal is winning Chile for Christ.

Indications of efforts to reach Chile's people include the Baptist Theological Seminary in Santiago, theological institutes in Concepcion, Valdivia, and Temuco, a communications department, a printing center and newspaper, a Baptist Book Store, a medical clinic in Antofagasta dealing with alcoholics and their families, a Baptist center connected with the clinic, a girls' home in Temuco.

The ninety-two Southern Baptists assigned to Chile are important in assisting Chile Baptists in Advance-2000 and other goals. Missionaries live and work in most of the major

cities and many outlying areas.

Literacy is high, standing at about 94-95 percent. The government emphasizes education and the public system is free and compulsory. Politically, Chile has been more stable than many of its neighbors.

Tennessee Baptists who are and have been involved in Partnership Missions with Burkina Faso, Venezuela, the Philippines, and Michigan — will be inclined to continue the volunteer spirit with Chile. Others will join in.

Projects now underway and planned for the Philippines will continue on schedule through early 1992 when the three-year partnership ends. Volunteers are standing by for more work with Filipino Baptists.

Gaining approval on the 1992-95 Chile partnership at this advance date will allow a greater lead time in planning, scheduling, and participating in evangelism and work projects with the Chileans.

We need to pray constantly for our partnership with the Philippines — even while planning gets underway for Chile. — WFA

Trousdale loses to gambling forces, but the battle isn't over

Trousdale County horse racing and pari-mutuel betting backers have done what their counterparts in Williamson, Davidson, and Rutherford counties could not do.

Voters last week approved racing and gambling on horses by a thin 61 votes, despite a concerted effort by concerned citizens who fought to keep gambling out of Trousdale.

The pre-voting debates and lobbying did not get the same media attention that was devoted to the metro areas. Probably because the rural county has only 6000 residents, the referendum did not gain as much exposure.

It is wrong to think that Trousdale would be unharmed because it is rural and sparsely populated. That is the precise reason why racing and gambling would be ruinous to the county.

Citizens organized against pari-mutuel betting

in Trousdale say the fight is not over. They point to several facts that can delay or even defeat the racing:

- Kentucky officials say there aren't enough race horses or people to make such a venture flourish.
- Tennessee Governor Ned McWherter, winner of a landslide re-election bid, says he will push for repeal of pari-mutuel gambling laws in Tennessee.
- Memphis voters approved racing and betting two years ago and little has been done to complete the process.
- The Tennessee State Racing Commission must approve any plans for a race track, which includes detailed investigations.
- Investors must be found to provide about \$10 million.
- An available and suitable site must be found

— and county officials have to change zoning.

Trousdale's citizens certainly have the right to vote on pertinent matters. But, in this case, it seems that the extremely narrow margin of victory means that a substantial number may have to endure the evils of gambling, approved by a slim majority.

In previous pari-mutuel votes, a disparity of justice has been noted. Proponents of gambling can make repeated efforts in countywide voting, but those against gambling apparently can only respond continuously.

Tennessee Baptists can back Governor McWherter's efforts to have betting repealed. He has said he would try; we can add some strength to his position. And — we can assist Trousdale in every way possible. — WFA

Today's church needs leadership from laity, O'Brien says

MEMPHIS (BP) — Just as the laity led the early church, so must they now, said Bill O'Brien, vice president for public affairs at the Foreign Mission Board.

Speaking to about 300 people attending the National Fellowship of Baptist Men's Triennial Meeting, O'Brien said, "The faith was spread in those early days, not by preachers but by anonymous believers who were scattered.

"As they were going, it was as easy for them to share the faith as it was to breathe," he continued.

Jesus prayed for His followers, asking for their protection from "the evil one," while they ministered in the world, O'Brien said.

"We can frustrate the prayer of Jesus and cause it to go unanswered by refusing to be in the place He prayed to the Father we would be," O'Brien continued, "in the middle of the world, not in the middle of a group of organizational meetings."

O'Brien challenged the categories listed on typical offering envelopes — present, Bible brought, on time, offering, and staying for worship — as a measure of Christian commitment.

"This is not the five-point standard of excellence in the New Testament church," he said.

Most of the world will never meet Jesus unless they meet up with you, O'Brien told the volunteers.

"The only way they are going to meet up with you and the likes of us is

if we are willing to forsake our ways — both our sinful ways and our organizational programmatic ways — and once again be innocently available to the spirit of God," he concluded.

Outgoing NFBM president Norman Wiggins, president of Campbell University, told volunteers that without a cross, there is no crown.

"We are upstream Christians in a downstream world," said Wiggins.

If one stops to count the cost of discipleship, he will find that time, talent, and treasure must be given up if one is to have his crown, Wiggins said.

Henry Blackaby, director of prayer and spiritual awakening at the Home Mission Board, said following Christ might mean a life of danger and hurt. Nevertheless, our goal should be to follow Him.

"If you want to be like Jesus," Blackaby said, "it may be that others will find healing in the wounds that you take into your life."

Yet in the midst of current day dangers and hurts, Blackaby sees hope.

"I am convinced that God is raising the greatest corps of (Christian) men ever in the world," Blackaby concluded.

The Triennial Meeting is a celebration of volunteers, said Bob Salley, NFBM director.

"The speakers are asked to issue a challenge," he said. "They have

definitely summed the cost of discipleship which every lay person must weigh."

James H. Smith, Brotherhood Commission president, said the greatest day of voluntarism is in the future.

"The growing ground swell of volunteers gives Southern Baptists the largest missions force ever," he said. "This movement will grow faster as we give more lay people hands-on missions experience."

Reports were given by each of NFBM's 14 fellowships on the projects

completed since the last Triennial meeting in 1987.

In addition, nine lay people from five states were given the Owen Cooper Award for outstanding examples of missions voluntarism.

The newly elected officers for NFBM are: Fred Roach, Dallas, president; John McCall, Memphis, vice president; D. J. Krahwinkel, Knoxville, recording secretary.

NFBM is a ministry of the adult division of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission.

Baptist and Reflector

Newsjournal of Tennessee Baptist Convention
Established in 1835

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Baptist and Reflector is published weekly except Christmas week by the Executive Board, Tennessee Baptist Convention, 5001 Maryland Way, Brentwood, Tenn. 37027. Subscription prices: \$6.55 individual; clubs of ten or more, \$6.25; church budget plan, \$5.56 when sent to 50 percent or more of church homes. Second class postage paid at Brentwood and at additional mailing office. (USPS 041-780).

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

Baptist and Reflector holds membership with Baptist Press (BP) news service of the Southern Baptist Convention. Telephone: (615) 371-2003.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Baptist and Reflector, P. O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn. 37024.

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Retirement funds are secure, Annuity Board trustees assure

By Thomas E. Miller Jr.

DALLAS (BP) — Trustees of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board unanimously adopted a statement designed to distance the Annuity Board from the politics of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In their regular fall meeting the trustees heard reports, approved department goals, adopted the 1991 budget, and honored four retiring executive officers and a director.

The "open letter" on the position of the Annuity Board relative to denominational problems said:

"In light of the controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention, we want to be sure that all those we serve understand our mission and the spirit in which it is being undertaken. We also wish to reassure any who might be concerned about the status of the Board and the security of their funds.

"The staff and trustees of the Annuity Board remain united in our task of serving the best interests of all who

participate in our programs. A spirit of cooperation and dedication characterizes our work.

"The Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention is the second largest church pension fund in the United States. The growing assets of the Board total over \$2.8 billion, consisting of contributions and earnings managed for the benefit of members and their beneficiaries. The Board has adopted sound investment policies and retains the service of more than two dozen of America's most outstanding professional outside investment managers. Retirement contributions are credited to members' individual accounts in compliance with Internal Revenue Code Section 403(b). Plan members receive regular reports of the performance of the plan funds they have selected.

"The mission and spirit of the Annuity Board remains the same. The trustees and staff of the Board are working faithfully to 'serve those who serve the Lord.'"

Annuity Board President Paul W. Powell told trustees the transition of the board's medical, life, and disability plans from Aetna to Prudential has gone smoothly.

Though the Church Comprehensive Medical Plan continued to suffer a claims/premium imbalance for the first nine months, plan design changes were made that reduced the potential rate increase on Jan. 1, 1991.

Insurance services division director John L. Dudley told trustees the church medical plan lost \$2.1 million in the third quarter, bringing the shortfall to \$5.3 million for nine months. The group plan has a premium shortfall of \$2.9 million for the same nine-month period.

Dudley said rate notices were sent to all church plan participants in October and almost 88 percent will have increases of ten percent or less on Jan. 1. Thirteen percent of participants will have no increase in rates Jan. 1, though all participants will see an increase in their deductible from \$200 to \$500.

Treasurer Harold D. Richardson reported that earnings declined from \$100 million in the second quarter to \$20.3 million in the third, calling the record a reflection of "the negative outlook the financial markets have toward the economy in general.

"The encouraging part of the performance of the Annuity Board funds is

found in a comparison with the markets in general," Richardson added.

The investment division reported the board's variable fund, made up mostly of common stocks, outperformed its target index, the Standard and Poor's 500. The variable fund was down 9.05 percent on the year, while the Standard and Poor's list showed a loss of 11.08 percent.

The Annuity Board's fixed fund continued to credit 8.9 percent (annualized) earnings, while the balanced fund was down 4.39 percent year-to-date. The short-term fund earned 5.6 percent in the first nine months. The balanced fund currently is made up of 55 percent common stocks and 45 percent bonds, both of which suffered broad economic losses when Iraq invaded Kuwait and the United States appeared headed for economic recession.

Richardson said assets grew \$132 million in the 12 months preceding Sept. 30, and contributions from members continued to increase. The \$133.4 million added in the first nine months exceeded the record for the same period in 1989 by \$7.1 million.

Sei-Hun Kim to assist Tennessee Baptist churches

Sei-Hun Kim, catalytic language missionary for Nashville and Concord associations, has a new assignment with the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

He has been asked to devote up to five days per month in the area of ethnic leadership development. Kim

will be available to assist any church or association in the state. The TBC Missions Department will provide his travel expenses.

Kim is qualified and committed to train pastors and laypersons of every ethnic group in Sunday School leadership, discipleship, the role of deacons, stewardship, and especially prayer life and spiritual awakening.

He also will be available to train Anglo workers with ethnic groups in such areas as culture and how to relate to ethnic people.

Kim may be contacted at the Nashville Association office or through Jere Phillips, director, TBC Missions Department, for scheduling.



KIM

Southern faculty oppose new guidelines

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's faculty voted unanimously Nov. 1 to ask the school's trustees to "rescind" their action establishing new employment guidelines for teachers.

The faculty action came in response to a trustee decision in September to add the 1987 Southern Baptist Peace Committee report as a guideline for hiring, promoting, and granting tenure to faculty at the Louisville, Ky., seminary.

Earlier, national officers of the seminary's alumni association also urged trustees to rescind their action.

The faculty statement claims that decision creates "significant problems" in the faculty's relationship with the board of trustees, "misuses" the Peace Committee report, and "introduces ambiguity and confusion" in the seminary's instructional process.

In a separate action, faculty also requested an opportunity to discuss with

trustees their concerns about the new employment guidelines. Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt was asked to communicate their request to the board and to appoint a faculty committee to meet with a representative group of trustees.

The response claims the trustees' action:

- Has "serious implications" for the seminary's accreditation, "negatively impacts" recruitment of faculty and students, and jeopardizes major seminary programs because of its "exclusionary impact" on employment of adjunct and contract professors and supervisors used extensively in several degree programs.

- Conflicts with SBC bylaws by including the "Findings" section of the report. The faculty statement cited SBC Bylaw 33 which states that "adoption of recommendations contained in reports to the Convention shall not bind the Convention on any other matters in the body of the reports."

- Violates the contracts of current tenured faculty members and the seminary's charter which specifies the Abstract of Principles as the confes-

sional document governing every professor.

The response adds that adoption of the report without consultation with the faculty "overlooked the effect which such unilateral action would have on faculty morale and the sense of covenant shared by trustees and faculty in our mutual task of theological education."

Finally, the statement argues that use of the Peace Committee report as a confessional guideline "further divides Southern Baptists," noting the report highlights differences among Southern Baptists and "acknowledges that not all Southern Baptists interpret the four scriptural examples in the same way."

Richard Buckner called to Mount Zion Church

Mount Zion Church, Liberty, recently called Richard Buckner as pastor.

Buckner was pastor of Smithfork Church, Watertown, for three years. He was ordained in 1987 at West Main Church, Alexandria.

The Monterey native and his wife, Syble, have two sons.



HOLSTON VALLEY LEADERS — Elected to lead Holston Valley Association during its fall meeting were, from left, Steve Holt, Hickory Cove Church, associate moderator; Director of Missions Charles Earl; Linda Williams, associational secretary, treasurer/clerk; and John Compton, Oak Grove Church, moderator. — Photo by Connie Davis



IN BLOUNTVILLE — 1990-91 officers for Holston Association include, from left, Director of Missions Tal Thompson, Lee Ray Robertson, layman, Central Church, Johnson City; Tom Savage, Pinecrest Church, Johnson City, assistant moderator; and Clay Austin, First Church, Blountville, outgoing moderator and host pastor for the Oct. 23 meeting. — Photo by Lonnie Wilkey

Pastors find common cause in house for fired ministers

By Sarah Zimmerman

CARTERSVILLE, Ga. (BP) — Two pastors with opposing views of the Southern Baptist Convention controversy have found a common cause in assisting fired ministers.

"We're on totally opposite ends of the SBC conflict, but we both have a heart for fellow ministers," says John Yarbrough, pastor of Tabernacle Church in Cartersville, Ga.

Yarbrough, a self-defined "conservative," and Jim Strickland have established a home for terminated church staff members. Strickland is pastor of Cartersville's Heritage Church which ordains women deacons and uses a liturgical approach in worship.

"I can't think of two more diverse preachers and congregations," Yarbrough says. "But on some things we can celebrate and work together."

"When people are hurting or in trouble, our differences are less important," Strickland adds.

A 1988 survey, conducted by the church administration department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, of directors of missions showed that 116

pastors are terminated every month in the SBC. Norris Smith, consultant, notes that the statistic does not include people in other church staff positions.

The Cartersville home is a three-bedroom house occupied by one family at a time. Smith does not know of any other homes dedicated to helping fired ministers, but he and Yarbrough would like to establish a network of homes so they could refer ministers to other locations while their house is occupied.

The Cartersville home is named for Thomas J. Holmes, the late Georgia pastor who was fired from Tattnall Square Church in Macon in the early 1960s. Holmes had fought for the right of a Nigerian student to attend the church.

Ironically, the first residents of the Holmes House were fired for similar reasons. Bob and Wynette Hoggard, who currently live in the house, were dismissed in June after serving a church in coastal Georgia for 16 years. He was pastor and she was music minister.

"We were told we were fired because I baptized foreigners," Hoggard says. The church had a Vietnamese mission,

and people representing as many as ten ethnic groups regularly attended the church's worship service.

Hoggard points out that their termination does not reflect the thinking of the entire church or the most actively involved members. But the action does characterize the group which attended the Wednesday night business meeting when the couple was fired.

The Holmes House is open to ministers regardless of the cause of their termination. Strickland says the board of directors considered whether it should allow people who were fired for immoral actions to stay at the house.

"We decided we're not going to judge, but to help redeem them for ministry," Strickland says.

"No matter who's at fault, there's hurt involved," Yarbrough says.

"Even if the person warranted termination, he still needs a ministry to love and restoration and usefulness and away from bitterness."

As part of the restoration process, residents are required to go to counseling sessions provided by the Georgia Baptist Convention.

"When staff members are forced out, the hurt is so deep and the feelings are so raw, they cannot help but take those feelings with them," Strickland says. "This gives them time to process what's happened so they can go to another place without all that baggage."

To make the home financially feasible for unemployed ministers, residents are only required to pay the utility bills. The 12-member board of directors raises money for the \$1200 monthly house payments. Strickland says the house, which was purchased in February, is financed for five years to save money on interest payments.

Heritage and Tabernacle churches have each included \$600 a year in their budgets for insurance, taxes, and maintenance.

Prayer retreat set for Nov. 30-Dec. 1

The Brotherhood Department, Tennessee Baptist Convention, is sponsoring a prayer retreat for Baptist men on Nov. 30-Dec. 1 at the Baptist Center in Brentwood.

The overnight meeting will emphasize prayer. It opens at 7 p.m. Friday with registration and a theme interpretation by Cameron Byler, department director. The retreat is based on 2 Chronicles 7:14.

On Friday evening after Byler introduces the weekend, D. L. Lowrie and Don Miller will speak. Lowrie, TBC executive director, will give the first of two messages on "The Prayer Life of Christ." Miller, director of Bible Based Ministries in Fort Worth, will talk about "Brokenness."

Ron Alley, staff member in the TBC Music Department, will lead a music program which is designed to enhance the prayer theme.

The retreat reconvenes at 8 a.m. Saturday as Miller discusses "Repentance." Jim Furgerson of the Brotherhood Commission in Memphis will give his testimony. Lowrie will speak again on "The Prayer Life of Christ."

Miller closes the Saturday session with a message on "The Yoke."

Byler is anticipating at least 300 men to participate. "We may have many more," he said, "but we will be

prepared for whatever number we have.

"I believe this prayer retreat can be a launch point for Tennessee Baptist men to get more involved in what God wants us to do in prayer and in daily living," he said.

Byler added that although there are program speakers, much of the retreat time will be spent in praying. "That is the main idea," he said.

Our Readers Write

Praises DOM

Bob Polk, after serving Lawrence County Association three years as director of associational missions, has accepted a similar position with Watauga Association. Reflecting on his ministry, I am grateful for his excellent spiritual leadership, his shepherd's care of our churches and their leaders, his unwavering commitment to evangelism, missions, and church growth, and his love for our Lord as expressed by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. He and his wife Ruth, with her precious spirit, are a great team. Tennessee Baptists are most fortunate to have these servants as team members.

Randall Runions, chairman Resolutions Committee Lawrence County Association Rt. 3, Box 775-C Leoma 38468

Appreciates missionaries

This summer I attended Home Missions Week at Glorieta. It was an unforgettable, enriching experience. I praise God for the outstanding program put together by Larry Lewis and his staff from the Home Mission Board.

As fine as the program was the thing that biest me most was getting to meet many of our home missionaries. I am convinced that these Soldiers of the Cross are the all-but-forgotten heroes of the Southern Baptist Convention. Never have I seen and felt such a spirit of dedication and devotion as I walked among these giants for Jesus. Few of us realize the tremendous sacrifice these servants pay in order to spread the Gospel. Most must work a full-time job because their churches are so small and cannot begin to financially support a pastor and his family. Most have just the bare necessities of life, and, yet I heard not one complaint all week. I met one elderly couple who had to paint a barn in order to have the money to attend the conference.

It is so good to know that each week as I give through my church a small part of what I give goes to help support our wonderful home missionaries.

John McKay
P. O. Box 18893
Ft. Worth, Texas 76118

GUIDELINES: Opinions of Tennessee Baptists on pertinent subjects are welcomed. Letters should be concise, no more than 250 words. Writer's name may be withheld for sufficient reason. Only one letter from the same writer will be considered for publication per quarter. Letters must not make personal attacks on the character or integrity of anyone. Form letters and "open" letters will not be published. Writers should send original copy. Writers are encouraged to write in a positive, Christian manner. Address and phone number must be included. Letters not conforming to these guidelines will be returned.

Door half open

To a blind person one danger is a door that is only half open. We can cope with a closed door or with an open door but one that is only half open is a threat.

The Word of God teaches us that Jesus called Himself the Door. This means He is the way we have to enter heaven. So in this sense, if it is only half open, will we be able to enter? Jesus went on to say that if one tried to enter any other way he is a thief or a robber so we put much emphasis on this door.

I want to compare half truths with the half open door. To a person who is just learning about Jesus, if he does not get the whole truth, it will be a danger to him.

When we encounter someone who is quoting Scripture, if we do not have a good background in the Word, we may be led to think differently than if we studied it.

Recently, Dr. Barr from Vanderbilt University wrote an article about how important it is for every Christian to study and know the Bible; so, when someone tries to tell us something, we have an understanding that we have received from the Holy Spirit and we know whether they are interpreting it the way we believe.

How important it is for each one of us to know the whole truth.

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WEAKLEY COUNTY OFFICERS — Elected at the Weakley County Association fall meeting to serve as officers were, from left, James Frazier, Mack's Grove Church, associate moderator; Gertie Sheffield, First Church, Dresden, clerk; and Roy Auvenshine, Bethlehem Church, moderator.



CLINTON OFFICERS — Officers of Clinton Association which met Oct. 23 at First Church, Oak Ridge, include, from left, Director of Missions Michael Pearson; Charles Parker, First Church, Oliver Springs, assistant moderator; Pat Long, Mt. Pleasant Church, Andersonville, clerk; and Tom Byrge, Clinch River Church, Lake City, moderator.

Baptists help defeat liquor in three of four communities

By *Connie Davis, assistant editor*
Liquor will remain unavailable for buyers in Watertown, McMinnville, and Jamestown, but not in Lebanon voters decided in Nov. 6 referendums.

Lebanon voters approved packaged liquor sales by 2415-2183 despite well-organized opposition. Proponents claimed liquor sales taxes would amount to \$100,000 which would help Wilson County's struggling school system.

Warren County and Watertown voters rejected the referendum by a large enough margin to prevent a vote for four years. Voters in Jamestown defeated legalized liquor sales by 333-162, not quite the 60 percent needed to bar another referendum for four years.

"We just came up on the short end," said Robert Agee, director of missions, Wilson County Association. He credited the short campaigning time for the defeat. Because of the petition deadline, he estimated a month preceded the vote.

During that month Citizens Against Legalized Liquor was formed by about 100 citizens in Lebanon, reported Agee. Donald Owens, pastor, Immanuel Church, Lebanon, and Carol Pharris, Fairview Church, Lebanon, served as co-chairmen. Also Wallace Alsup, Fair-

view Church, organized senior adults and Glenn Denton, pastor, Hillcrest Church, Lebanon, served as prayer coordinator.

The campaign included a mail-out, newspaper advertising, and a prayer meeting at the town square on Nov. 4 which drew about 200 people, added Agee. The group received consultation from the Nashville-based United Tennessee League, he noted.

In Jamestown churches did not organize to fight the referendum, according to Barry Ellis, pastor, First Church, Jamestown, the only Southern Baptist church in the city.

"I think if we had sensed that it had more momentum then the people would have organized," said Ellis.

First Church addressed the issue during the radio broadcast of its Sunday morning worship service. Other churches purchased newspaper and radio ads and posted a sign on the courthouse square, reported Ellis.

Watertown Baptists including Bill Enoch, pastor, First Church, Watertown, decided to avoid media campaigns to preserve community unity, he explained.

"We're a small community here and those who were advocating the liquor sales did it because they thought the tax revenues would help the communi-

ty," said Enoch. His view, however, is that "liquor or alcohol is immoral."

The only action taken by Baptists, except by pastors who spoke against the referendum from the pulpit, was a mail-out. Several Baptists cooperated to send a letter written by Edsel Floyd, a member of First Church, to Watertown registered voters, reported Enoch. Besides emphasizing a lack of animosity against any citizen, the letter offered rides to voters and delivery of absentee ballots, he noted.

The successful defeat in Warren County was due to "the willingness of the people to unite together to fight the

issue. And I always stressed that we do it in a Christian manner," said Ralph Hoover, director of missions, Central Association.

With about two months of notice, Warren County voters formed Citizens Against Legalized Liquor (CALL) with assistance from United Tennessee League, stated Hoover. He served as a vice chairman of the group. Also David Daugherty, pastor, Shellsford Church, McMinnville, was transportation chairman, and John Sexton, pastor, First Church, Morrison, assisted Daugherty.

CALL had an office in McMinnville and spent \$10,000 in the campaign.

Eight Tennessee Baptists experience . . .

(Continued from page 1)
American Highway ends at a ferry landing. We took the ferry across to Chiloe Island and spent the afternoon at a three-church "concentration." After driving through fields of chacai (transplanted Scotch heather now gone beserk in the Chilean landscape), we arrived in Ancud. Pastors Renier Quijada and Jaime Sepulveda were gracious hosts — and we are guests for a Chilean "once" or afternoon tea.

We worshiped with Archie, Caroline, and Libby Jones at the Baptist Center in Puerto Varas Sunday morning, and Clarence Stewart preached. (We had our meals at Caroline's gracious table.)

That night we worshiped with

members of Mirasol Church in Puerto Montt. The congregation meets in a small apartment — but just down the road stands a half-completed church house, waiting for volunteers to help.

Karen Wright is the church planter. We rejoiced as the congregation of some 17 observed the Lord's Supper for the first time. The next day we headed back to Santiago for the strategy and planning meetings.

Chile, agreed all eight team members, is right for partnership. Detailed preliminary work has been done by the mission and the Chileans. The survey is complete. Some plans have been discussed. If we move to partnership status, God's work in Chile and Tennessee will be blessed.

Citizens' coalition says fight . . .

(Continued from page 1)
men of the Citizens Against Parimutuel Gambling in Trousdale County and a Church of Christ minister, plan to continue the fight though the organization is broke. Ezell estimates the group he led spent \$1600 vs. \$6000 spent by proponents.

The organization bought radio and newspaper advertisements, hosted a rally, and conducted a mail-out. Yard signs were donated.

Ezell and Fuqua also addressed the issue in radio and TV interviews and in civic clubs. The campaign took them away from church responsibilities, Ezell added.

"We know we did the right thing. I'd do it again," said Ezell.

Bledsoe Association encouraged backing of the group and sent letters to three area newspapers, reported Director of Missions J. C. Lewis, who commended the group. He noted Cragfont Church will be impacted if the track is built in the western part of the county near the church's location in Sumner County. Trousdale County, which has a

population of about 6000, only has two Southern Baptist churches and one mission, Lewis stated.

One strategy of the citizens group will be to emphasize the promises of the Tennessee Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association — the main backer of the referendum — said Ezell. The association has said the track would bring \$1.1 million in local, state, and county taxes, as well as \$1.25 million in employee spending to the region. Reports estimate the track would have to draw 2000 fans a day to generate that revenue.

The promises include lower taxes, more jobs, and better schools, said Ezell.

He asked for continued support from Tennessee Baptists. He has received numerous supportive phone calls from Tennessee Baptists. "You expect that when you win, but it's a comfort when you lose."

He concluded, "It's legal, but it's no more right, no more moral than before."

One Word More By Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

Somehow I got the idea from Steve Cooke that he and wife Mary Jo like Chile enough to spend their lives there.

He is a transplanted South Carolinian — working with audio, video, and communications in Santiago. She is what we call an MK, missionary kid, daughter of Clifford and Betsy Tribble.

Her parents served as missionaries to Chile for about 15 years — where she grew up — and transferred to Bolivia in 1979. She has reasons to like Chile.

For Steve, well, maybe her descriptions of that beautiful country influenced him. Or perhaps he thought he and Mary Jo could replace her parents in Chile. Anyway, they married and later went to Chile as missionaries through the Foreign Mission Board.

I had crossed paths with Steve a few years back. I remember his telling me about a decision weighing on his heart. It was the Chile decision.

So I was not surprised when I met Steve again a few days ago — in Chile. I was introduced to Mary Jo for the first time, sat in for lunch with them, and talked about missions. A stranger would think they had lived there all their lives and would continue to do just that.

Steve was my host, guide, interpreter, historian, as we tramped around Santiago November 1 a few hours before our survey group headed back to Tennessee. He showed me as much as possible of the nation's capital in those hours.

We visited Bethany Church and Penaloden Mission. I heard him tell a group knocking on doors across the street from his church. "Don't bother — they are part of this church."

He apologized for the smog — which diminished what would have been an extraordinary view of the sprawling city from San Cristobal. We rode the excellent metro subway. We paused before the eternal flame and Bernardo O'Higgins' statue on the square in front of the Palacio de Moneda, walked in the plaza there, sensed an aura of history.

He pointed to the cathedral that is almost 500 years old. We bought souvenirs, experienced Chile genius at a crafts "mall."

Steve took me to an open air farmers' market and we watched all the varied languages compete. He introduced me to Juan.

Juan Harper was not a church member — nor church goer — for years and years. Though his wife was faithful to the little Baptist church, not Juan. He seemed too macho for that.

But he knew about the church. One night, a few weeks ago, a lady in distress came by to seek help from Juan's wife. She was not there.

Well, I might be able to help her, he thought. So Juan "walked" her through her problems and helped her heart find ease. He knew what to say, what to do. A few days later, when the pastor talked with Juan Harper, Juan realized he had given his heart to Jesus — as he talked to the woman in distress.

When I remember folks like Steve and Mary Jo, I will remember folks like Juan Harper too.



ALLEN



GIBSON COUNTY LEADERS — Leading the fall associational meeting were, from left, Trevis Otey Jr., First Church, Trenton, assistant moderator; Greg McFadden, Salem Church, moderator; and Director of Missions Ken Sparkman. — Photo by Connie Davis

'Give me my mountain'

Joshua 14:6-15

There are more than 1,076,000 Southern Baptists in 2900 churches in Tennessee. We have four outstanding schools, three fine hospitals and affiliates, and ministries through our children's homes touching the lives of children, delinquent teens, and unwed mothers.

We are involved in ministries to our aging and handicapped through the ministries of our Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes. I commend the staff of our Baptist Foundation. That staff helps us make plans to continue a stewardship emphasis even after we receive our heavenly rewards. Our Tennessee Baptist state paper, *Baptist and Reflector*, is a leading publication among Southern Baptists. I believe editor and staff try hard to be fair in reporting news from Tennessee and across the SBC.

Our Executive Board staff, under the direction of D. L. Lowrie and Bill Wilson, is second to none. There is no way to measure the effectiveness of these people, which includes ministries to and through our churches and Baptist Associations and touching the lives of many through our student ministries on Tennessee college campuses.

Early reports from our department leaders at Brentwood indicate growth in most areas of Tennessee Baptist life.

Our partnerships with Michigan and the Philippines continue to produce exciting results in evangelism. Last week I attended the convention in Detroit. Many pastors and leaders asked me to thank Tennessee Baptists for assistance they gave in missions.

We are still facing budget problems, but our churches are to be commended in that their gifts for 1989-90 exceeded the gifts of the previous year by 4.55 percent. We need to pray constantly concerning our Tennessee Baptist Convention budget. Pray for our leaders.

The first meeting with the boards of trust of our institutions after my election was with trustees of Baptist Health Care System in Nashville. I noted David Stringfield's reminder to the trustees that "the basic purpose for Baptist Health Care System is to touch lives for Christ."

As I met with the other boards and visited on our campuses and in our hospitals and institutions, without exception I heard over and over the same emphasis of purpose.

I am excited about "IMPACTennessee," as we place priority on making disciples. The next five years will be exciting and fruitful years for Tennessee Baptists as we accept the challenge of this special emphasis.

I believe Tennessee Baptists to be a people of cooperation and a people determined to take the leadership in rebuilding trust among Southern Baptists. Tennessee Baptists are determined to continue with that priority command which our Lord spoke, "make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

"Making disciples" is the sub-theme for this session tonight. For Tennessee Baptists to be more effective in making disciples we need to address two critical areas; one is unity within our denomination, the other is our need for dependence on God.

In Joshua 14:6-15 Caleb makes a request of Joshua, "Give me this mountain."

Review Numbers 13 and 14 and Deuteronomy 1. The children of Israel arrived at Kadesh Barnea. They were instructed to go in and possess the "Promised Land." Moses instructed them, "do not fear or be discouraged" (Deuteronomy 1:21).

The people requested that men be sent to "search out the land" and bring a report back. Twelve were chosen. The spies went through the land and discovered a "land of milk and honey." When they returned they reported the land was "a good land." They brought with them a large cluster of grapes to prove it was a good and fruitful land.

Disagreement arose over the report. Caleb encouraged the people to obey God's will, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it" (Numbers 13:30). The men who had gone up



MATHIS

with Caleb then said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we" (Numbers 13:31).

There was a break in fellowship. Disunity brought calamity and God's judgment on the people. They were turned back into the wilderness for approximately 40 years.

More than 14 years ago we Southern Baptists agreed on a program, "Bold Mission Thrust." The program goal is to reach all people of the earth with the Gospel by the year 2000. We believed it was God's will to launch the program. Something happened! There has been a break in our fellowship. Disunity has brought near calamity and threatens our worldwide missions programs.

Unity is imperative for us to carry out the will of God in "Bold Missions Thrust" as Southern Baptists.

Unity is imperative for us in the Tennessee Baptist Convention to accomplish the goals of "IMPACTennessee."

The 133rd Psalm relates the importance God puts on unity among the brethren, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments. It is like the dew of Hermon, descending upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing - life forevermore."

Unity does not mean uniformity, but oneness of heart and feeling and aim.

The Psalmist used the idea concerning the anointing oil which was poured on the head of the high priest at his consecration (Exodus 19:7; Leviticus 8:12). The comparison is not in the preciousness of the oil but as it was poured on the head it flowed to the beard, to the garments, thus consecrating the whole body. Unity engulfs the entire body of believers. It is not only good and pleasant in itself, but affects all who behold it. When men behold brethren truly united in Christ, they are won to Christ.

Unity refreshes the spirit and cheers the heart. Love and unity in the Spirit is dew for a world in need. It is a symbol of the love of God.

There can be differences of opinion among men, yet there still can be unity. Paul wrote, "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all" (1 Corinthians 12:4-7 NKJ).

We Baptists are diverse! We must guard the diversity of our Baptist life. Our diversity has helped us get the job done and has helped us expand our fields of ministry. There can be unity in diversity.

On Oct. 19, I met with 19 other Tennessee Baptist pastors. We admitted we are diverse. The group was evenly divided representing the two dominant persuasions of Southern Baptist life. We agreed that we disagree on some things, but we are in agreement on more things.

There was a consensus that we need to take steps to alleviate disharmony that exists among us. We agreed that name calling

and labeling, prevalent in recent years, must be stopped and we must recognize each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. Trust must be restored among pastors and leaders of our denomination. There can be an openness among us. We agreed there are many positive things happening in our denomination, on the Southern Baptist level and in the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

We need to talk more about positive things and work together to change the negative.

I have been one of those who has criticized our debt on our new Tennessee Baptist Center. Our griping and questioning adds to hurt and disunity. We have it (the new building); we cannot change that. Let's pray together and plan ways we can retire the debt. When it is paid for we all will be proud of it.

It is important that Christians dwell together and work together in unity. Jesus said, "by this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35 NKJ).

Most Baptists agree the Bible is God's inspired, authoritative Word, without error. Most Baptists believe Christ was born to Mary, a virgin, and that the miracles in the Old Testament and the New Testament are true and happened as they are described in the Bible. It is just as important that Baptists believe the inspired Word of God regarding the fellowship of Christians. John wrote, "We know that we have passed from death to life because we love the brethren" (1 John 3:14 NKJ). Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12 NKJ).

There is room for diversity among Baptists and when we disagree we must let the Spirit of Christ be in us and love each other.

Far too long, in our Southern Baptist and Tennessee Baptist conventions, there have been political agendas. Denominational leadership in our institutions and agencies, and political factions among pastors and lay people, have fostered political agendas. We need to move away from the political agendas of individuals and factions that divide us and create disunity.

For 12 years, our denomination has been in a spiritual wilderness. That is too long. We Tennessee Baptists can be the leaders

We are to begin in our home cities, villages, or communities. God gives us the blessings to see His will fulfilled in our lives as we wholly follow Him.

He preserves us for the task of sharing the Gospel with our next door neighbor, a friend at work, or someone on the opposite side of town. Many among us have had the blessings of being involved in partnership missions in Michigan, in Burkina Faso, in Venezuela, in the Philippines and now some of us probably will be carrying the Gospel to Chile.

Caleb knew he was not sufficient within himself to take Hebron (Joshua 14:12 NKJ).

The NIV clarifies this verse, "the Lord helping me." Caleb knew he would have to rely on God.

We must turn to the power of God to be able to fulfill our ministries. Our churches must turn to God and depend on Him. We have been self-sufficient in our attitudes. As a denomination we must go to God and rely on Him.

As we listen to God's instruction, as we spend time in prayer, we will be able to make disciples, marking them with baptism and maturing them in a relationship to Jesus Christ.

I was in a pastor's conference last year. Paul Hall, whom we all know, was speaking that particular day. He made a statement that has really changed my life, he said, "We Baptists have the best plans, but what we need is power."

Caleb recognized that he would be able to accomplish his task only in the power of God. As we align ourselves with God through prayer and as we allow the love of Jesus Christ to flow through us, we will be able to accomplish things that God wants us, as Tennessee Baptists, to accomplish.

We will be able to affect Southern Baptists across the world and in other conventions. We will see again the fires of love leaping across continents and across oceans and we will hear the results of the Gospel being preached and men and women coming to know the power of Jesus Christ as we rely on God. That is what it is all about.

We can meet here these days in Nashville, we can hear the plans of our departments, we can hear the reports of our institutions, we can go back home and con-

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in restoring harmony and unity in our denomination.

It isn't too late!

Our task today is the same we faced more than 14 years ago when we agreed to take the Gospel to all people of the earth by the year 2000. "IMPACTennessee" is a part of that task, Touching Lives and Making Disciples.

God gave Caleb a promise through Moses, "Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance and your children's forever, because you have wholly followed the Lord my God" (Joshua 14:9 NKJ).

God preserved Caleb for this day, his 85th birthday. "And now, behold, the Lord has kept me alive, as He said, these 45 years, ever since the Lord spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, 85 years old. As yet I am as strong this day as I was on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in" (Joshua 14:10-11 NKJ).

Even though Caleb "wholly followed" the will of God, he had to suffer the struggles of the wilderness experience. God had carried His servant to old age and nothing had impaired his strength. Those whom God keeps, He keeps perfectly.

God has called us to take the Gospel to all people. We have been one of the strongest forces of evangelism in the world. He has given us the promise He would never leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). He also has promised that His Word would not return void (Isaiah 55:11).

tinue to mess around, argue, and bicker while people all over the world, even our neighbors are dying in their sins and will split hell wide open.

We have a task to carry the love of Jesus Christ to the nations of the world beginning in our own Jerusalem, in the cities where we serve. We must boldly and courageously ask God for our mountain - which includes touching lives and making disciples.

As you have completed the reading (hearing) of this message, pause for just a few moments and consider God's will for your life. You may be faced with some decision that weighs heavily on your mind. God will help you.

Ask Him to help you claim the task He has for you. You can make a difference in the world if you will make the commitment to "wholly follow God." He will give you your mountain.

First Church, Dover, calls new pastor

E. Frank Lumpkins Jr., has been called as pastor of First Church, Dover.

The Tennessee native was a church planter in Louisiana before coming to Dover. In addition, he served as pastor of a Louisville, Ky., church.

He was ordained in 1982 at Farmdale Church, Louisville. He is a graduate of New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

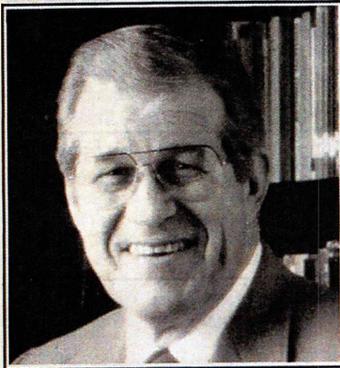
Lumpkins and his wife, Kathy, have three children.

Can we be sure?

Colossians 3:3

One of the great doctrines of the faith on which we have stood together from the very beginning is the doctrine of eternal security. This is not a truth which was handed down to me from family background.

My father was an Episcopalian from Worcester, Mass., and my mother was a Baptist from Crooked Oak, Ala. Neither had active church backgrounds and consequently I did not come through the regular channels of Southern Baptist Church life (nursery, beginners, primary, junior, etc.). In fact, my first introduction to a Baptist church in Birmingham was at the water fountain in the basement in the Calvary Baptist Church. After a full afternoon of street hockey with a battered Pet Milk can and broom stick with a gang of North Birmingham boys ages eleven and up, I skated in to the fountain for a drink and was stopped by two men in dark suits.



NORMAN

One asked me this question for the first time in my life, "Son, are you a Christian?" I was somewhat frightened and answered in the negative and skated away. I started thinking then, as an eleven-year-old boy, about that question and didn't go back into that building for a long time for fear I would encounter those two men again.

Four and one-half years later I made my decision to accept Jesus Christ in an Intermediate Sunday School Assembly under the influence of Dan Harrison, layman and deacon at the Calvary Baptist Church. It was not until then that I discovered that the two men at the fountain that afternoon when I skated into the church were Pastor John McGuire and Herschel Hobbs. Hobbs, there in revival meetings, was the one who had asked me the question. Don't ever underestimate the brief if unexpected question... the spoken word... lifted eyebrow, or warm hug, or hand clasp.

We have a young man and his family in the Clearview Baptist Church who grew up in Camargo, Mexico. His parents were divorced and his father ran the ferry from Camargo across the Rio Grande. When Javier was about 14 his father called him one day to tell him he was going to have to buy his own shoes from then on because he was wearing out too many in a year's time.

Javier shopped for the most durable work shoes he could find... high top yellow work shoes. He wore them in the dusty streets of Camargo. The pastor of the Mexican Baptist church saw the large, strange, footprints and asked one of the young men, "who made these footprints?"

Abiel promised to introduce him to his friend, the wearer of the shoes. Shortly thereafter, the pastor led Javier to Christ and he was baptized with ten other boys. Three of the eleven who were baptized later answered the call to preach the Gospel.

The immigration office on the other side of the Rio Grande was operated by Brother Anderson who heard about Javier's conversion and rode the ferry to Camargo to find him and discuss the possibility of his attending school at the Baptist Academy in Harlingen, Texas. He offered to pay for his medical exam and entrance fees. In the meantime a new pastor came to the church

who did not care for Javier Elizondo. He considered him a mischief maker and refused to recommend him. Brother Anderson found him and insisted that he go. He would recommend him to the academy himself. After graduation he attended Texas Tech, in Lubbock, and met the assistant secretary for the Baptist Student Union, Sandee.

They fell in love on a mission trip, were married, and enrolled in Southwestern Seminary where Javier worked to receive his M.Th. Degree. After graduation from Southwestern he went to Baylor and completed a doctorate in religion. Dr. Javier Elizondo is now design editor of Hispanic literature for the Baptist Sunday School Board. Brother Anderson's interest in a little Mexican boy with big shoes paid off.

When I entered Howard College in Birmingham, I did not know what I believed about the doctrine of eternal security. Even at Southwestern Seminary my understanding of this assurance had not solidified. Over the following years, through personal study, this conviction came as a result of hammering and "stomping" the truth from the Word for myself. It was not handed down from family or institution but out of the grind of daily life and personal Bible study.

We Baptists do not have a monopoly on this truth. It is there for all who believe to claim. I believe this truth for three basic reasons:

First - Because of what it cost God,
Second - Because it is a completed transaction, and

Third - Because of the comfort it gives.

Because of what it cost God
Turn to Philippians 2:5-8. When Jesus Christ came as a babe in Bethlehem's manger it was not His initial entry into being because He is properly identified as the unbegun-beginning... He was before anything was. Both John 17:5, and John 8:58, state this truth, that Jesus came as God's "only begotten" Son. The words "only begotten" mean "unique." There never was once like Him before, there was not one like Him as He lived, nor after He ascended to be at the right hand of the Father.

He is, as the Word says, "in the form of God." That expression means the form by which a person or thing strikes the vision, the external appearance. Nothing in this passage indicates that He emptied Himself of either His divine nature, or His attributes, but only of the outward and visible manifestation of the Godhead. Lightfoot has declared that "He emptied, or stripped Himself of the insignia of Majesty."

He is not to be equated with Krishna, or Muhammad, or Buddha. For Mr. Moon's information, the work of redemption was completed when Christ died on the Cross. Moon says he is here on earth to finish that redemptive work. The Gospel song says it best of all, "Out of the ivory palaces into the world of woe." That is exactly what happened. God gave the best heaven had when He sent his son, John R. Sampey of Southern Seminary said it well years ago when he described the Trinity like this: God the Father - God in history, God the Son - God in human flesh, and, God the Holy Spirit - God living in us.

Because it is a completed transaction
There are words we ought to use in our daily conversation when we talk about redemption... salvation... our relationship with the Lord. I am persuaded that most believers have no earthly idea what marvelous things took place when they became Christians. There are three basic words which describe the great transaction, among a number of other words.

Look at Romans 3:21-28. The word here is justified. It means what it says and says what it means. Say it slowly, justified... just-as-if-I'd never sinned. It means we have been to the court of law and nothing is laid to our charge. It is as though we had never committed the sin in the first place. We have been declared guiltyless! Patty

Hearst, before the court of law... much laid to her charge... William Lucas, supposedly killed 359 people... before the court of law... much laid to his charge... Richard Speck, before the court of law... much laid to his charge.

We stand before the court of law and the price has been paid in full! Justified freely by His grace! You see, grace is operative when God looks out over the sea of humanity, sees a ray of hope in all of us and gives us the benefit of the doubt.

talk to the Father because we have been reconciled... put on personal speaking terms.

Because of the comfort this truth gives.

If I had no other passage in all the Bible than Colossians 3:3, this would be convincing enough. In the days of the great debates R. A. Torrey was challenged to a debate on the doctrine of eternal security. After 45 heated minutes in which his challenger expounded on the side of apostasy or losing

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Now, turn to Romans 15:16. The Word here is sanctified which means we have been set apart for high and holy spiritual service. From the very beginning of the transaction the Holy Spirit has been in our conversion. He is primary... pivotal... He initiates conversion in the first place. He convicts and convinces of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He is a "must" in conversion. No person is ever saved apart from the conviction of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:9). When we are sanctified, the Holy Spirit takes up residence in us... in our innermost being. He seals us... Ephesians 1:13, and is the "earnest" of our expectation (Ephesians 1:14). This is not a second work of grace... He is in our conversion from the very beginning!

The passage in 2 Corinthians 5:19, has been for me a great help, especially in light of the old and new covenant. During the old covenant days the high priest once a year on the Day of Atonement went into the Holiest to make sacrifice for the sins of the people. When Christ died on the cross four amazing and miraculous events transpired... darkness at high noon, an earthquake, the dead walked the streets of Jerusalem, and the veil of the temple was rent from the top to the bottom... from the top as an indication of a divine work, and clear to the bottom indicating a completed transaction.

We then have access to the throne of grace through Christ who is our advocate at the right hand of the Father. We have the liberty and boldness to go ourselves and

your salvation, Torrey stood and read Colossians 3:3 "For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God." Then, he gestured for three ushers to enter carrying a big barrel, a middle-sized barrel, and a small barrel. Then, he instructed the usher with the big barrel to lift the lid and he said, "Folks the big barrel represents God." Then, he gestured toward the usher with the middle-sized barrel and said, "Folks, the middle-sized barrel represents Jesus." Then the third usher came with the little barrel and he said, "Folks, the little barrel represents the believer." He then, had the usher with the small barrel place it inside the middle-size barrel and, then, the two, the small and middle-sized barrel into the big barrel.

Turning to his opponent he spoke assuredly, "I challenge you, sir, to get to the little barrel, the believer, without first of all going through the big barrel which represents God, and the middle-sized barrel which represents Jesus. Then he read the verse again, "For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God."

Someone asked the "Governor," Charles H. Spurgeon if he believed in the perseverance of the saints and he said, "No, but I do believe in the perseverance of the Savior."

"And I give unto them Eternal Life and they shall never perish neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand (John 10:28)." Our redemption cost God His best. I believe it is a completed transaction, and I revel in the sheer comfort it gives.

Germantown Church plans relocation

The congregation of Germantown Church have overwhelmingly approved plans for a 4000 seat sanctuary, a Christian Family Center, and extensive educational space on 64 acres on the northeast corner of Poplar Avenue and Johnson Road.

The near unanimous vote by more than 900 people on Phase II of a three-part plan followed an hour of questions about the \$30 million master relocation plan.

Construction of Phase II, estimated at about \$17 million, could start in late 1991 with completion expected two years later, said Pastor Ken Story.

The church, at 2216 Germantown Road, recently constructed extensive recreation facilities as part of Phase I on 14 acres at the new location in East Germantown at a cost of almost \$1 million.

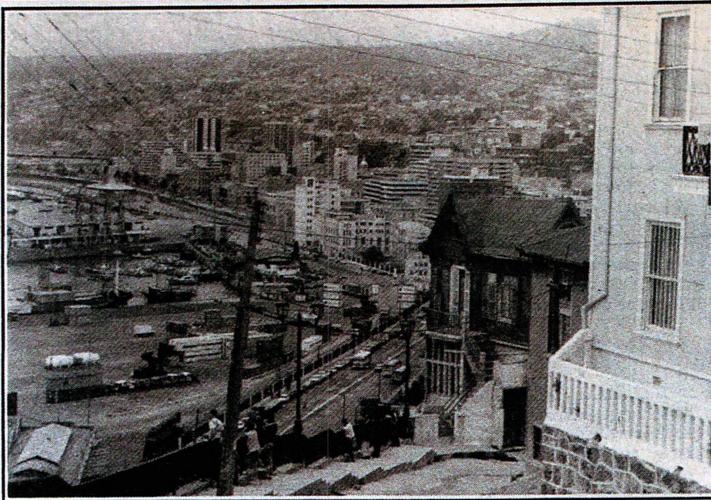
Besides the worship center with its 185-foot steeple, church members approved a 60,000 square foot Christian Family Center and two educational wings for children and youth.

The church expects to provide 1500 to 1900 parking spaces and five entrances to the property to accommodate church goers, Story said.

Organized in 1836, the church has experienced severe growing pains since Story became pastor in 1964. The



HUGO REMEMBERED - Roy Stewart, pastor of Harbour Lake Church, Goose Creek, S.C., presents Sullivan Association Director of Missions Tommy Holtzclaw a gift of appreciation during the association's meeting Oct. 23 at Litz Manor Church, Kingsport. Holtzclaw led a group of 27 volunteers to Stewart's church last fall after Hurricane Hugo struck Charleston and surrounding areas. Harbour Lake served as a distribution point for the volunteers who served meals to about 500 families and "wore out" 13 chain saws, Holtzclaw said.



HARBOR VIEW — Hillside view of harbor of Punta Arenas, Chile's port on the southern tip of South American continent — less than 700 miles from Antarctica.

Stewart surveys the Southland

I've heard that the flight from Tennessee to Chile is about 7000 miles and I believe it. The country is long (2700 miles) and very beautiful.

Fletcher Allen and I traveled south to the Puerto Montt area. We stayed with missionaries Archie and Caroline Jones. They showed us mission work in La Reunion, Osorno, Puerto Montt, Puerto Varas, and Ancud.

We also met missionaries Buzz and Wanda Clark in Osorno and Karen Wright in Puerto Varas. The missionaries are being used by God to plan churches and spread the Gospel.

On Saturday we visited Chiloe Island where three churches met together. On Sunday we worshiped in the Baptist Center in Puerto Varas and at Mirasol Church, Puerto Varas, where the congregation had its first Lord's Supper.

We saw evidences of much human need — and great efforts by our missionaries to meet those needs. A partnership with Chile will be beneficial to Tennesseans and to the people of Chile. Our meetings with them and FMB representatives were open and Christlike. — *Clarence Stewart, TBC Partnership Missions director*

Wilson — some coastal churches

Jim and Sandra Pollard and Bill and Terri Baer are the two missionary families presently ministering in the Central Coastal District of Chile — an area of about 200 by 300 miles. The other couple assigned there is Bill and Mary Jo Geiger, currently in Nashville on furlough.

The district is north of Santiago and is in one of the heaviest populated areas of Chile. In it are eight cities of 40,000 or more with no evangelical witness. There are, however, 20 Baptist churches over the entire area.

The Pollards and Baers live in the twin cities of Vina del Mar and Valparaiso. We visited several churches: El Olivar, Forestal Alto, and Playa Ancha.

El Olivar is a new work in the area of Gomez Carreno Church. The community is a large government housing project with more than 4000 units. Jim Pollard has been able to purchase the

Tennessee Baptists meet Chilean Baptists

Bryan — Central Coast Region

It was Saturday morning when missionaries Jim Pollard and Laura Frances Snow accompanied me to see First Baptist Church of Valparaiso — the major port city for Santiago and other central Chile regions.

I was introduced to the pastor who immediately greeted me with the beautiful Chilean greeting — a handshake and kiss on the cheek.

This 84-year-old gentleman who has pastored that church for many years, was born in Palestine and came to know Christ after immigration to Chile as a child.

His gentleness, sensitivity, and enthusiasm combined to communicate why his leadership has been vital in Chile's Central Coast Region.

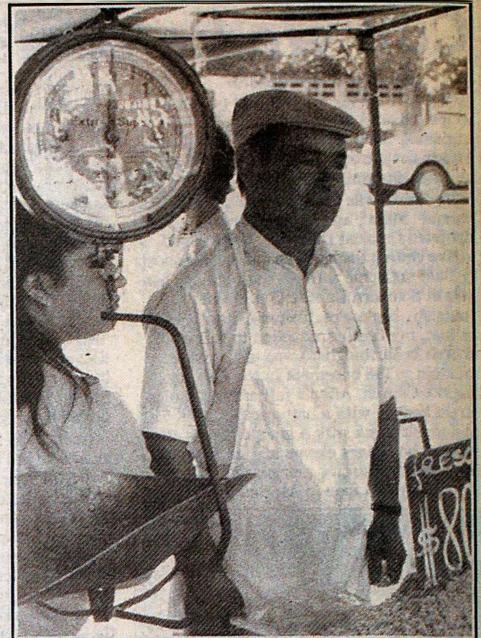
The church was completing a month

of missions emphasis and special giving. One of the Chilean home missionaries had been leading the church in the services all week.

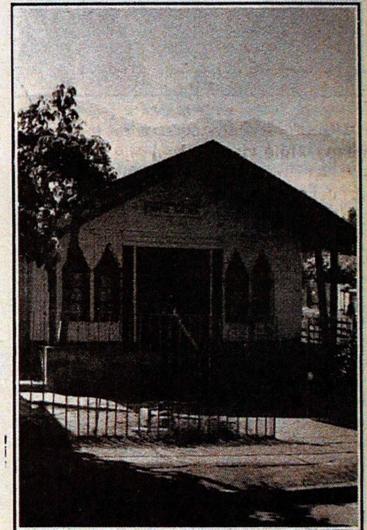
Jim and Sandra Pollard and Bill and Terri Baer are creative in their ministry and competent in their leadership as they join hands with Chilean church leaders. They are trying to reach the twin cities of Vina del Mar and Valparaiso for Christ. The combined population is about one million.

Opportunities for ministry include university students, drug rehabilitation, puppets and clowns, and training for church growth and ministry. — *Katherine Bryan, executive director, Tennessee Baptist Woman's Missionary Union*

Survey team reports on Chile mission



BAPTIST LAYMAN — Juan Harper at work in his booth in a Santiago street market.



POVERTY AND BEAUTY — Contrasted with Andes Mountains in background, the area around Penaloler Church in Santiago shows some evidence of poverty.

largest church site in the entire district — 2105 square meters. A Catholic church has bought and built on an adjacent site.

Forestal Alto is in an expanding community. This mission is small and poor but has a feeding program once a week for children and mothers of the community.

Playa Ancha is a mission of Valparaiso's First Church. Set high on a mountain overlooking the city, it is in a suburb of more than 100,000. The mission has built a first unit that is almost 95 percent complete. The people are trying to secure a pastor.

We later met Roy and Rebecca Worley, natives of Memphis. They are church planters, committed to starting a work in a middle and upper class neighborhood. They are leading a Bible study as a beginning, and they teach English to several couples. — *Bill Wilson, TBC Convention Ministries*



HOPES TO BUILD — Congregation of Pichipelluco Church, Puerto Montt, hopes to build larger on adjacent lot.



SUNDAY MORNING — Worship time at Puerto Varas' Baptist Center.

Big and dry desert — Olive

Tom Vassar, Foreign Mission Board associate area director, and I flew to Antofagasta in Northern Chile. It was the day after our team arrived in Santiago — and we were all "bushed."

That association stretches from the northern border with Peru some 900 miles south. Missionaries Vic and Martha Bowman and Betty Hart serve in Antofagasta.

The northland is desert country. On Saturday we drove more than 300 miles south without seeing grass or a single tree — except for one oasis.

We were privileged to share in the constituting of a new church in Copiapo while visiting Ken and Divina Park. The association now has 22 churches with a new one scheduled to be constituted in December.

In Antofagasta seven churches and missions work through a Baptist center and medical clinic for expectant mothers and small children. There also is a ministry for fitting repaired eyeglasses to those who cannot afford to pay.

One church there feeds about 150 children each noon Monday through Friday. Most church buildings are very small, and in need of expansion and repair. — *Howard Olive, pastor of Monte Vista Church, Maryville*

Givens — climbing the mountain

When I arrived in Temuco, I was impressed at the contrast of cars and a few ox carts — but these two cultures exist side by side. We saw poverty in housing and other ways.

Missionary Francis Smith, soon after our arrival, showed us a church of more than 200 members worshipping in a building badly in need of repair. The same church has a school with kindergarten through 12th grade — with 200 students.

The pastor shared his dream of building a balcony in the church house, expanding the seating to accommodate 600. After lunch that day, missionary Richard Poe, who accompanied me, met with five missionary couples in the home of Francis Smith and his wife Bonnie.

It was good to share with the Smiths, Joe and Heather Dillon, Gene and Jan Huckaby, Mike and Annette Racey, and Grundy and Jean Janes. Later Francis, Richard, and I visited the Bible Institute, which is much like

seminary extension. Mike Racey is the director.

Back at the Smith's home, we met with some Chile Baptist leaders, including Moises Pinto, convention president. We discussed the potential of a partnership.

The next day we visited a home for girls, built with Lottie Moon missions offering funds. We later attended in Villarica a sing-along where six choirs sang. We saw Lake Villarica and the nearby smoking volcano.

On Sunday we attended services at a mission in Pucon. After the program we were invited to the first service in a Mapuchie Indian home — across some streams and up a mountainside. We crossed on ferries and a row boat. All of us (41 in all) then hiked two miles and climbed "straight up" to the small cabin where we worshiped together. Wonderful!

We returned to Pucon for the evening service. — *Don Givens, pastor of St. Elmo Church, Chattanooga*

Bargiol sees opportunities

We visited churches in and around Concepcion soon after being met at the airport by Eddie Graves. I was particularly impressed with the ministries of First Baptist Church of Concepcion. He and his wife Marilyn hosted us.

The next day, Saturday, Eddie showed us some churches at Cabrero and Chillan. At Chillan, we met missionary Bill Dyches. He and his wife Doris hosted James Cecil (FMB) and me for the weekend.

On Sunday we visited two churches in the morning and one in the evening, in Talco. We saw a prospective mission site which the government has made available. The site is in the middle of a low-income housing community, numbering some 40,000 people. A

survey shows that 71 percent of the people needed spiritual help.

I preached Sunday night at First Church, Talco. The congregation was promoting the annual Home Mission Offering. The members brought their gifts in small, gift-wrapped packages.

Later we met Jacolyn Bursmeyer who lives and works in Talco. We also met Richard and Lesa Bray of Memphis on our way back to Santiago. Members of Germantown Church, they have just arrived on the mission field.

We visited with the pastor of First Church Ebenezer in Santiago. He is a prison chaplain. We saw many challenging opportunities for a partnership with Chile. — *Bill Bargiol, director of missions, Big Emory Association*



PLANNING MEETING — At the Baptist Mission office in Santiago, several planning discussions were held. From left, D. L. Lowrie, Katherine Bryan, Tom Vassar, Pablo Frontier (Chilean Baptist Treasurer), and Victor Lyons, missionary. Missionary John Gilbert is seated in background. — Photos by Wm. Fletcher Allen

Tennessee claims Chile missionaries

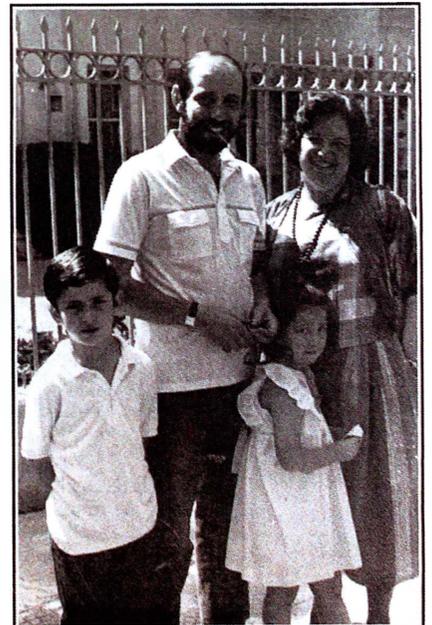
The Chile Baptist Mission — of the Foreign Mission Board — has 92 missionaries assigned to Chile at present.

Ten claim Tennessee as their home state. These include:

Donna Mae Bobby, Valdivia; Richard and Lesa Bray, in language school; Bill and Kate Carter, Santiago; Mary Jo (Mrs. Bill) Geiger, Vina del Mar; Carol Henson, Santiago;

Lucinda (Mrs. Victor) Lyons, Santiago; Richard Poe (and Carol), Santiago; and Roy and Rebecca Worley, Santiago.

Bill Carter is a native of South Carolina — but he and Kate plan to retire in Johnson City in a few months.



SEMINARY LEADERS — Guillermo Catalan, president of seminary in Santiago, with wife Raquela and children. He also is pastor of Nunoa Church.

Knoxville Sunday School teacher honored for teaching 50 years

By *Connie J. Umstead, news assistant*
 Mary Martin, a member of Ball Camp Church, Knoxville, has dedicated her life to the spiritual needs of children.

She was honored Oct. 28 on Sunday School High Attendance Day for teaching children's Sunday School for 50 consecutive years.

Martin was elected as a teacher in 1940, and in 1957 she became director of the children's division, a position which she still holds 33 years later.

"I love it. I just love children," Martin said. "I keep thinking I need to give it up, but as long as the good Lord gives me health, I'll keep teaching."
 William H. Hild Jr., pastor of Ball

Camp Church, commended her dedication.

"In an age of half-hearted and short-term commitment, it is so wonderful to recognize a life of faithfulness to children's Sunday School work as exemplified by Mrs. Martin," he said. "She has been there for 50 years telling little children how much Jesus loves them. Give me 100 more like Mrs. Martin and we would reach half of Knoxville for Christ," he added.

Martin said she doesn't necessarily follow the "rules" when she is working with her first and second graders.

"Our main objective is to prepare children to be saved. I don't encourage them to join the church because little

fellows will do what they are told. They may not understand what goes before church membership. We try to prepare them for the decision they will make later," Martin explained.

Martin has taught at least three generations of Ball Camp Church children.

She taught Geraldine Jennings, who has been her Sunday School assistant for 20 years. Martin also taught Jennings' son, Jeffrey, who is Ball Camp Church's singles department director, and she is now teaching his son.

Martin hasn't limited her church work to Sunday School.

She wrote the history of Ball Camp Church in 1971 and won third place in a national church history writing contest. She knows much of the church's history from experience, since she grew up one half mile from the property and joined the church in 1920.

She started the Sunbeams, now Mission Friends, in 1950, and began a perpetual care program at the church cemetery. However, there is only one other job she has had for 50 consecutive years. She started ordering funeral flowers in 1940 and still orders them for the church today.



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER HONORED — Mary Martin was honored Oct. 28 for teaching Sunday School for 50 consecutive years at Ball Camp Church, Knoxville, where she has been a member for 70 years. Pictured from left are Jeff Lane, minister of education; Vernon Gordon, Sunday School director; Martin; and William H. Hild Jr., pastor.

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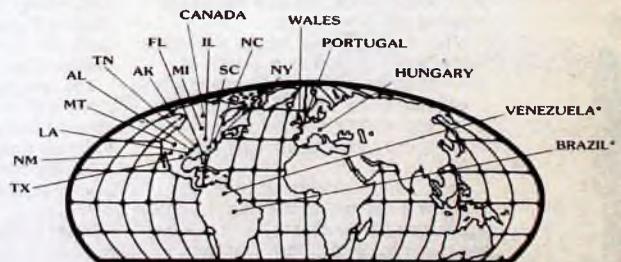
What comes to mind when you think about college students with a little time on their hands?

If you think all students are preoccupied with fraternity parties, fast cars and Saturday night dates, you're not thinking about Union University. Because last year in their "spare time", Union students tried to make the world a better place to live by claiming a little portion of it for the Kingdom.

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- 255 students served on weekend revival teams.
- While digging into their pockets to pay their tuition, students dug a little deeper to raise a record \$42,104 for summer missions.
- 81 students and faculty served on Home Mission Board SPOTS teams in Detroit, Baltimore, Houston, East St. Louis and Americus, Ga.
- 5 students served as missions volunteers through the Foreign Mission Board.

Union students are committed to missions and evangelism. So the next time you think about students with "spare time" on their hands, remember those students over in Jackson — and their commitment to spreading the Gospel.



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TenneScene

... East to west, from Riceville
to Dancyville, through Enville ...

Leadership ...

Mark Hood was welcomed Nov. 4 as the new administrator of Baptist Hospital of Roane County in Rockwood.

First Church, College Grove, recently called Marty Bell as pastor. He is currently assistant professor in the School of Biblical Studies of Belmont College, Nashville.

Grandview Church, Maryville, called Denilio Juan Gorena, Dallas, as minister to youth and singles and associate pastor.

Jamie Davis recently joined the staff of Hickory Hills Church, Mt. Juliet, as minister of youth. He is currently a student at Belmont College, Nashville.

Steve Smith is now serving as pastor of Beulah Church, Mohawk.

Tony Maples has been called as pastor to Valley Grove Church, Ball Camp, Knoxville.

Essary Springs Church, Pocahontas, called Skippy Rowland as pastor, effective Nov. 4.

Melvin Carr has been called as interim pastor to Alder Branch Church, Sevierville.

Clax Gap Church, Harriman, called Gary Hensley as pastor.

Ramble Creek Church, Big Sandy, called W. W. Jaggars as interim pastor.

Billy Garner recently joined the staff of Moore's Chapel Church, Greenfield, as interim pastor.

Warren Barron has been called as youth director to Barron Church, Memphis.

Leclair Church, Memphis, called Buddy Z. Brent as minister of music and education.

Roe Junction Church, Morristown, called Lee Seal as pastor.

Tommy McDonald has accepted the position of youth minister at Lucy Church, Millington.

Andy Millam, a Union University, Jackson, student, is serving as minister of music and youth at Macedonia Church, Ripley.

Leatherwood Church, Waynesboro, called Richard Rains as pastor.

Calvary Church, Elizabethton, called Larry King as part-time minister of youth.

Hillard Goode has been called as interim pastor to Grand Junction Church, Grand Junction.

Riverside Church, Harriman, recently called Mike Pugh as minister of youth and music.

Mike Gay recently became pastor of Burt Church, Woodbury.



PASTOR INSTALLED — Don R. Long, left, pastor of Chamberlain Memorial Church, Chattanooga, was recently installed as a trustee of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission during meetings in Memphis. Long was welcomed by James H. Smith, Brotherhood Commission president.

Wheeler from First Church, Bemis, and Sam McElroy from First Church, Milan, were evangelists.

Churches ...

A fall rally with Kelly Green, an evangelist from Mobile, Ala., will be held Nov. 18-19 at Two Rivers Church, Nashville.

Members of Brunswick Church, Brunswick, will celebrate the church's 70th anniversary and homecoming Nov. 18 with special music in the afternoon.

A new multi-purpose building was dedicated recently by members of First Church, Lexington. Lloyd Elder of the Baptist Sunday School Board delivered the dedication message. The 23,000 square foot facility houses a fellowship hall, educational space, assembly rooms, kitchens, a conference room, and offices.

Members of Eastview Church, Waynesboro, recently dedicated a new building.

The auditorium at Beech Grove Church, Dyersburg, was recently remodeled with new pews, pulpit furniture, carpet, and lighting.

Thank You
The staff and trustees of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation express their deep appreciation for the confidence, support and trust you have placed in our work and ministries. Please continue to remember us in your prayers so that all we do will honor and glorify Him.

Earl H. Wilson

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Revivals ...

Kensington Church, Memphis, will hold revival Nov. 25-28. Jack May will lead the services.

Twenty-five people made professions of faith at a recent revival held at First Church, Lexington. Randy

TeamTalk

By D. L. Lowrie

What is it that makes you laugh and cry in the same evening? What is it that makes you proud and ashamed at the same time? What is it that makes you uncomfortable and joyful at the same time? If you were one of the fortunate ones to attend MissionsFest Oct. 12-13 at Eudora Church, Memphis, you know.

I laughed with our missionaries, and wept with them. I was never prouder to be a Tennessee Baptist than while hearing about the fruits of our cooperative efforts, but I was so ashamed that we have done so little. I am always made uncomfortable when I am confronted with the loss of our world, but I am so glad we have a message to share.

I want to salute the staff of our

Foreign Mission Board. They are a great group of people. Tennessee is a better place because they came to visit.

I want to salute Clarence Stewart, director of our Partnership Missions office. He did splendidly in coordinating our part of the MissionsFest.

Something Keith Parks said in his challenge to the returning missionaries stuck in my heart. He said, "Salvation is free to those who receive it, but it costs those who bring it." We need to be ready to get the good news of God's saving grace to the lost person on the earth. Everyone must hear.

I renewed a commitment to the Lord in the MissionsFest. I am committed to do all that I can to lead Tennessee Baptists to increase their support for missions through the Cooperative Program, and to undergird the work with their prayers.

I am grateful to be a small part in such a heavenly and blessed enterprise.



LOWRIE

Association gatherings . . .

Loudon County Association

Twelve mission volunteers, whose work in the Philippines, Costa Rica, Brazil, and Venezuela was funded by the association, reported. The association accepted Central Church, Loudon, of which Glenn Gregg is pastor, into the fellowship.

Also Mae Preston, First Church, Loudon, was recognized for 46 years of consecutive attendance at associational meetings and Lora Mae Melton, New Providence Church, Loudon, was honored for 40 years of Sunday School attendance without absences.

The gatherings were held Oct. 22-23 at Pleasant Hill and Oral Church, Lenoir City, and First Church, Philadelphia.

Officers were re-elected and include Jimmy Riner, pastor, Corinth Church, Loudon, moderator; Gene Russell, pastor, Union Fork Creek Church, Loudon, assistant moderator; Mrs. Charles Amos, member, Pleasant Hill Church, Lenoir City, treasurer; and Raymond C. Atwood, director of missions, clerk.

McMinn-Meigs Association

Messengers voted to complete the office building and sell the director of missions home. A resolution was passed pledging prayer for Israel and its neighbors because of political unrest. Also the Sunday School ASSISTeam was recognized.

The association met Oct. 22-23 at First Church, Calhoun, Clear Springs

Church, Athens, and New Zion Church, Etowah.

Its officers are Edward Click, pastor, First Church, Riceville, moderator; Richard Tallent, pastor, Union Grove Church, McMinn, assistant moderator; and Bea Gardner, member, First Church, Athens, treasurer/clerk.

New Salem Association of Baptists

Messengers passed a resolution reaffirming the Cooperative Program "as the God-ordained means of financial support in carrying out the Great Commission."

During the Oct. 22-23 meeting at Lan-



TO LEAD BIG HATCHIE — Elected during the fall meeting of Big Hatchie Association to serve as moderator was layman Cliff Sweat, right, Ashport Church. Ira Perkins, left, is director of missions.

— Photo by Connie Davis

caster Church, Lancaster, the association also was honored by the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes for its support.

Those elected as officers were Michael Clower, pastor, Brush Creek Church, Brush Creek, moderator; Tim Miles, pastor, Peyton Creek Church, Carthage, vice moderator; Hilda Ford, member, First Church, Carthage, treasurer; and Erlene White, member, Hickman Church, Hickman, clerk.

Nolachucky Association

During the Oct. 23-24 meeting messengers adopted a resolution sup-

porting the request of the budget and program committee of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board to rescind designation of funds for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. The designation reinstated funds withdrawn at the 1990 Southern Baptist Convention. The Executive Board considers the committee request Nov. 12 before the TBC meeting Nov. 13-15.

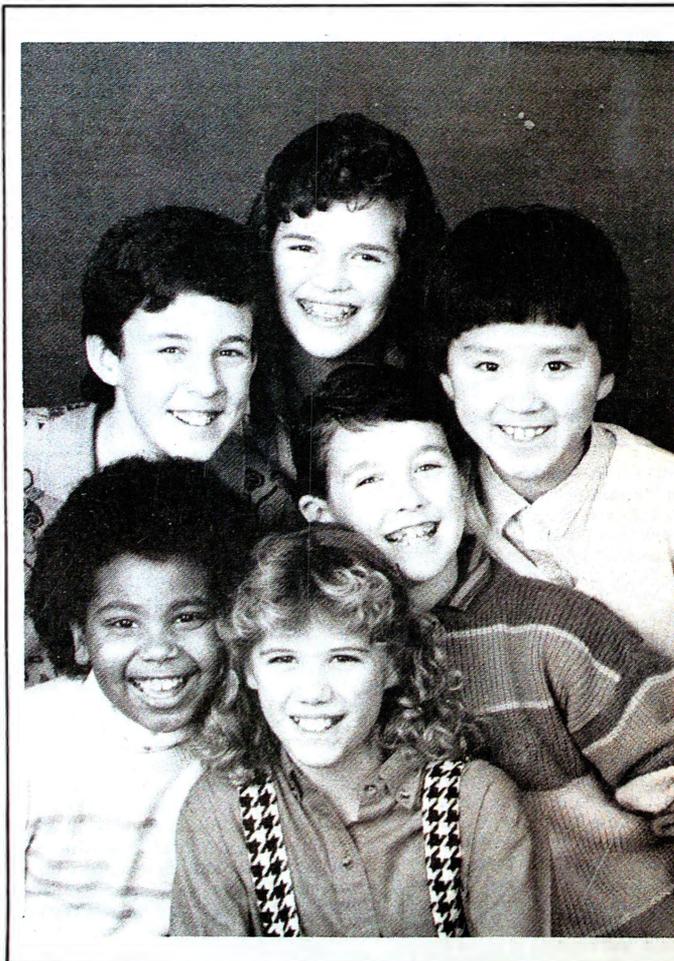
The resolution also identified the Cooperative Program as the best channel for missions monies.

The association, which met at Bethel Church and Westview Church, Morristown, recognized Marjorie Bates after serving 18 years as Woman's Missionary Union director. Joyce Vile,

(Continued on next page)



HAYWOOD ASSOCIATION LEADERS — Officers for 1990-91 elected at the fall meeting of Haywood Association were, from left, Bill Robbins, Allen Church, vice moderator; Hobert Lovelace, Allen Church, historian; Mary Williams, associational secretary, clerk/treasurer; Eddie Mallonee, Poplar Corner Church, moderator; and Charles Pratt, director of missions.



A Century of Care, A Lifetime of Love

Since 1891, Tennessee Baptists have shown their love to the abused and neglected children of our state by supporting the ministries of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes.

We're thankful for the young lives that have been changed these past 99 years. For many boys and girls, the Children's Homes has provided their first home without fear. The threats and beatings of years past are replaced with the environment of stable routines, gentle but firm discipline, and Christian love for one another. As one 13-year-old girl, Casey, wrote about her life at the Children's Homes, "The things that scare me are not here. I know that I am safe and that no will hurt me anymore."

Begun as an orphanage in Nashville, The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes now has nine locations across the state. Besides residential care, today's ministries include foster homes, two Alternative Homes for Unwed Mothers, a Boys Ranch and Independent Living Programs to help our older teenage residents prepare for Life outside the ministry. TBCH is also a state licensed adoption agency.

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Dr. Gerald L. Stow, Executive Director/Treasurer

(Associational gatherings continued) secretary, was honored for 15 years of work.

Officers are Terry Clapp, pastor, Grace Church, Morristown, moderator; Allen Jewett, associate pastor, minister of music and youth, Pleasant View Church, Talbott, vice moderator; Joyce Vile, associational secretary, treasurer/clerk; and Joe Swann, member, Morningside Church, Morristown, assistant treasurer.

Polk County Association

Robbie Rogers was honored for serving four years as Woman's Missionary Union director and Director of Missions W. L. Shipman received his master's of ministry degree earned at the association's Benton Theological Study Center. The center is a part of Coral Ridge Baptist University, Jacksonville, Fla.

Those elected as officers were Douglas Boucher, pastor, Oak Grove Church, Benton, moderator; Kinzel Hooker, pastor, Shiloh Church, Ocoee, assistant moderator; Evelyn Guy, member, First Church, Benton, treasurer/assistant clerk; and Judy Rogers, member, Zion Church, Benton, assistant treasurer/clerk.

Riverside Association

During its meeting Oct. 18-19 at First Church, Livingston and Byrdstown, messengers elected the following officers: Wayne Godsey, pastor, Memorial Church, Livingston, moderator; Don Paris, pastor, First Church, Byrdstown, assistant moderator; Naomi Albright, member, Allons Church, Allons, treasurer; and Don Cobb, pastor, First Church, Livingston, clerk.

Sequatchie Valley Association

Messengers met Oct. 16 at First Church of Gruetli-Laager.

Officers elected were William Fox, pastor, First Church, South Pittsburg, moderator; Bill Cordell, member, First Church, Cartwright, assistant moderator; Ernie Cordell, member, First Church, Cartwright, treasurer; and Nancy Holmes, member, Mount Calvary Church, Whitwell, clerk.

Stone Association

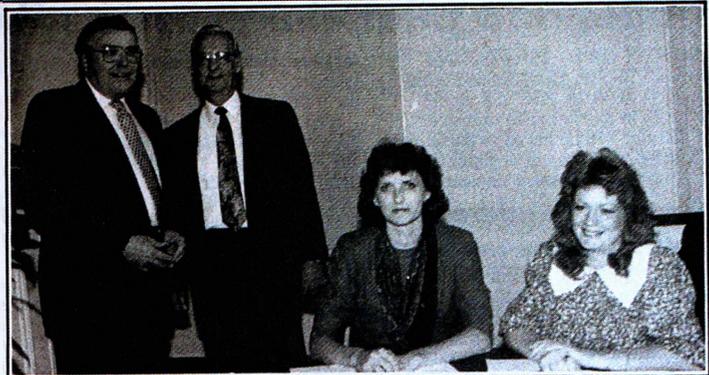
In response to its 125th anniversary, the association adopted a goal to double its churches to total 70 in 25 years. It agreed to urge churches to support the Cooperative Program and planned a World Missions Conference for 1992.

The gathering was held Oct. 18 at Wilhite Church, Cookeville.

Elected as officers were Russell G. Flatt, pastor, First Church, Gainesboro, moderator; Jim McAfee, pastor, Cedar Hill Church, Baxter, assistant moderator; Dorothy Nash, member, Nash Grove Church, Baxter, treasurer; and Anna Lee Wiles, member, Silver Point Church, Silver Point, clerk.

Tennessee Valley Association

During its Oct. 18-19 meeting in Dayton at First Church and Walden's Ridge Church, messengers elected Terry Meeks, pastor, First Church, Spring City, as moderator; Clyde Fitzgerald, pastor, First Church, Graysville, assistant moderator; and Nieta Bernard, member, Smyrna Church, Dayton, treasurer/clerk.



MADISON-CHESTER OFFICERS — Officers elected during the fall meeting of Madison-Chester Association were, from left, Elzey Danley, Malesus Church, vice moderator; Paul Clark, Calvary Church, moderator; Katrina Porch, associational secretary, clerk; and Sydney Fesmire, associational secretary, treasurer. — Photo by Connie Davis



IN MORRISTOWN — Messengers at Nolachucky Association elected officers Oct. 24 at Westview Church in Morristown. From left, Allen Jewett, Pleasant View Church, assistant moderator; Barbara Whitt, Grace Church, assistant clerk; Terry Clapp, Grace Church, moderator; Joyce Vile, Bethel Church, clerk/treasurer; and Director of Missions James Williams.

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—Steven Simpler, Acting Dean, School of Biblical Studies and Ministry

"Belmont College, for me, has been a place where the Christian faith I grew up with truly has become my own. Belmont has challenged, guided, and aided me in all aspects of life. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn and grow here."

—Kelly Copas, senior, Religion major Hendersonville, TN



"Each of my professors is, or has been, a Baptist church pastor. I believe their pastoral experience allows each professor to interact in a very personal way with students and relate the material being studied directly to each student's spiritual and church life."

—Bill Treadway, freshman 1990 Madden Scholar Harrogate, TN

"When I felt the call to enter the ministry, I knew that it would be a total life-changing experience. My wife and I had weathered many years in the country music business, and I needed much support in my decision.

The staff and professors in the School of Biblical Studies and Ministry were the most helpful, caring people I had ever met. Every day at Belmont reaffirms the fact that my call was truly from God. The biblical foundation I'm obtaining will help me in every phase of my ministry."

—Randy Bethune, sophomore Religion major Hermitage, TN



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Model and pilot churches sought for marketplace ministries

BOSTON (BP)— Three hundred Southern Baptist churches are being sought to serve as pilot and model churches in marketplace ministries.

Churches will be asked to participate in a three-year project beginning June 30, 1991. They will serve as examples

Chapman to address Shelby County pastors

Morris Chapman, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of First Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, will speak to the Pastors' Conference of Shelby County Association Nov. 26.

According to Wayne Allen, president of the conference, the 12:30 meeting at Highland Heights Church, Memphis, will be preceded by lunch at 11:45.

Allen said Tennessee Baptist pastors and other church staff members are invited to the meeting. There will be a dialogue session after Chapman speaks.

for other churches wanting to develop lay ministries that take the Gospel into the marketplace.

Reid Hardin, director of the Home Mission Board's lay evangelism department, said the program will "affirm ministries already taking place and help other churches intentionally plan to help people minister."

Pilot churches will use the HMB's "Church Launch Guide" as a basis for lay-led marketplace ministries. Model churches will establish their own strategies for lay ministry.

The project was introduced during the national Laos in Marketplace Evangelism conference Nov. 1-4 in Boston.

James Appleby is pastor of Calvary Church in Renton, Wash., a model church in the Seattle area. He said the church emphasizes providing spiritual growth and relational support for members, then helping them minister in their marketplace according to their

gifts.

As an example, Appleby told of a worker at a nearby Boeing plant who had a crisis with his 21-year-old son. The man, who had not been to church in more than 30 years, turned to one of his co-workers for help. The co-worker had shared his faith on the job, and he directed the man to church.

Single adults at Appleby's church embraced the man's son. A layman went to visit the family with the pastor, and the layman led the son and his parents to accept Christ. The layman later helped the parents lead their daughter to make a profession of faith.

Last year the son was killed in an automobile accident. "What if someone in the marketplace had not lived and shared his faith at work?" Appleby asked.

Information about being a pilot or

model church or developing lay ministries is available from the HMB's lay evangelism department, 1350 Spring Street NW, Atlanta, Ga. 30367.

Westview Church calls Woodburn as pastor

Westview Church, Chattanooga, recently called Herschel Woodburn as pastor

Woodburn retired in July from the pastor of Silverdale Church, Chattanooga, where he served for 14 years. He also served as pastor of First Church, Dover; Pleasant View Church, Clarksville; and Broadmoor Church, Nashville.

In addition, he did pioneer mission work in Dayton for four years.

Ordained in 1950 in Kentucky, Woodburn and his wife, Ama, have three grown children.

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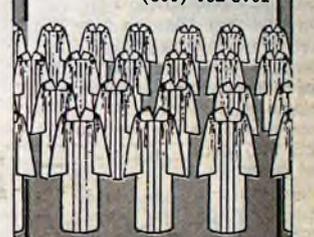
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Forgiveness in Jesus' mission

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

Have you ever sought to share the plan of salvation with someone only to have him or her refuse? I have witnessed this, and one occasion stands out.

After sharing with a man, the time came for him to receive Christ as Savior. He, with tears in his eyes, said, "Preacher, I prevented my boy from trusting Christ as his Savior, I said he was too young. My boy turned to a life of crime and was killed in an ambush with the law. He died and I know he went to hell. I could never permit myself to accept Christ, when I prevented my son from doing so. I made a commitment, upon my son's death, that I would see him in hell. I know I need Christ, but so did my son. I will one day die and go to hell. It's too late for me."



LUNSFORD

This man died a horrible death, very violent and severe, but he kept the vow he had made to his son. As far as anyone knows, he never received Christ as his Savior. Why would someone choose to ignore the forgiveness in Jesus' mission?

Jesus' ministry revealed: Luke 7:1-36
We can take a look at our world, our community, our churches, and discover pain is real. It is evident all around us, just as it was evident in this passage of Scripture.

In the first section of this chapter, we find Jesus dealing with a dying servant, a grieving widow, a perplexed prophet, and a repentant sinner. He helped them all.

It is important to note, Jesus helped them because compassion does not measure: it ministers! This often is a strike against churches. "We can't help that family in need, they are not members of this church." It was compassion, not justice, that motivated the Great Physician who came "not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

ance."

A sinful woman: Luke 7:36-50
People loved to gather around banquet halls to listen to conversations and "sneak a peek" at those in attendance. Those not invited to the banquet could even come to the banquet hall and talk to the guests. This is why this woman was in Simon's home and she dealt with Jesus as she did.

A Jewish rabbi would not have dared to speak to such a woman of "ill repute." A woman of her type would not have been welcomed in Simon's home.

Consider this woman. She admitted she was a sinner, but gave evidence she was repentant. It is believed Jesus, prior to this event, issued His call to, "Come unto me . . . and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28-30). Perhaps this was when she was saved and trusted Christ as her Savior.

Consider Simon. His reaction was one of embarrassment. "Jesus would allow this woman to anoint His feet! He certainly, must be a fraud."

Simon was blind. He could not see himself as a sinner. The woman's sins were known. Simon's were concealed to everyone but God.

Forgiveness is a gift of God's grace. The woman accepted the offer of salvation and expressed her love openly. Simon rejected that offer and remained unforgiven.

BIBLE BOOK

November 18 Lesson

Basic Passage: Luke 7:1-50

Conclusion

Simon was blind to the woman and himself. He saw her past. Jesus saw her future. She exercised her choice, as did Simon.

Many have never accepted the pardon Jesus desires to grant for the cleansing of sins. Why? Perhaps because the church is not sharing the Gospel like we should. Perhaps in the life of the church we have deemed everything but evangelism as a priority. Perhaps, like Simon, people are blind and just do not care. If you have never accepted God's pardon, now is the time to believe and be saved.

Jeremiah and Jehoiakim

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

A wall was once being constructed to enclose a large estate in a populous South American city. The crew of workmen were supervised by a rough-living, foul-mouthed man who refused to listen to any talk of religion or God. One day, a missionary came by where the men were working and attempted to talk with them about Jesus. He brought with him several Bibles to distribute to the workmen. The gruff foreman was handed one of the Bibles which he took without comment.



PETERSON

Before the day was over, the man took the new Bible and sealed it up in the wall he was building. Smiling, he said to himself, "This is one Bible that will never be used."

Many years later, reconstruction called for the old wall of the great estate to be removed. A worker was demolishing the wall with a sledge hammer when he spotted an object in the wall. Removing the book, he discovered the Bible that had been sealed there years ago. He took the Bible home and began reading it with a hunger to know its message of hope and truth. In only a few days, he joyously invited Jesus into his life and before long, his entire family had come to experience salvation through the Bible that had been hidden for so long. God's Word had endured and accomplished its purpose in spite of the efforts of foolish and evil men.

Our lesson this week reminds us that God's Word will always endure. No matter what the world may do to try to hinder or prevent its message, the Scripture will stand the test and even-

tually shine forth as God's revealed truth.

Jeremiah's instruction to write (36:1-8)
Jeremiah had been prohibited to speak publicly to the people of Jerusalem because of his previous

CONVENTION UNIFORM

November 18 Lesson

Basic Passage: Jeremiah 36

messages which had stirred the people to near riot. The prophet was now commanded by God to commit the message of warning on a scroll and present it to the people for their hearing.

In response to his divine command, Jeremiah secured the services of Baruch who recorded what the prophet dictated. The purpose for the warning was to call Judah back to God before judgement fell. Even at this late date, God's message was one of grace and mercy. Its purpose was redemptive in nature, inviting Judah to experience God's forgiveness instead of His wrath.

Jehoiakim's response (36:9-26)
Baruch went to the temple and read

the written Word of God to the worshippers gathered there. When word reached King Jehoiakim, he demanded to hear the message Jeremiah had written. Seated before a fire, he listened to God's warning. As a portion was read, the king cut that section off and threw it into the fire, until the entire scroll was destroyed.

God's enduring Word (36:27-32)
God called immediately for a second scroll to be written. This would be like the first, but with some necessary additions regarding the certain destruction of the impious king. Whereas the first scroll carried the message of hope and forgiveness, now the message was one recounting the foolishness of rejecting God's warnings and His offers of mercy.

Conclusion

God always has the last word and nowhere else does Scripture reveal so clearly a picture than in this record of Jeremiah. Throughout history, God reveals that He is able to preserve His Word against all who seek to destroy it. It will always be His enduring Word.

Responding to the Son

The words and actions of Jesus reveal His authority as God's Son, but we respond to Him in many ways. This is the central Bible truth of this lesson.

People in today's world reject Jesus as did some of those who met Him when He was on earth. Some responded to Him in loving obedience, some were "summer soldiers," following Him when the going was easy — but often deserting Him for the world. People still respond in similar ways.

Do we really know Him well enough to be committed to following Him?

Teachers know the importance of visual aids. One of my daughters teaches in the public schools. A valuable tool in teaching for her is the use of visual aids — objects the pupils can see and touch.

Such aids help gain the attention of the pupil — making him or her more a learner than pupil. Hearing and seeing a truth helps in remembering. The miracle of the water being changed into wedding wine caught the interest of

Jesus' followers. Verse 11 says Jesus "manifested forth His glory." So He did more than relieve an embarrassing situation. He drew attention to His power as God's Son. Thus, the disciples "believed on Him."

Verses 15-25 teach of Jesus' cleansing the Temple.

He went to Jerusalem for the annual Passover celebration. Many Jewish families traveled to the city for the week-long festival that commemorates the Exodus from slavery of the Jews in Egypt.

LIFE AND WORK

November 18 Lesson

Basic Passage: John 2:1-25

Money-changers were present because only Jewish money could be used to pay the required tax for upkeep of the Temple. So foreign coins had to be converted into local currency. Also, many pilgrims waited to buy animals for sacrifice upon arriving at

the Temple.

Entering the Temple, Jesus encountered corruption and greed as moneychangers charged extravagant fees for changing money. And the animal vendors took advantage of poor people. Jesus was shocked and angry.

He demonstrated His authority by braiding a whip and lashing the profiteers from the Temple. He called it "My Father's house" (v. 16), indicating His relationship to God.

It is likely that those who witnessed this scene were stunned as Jesus revealed His power and dynamic presence. Even as we read these verses, we can feel a hush and then murmuring from the onlookers. But the disciples never forgot that drama!

They recalled (v. 17) the words from Psalm 69:9, and recognized Jesus' authority.

Then Jesus faced an angry group of Jewish authorities. Perhaps they had profited from the shady trading in the Temple. To their audacious question (v. 18), Jesus boldly claimed His ability and power to be raised from the dead — a more awesome show of power than rebuilding the Temple.

Though the Jewish leaders were skeptical (v. 20), John reminds us (v. 21) that Jesus referred to His death and resurrection.

Others responded to Jesus superficially during that Passover experience (vv. 23-25). He continued to perform miracles (v. 23). But people were not willing to place their trust in Him. They wanted a miracle worker who would fit their mold of what the Messiah would be. Jesus made it clear (v. 24) that He wanted more than superficial belief (v. 24). He did not entrust Himself to those He knew were not true believers. He "knew what was in man" (v. 25). We must seek to win people to Christ not for numbers, but for souls.

We learn that some accepted Jesus with real faith (v. 22). The disciples, at His death and resurrection, recalled what Jesus had said. They had accepted Him in faith. They were unlike some who want a miracle every minute — or who are summer soldiers. They believed Him, and His words. Jesus is Lord. His words and deeds prove His authority. — Wm. Fletcher Allen

(BP) BRIEFLY

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

CLear-TV ends boycott of Burger King over ads

NASHVILLE — The executive committee of Christian Leaders for Responsible Television has voted unanimously to end early, effective Nov. 1, a one-year boycott of Burger King, citing the fast-food chain's willingness to be more selective in its sponsorship of television shows featuring sex, violence, profanity, and anti-Christian bigotry.

The organization made the decision to end the boycott after Burger King announced plans to begin a special national advertising effort in support of traditional values on television. On Sunday, Oct. 28, the fast-food chain began running ads in daily newspapers throughout the country that affirm traditional family values.

The half-page ad reads: "An Open Letter to the American People: Burger King wishes to go on record as supporting traditional American values on television, especially the importance of the family. We believe the American people desire television programs that reflect the values they are trying to instill in their children. We pledge to support such programs with our advertising dollars."

CLear-TV called the boycott against Burger King after its regular Spring 1990 monitoring period showed the fast-food restaurant chain helped sponsor two-thirds more sex, violence, and profanity than the average advertiser. According to CLear-TV statistics, Burger King helped sponsor 18.85 incidents of sex, violence, and profanity with every 30-second commercial.

Richard D. Land, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, is a member of CLear-TV's executive committee, which is composed of religious leaders from a variety of Christian denominations. After the vote to end the boycott, Land said, "I am delighted that Burger King and CLear-TV were able to resolve this situation so expeditiously. I am extremely pleased at Burger King's response and their energetic efforts to be pro-active in promoting wholesome family values in television entertainment."

HMB appoints task force for 1996 Atlanta Olympics

ATLANTA — A special task force to coordinate ministries during the 1996 summer Olympics in Atlanta has been appointed by Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis.

In September, the International Olympic Committee awarded the 1996 games to Atlanta, the hometown of Southern Baptists' Home Mission Board. For two weeks during that summer, Atlanta will become the temporary home to 625,000 international visitors.

Bill Lee, director of the HMB's special ministries department, will chair the task force. Bobby Sunderland, special assistant for promotion and project development in the evangelism section, will serve as vice chairman. Ten other HMB staffers representing a wide spectrum of expertise will serve on the task force.

Lewis said the HMB task force will coordinate efforts with the Georgia Baptist Convention. The HMB has sponsored ministries at previous Olympics, most recently at the 1988 winter Olympics in Calgary, Canada, and the 1984 summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Colorado convention increases CP contributions

DURANGO, Colo. — Messengers to the Colorado Baptist General Convention annual meeting voted to increase their Cooperative Program unified budget by one-half percent over last year's contributions of 28 percent. The budget for the 1990-91 fiscal year is \$2,480,000.

Lewis Adkinson, pastor of Circle Drive Church, Colorado Springs, was re-elected convention president. A total of 290 messengers registered for this year's meeting, making it the largest meeting in the past five years.

Peace, harmony, enthusiasm characterize ISBF annual meeting

WEST DES MOINES, Iowa — Messengers to the Iowa Southern Baptist Fellowship elected a new president, passed a record \$1 million budget, and passed resolutions on prayer and sanctity of life during their 19th annual meeting Oct. 19-20. In addition to 126 messengers, 78 visitors attended the meeting.

Berry Stewart, pastor of Albia Road, Ottumwa, was elected president of the fellowship. Elected as vice president was Jerry Elmore, a layman from University Church, Iowa City. Eugene Linn, pastor of Sioux Rapids Church, Sioux Rapids was re-elected recording secretary.

For the first time in the history of the fellowship the approved budget exceeded \$1 million. A budget of \$1,002,155 was approved unanimously upon recommendation of the administrative committee without debate. The budget includes \$38,515 for world missions through the Cooperative Program unified budget. This represents 18 percent of proposed Cooperative Program budget, an increase of one percent over last year.

The resolution on the sanctity of life, after affirming that man is created in God's image, that Scriptural evidence and personal experience affirm God's love for man, and that the laws of country and state "disregard the sanctity of preborn life," stated that "the Iowa Southern Baptist Fellowship stands with the Southern Baptist Convention in honoring God's wisdom in creating each human life both born and preborn."

The resolution on prayer for the world said that, because of the lostness of the world and the threat of war and because of the power of Christ, "we commit ourselves anew to the work of intercessory prayer."

Romanian Baptist churches to begin orphanages

MCLEAN, Va. — Two weeks after leaders of the Baptist World Alliance visited Romania and asked the government for permission to open orphanages there, approval has been granted. Adrian Severin, deputy prime minister of

Romania, said during a visit with BWA General Secretary Denton Lotz and Evangelical Alliance President Paul Negrut, there was no hindrance for Baptists and other Christians to open orphanages.

Severin also said work could be done in other social services, such as homes for the elderly. Lotz told Severin that people all around the world had great interest in the orphans of Romania and that "Baptists and other Christians are concerned about being socially involved in all countries of the world, including Romania."

Already, with the help of Swedish Christians, the First Church of Oradea has purchased property for the first orphanage. Through Baptist World Aid, the relief arm of the BWA, a special fund has been set up to help Romanian orphanages, and there are doctors and nurses who are ready to assist.

Evangelical leaders meet with President

WASHINGTON — A group of 18 evangelical leaders, including Southern Baptist Convention President Morris Chapman and Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission Executive Director Richard Land, met with President George Bush Oct. 30 to express concern about the Bush administration's recent stands on key moral issues.

The meeting at the White House was held in response to requests from Land and Robert Dugan, director of the National Association of Evangelicals' Office of Public Affairs. Participants in the meeting told Bush evangelicals are disappointed by recent administration actions and want greater sensitivity to their values.

"It was better than I had expected, but worse than I had hoped," Land said. "The President didn't agree to do everything we wanted. We were given assurances that he would consider our requests. We did get to articulate our concerns and the heart behind those concerns. We told him that there is serious erosion in his support among evangelicals. We shared with him the 'flash points' that have caused disappointment, confusion, and concern."

Land said he told Bush of three points of concern: Invitations to homosexual rights activists to attend bill-signing ceremonies at the White House; the administration's failure to seek restrictions on controversial grants given by the National Endowment for the Arts; and the need for stronger and more visible leadership from the president on the abortion issue.

"I think probably it was the most frank exchange with the president of the United States in my 12 years in Washington, D.C., in terms of laying out some moral issues that were critical for the nation as well as for his relationship to the evangelical community," Dugan said.

Moscow choir seeks to build bridges

NASHVILLE — Replacing "enemy images" with friendships between Christian brothers and sisters who happen to live in the United States and the Soviet Union — that is the purpose of the 23-day U.S. tour of the Logos Choir of the Moscow Church.

Jointly sponsored by the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America and New Call to Peacemaking, the three-week tour includes stops in nine states and Washington. In Nashville, the 42-member choir and orchestra performed in Nov. 2 chapel services at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and the Southern Baptist Convention building. They also performed Nov. 1 at Belmont Heights Church, Nashville.

"We want to correct misconceptions, misunderstandings, and mistrust between our countries," said Eugene Rouzski, associate director of the international department of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the Soviet Union. "We came with love, to build bridges and destroy enemy images between us. This is our hope, that the Lord will give us mutual understanding," said Rouzski.

The Sunday School Board chapel service concluded with the choir and employees singing "Blessed Assurance" and "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" together in Russian and English. Bill Anderson, editor of The Church Musician, gave a selection of music produced by the board to Evgeni Goncharenko, director of the choir and a composer/arranger.

"We hope our relationships will not stop with our concerts here," said Goncharenko. "We hope for future cooperation between our churches." He cited the possibility of regular exchanges of Christian music groups between Baptists of the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Established in 1986, the choir made its first appearance outside the Soviet Union that year at the International Conference of Itinerant Evangelists in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The choir sings in twice weekly services at the Moscow Church in addition to regular appearances at evangelistic crusades and in hospitals and prisons.

Southwestern Seminary officials break ground for Bowld Library

FORT WORTH, Texas — Officials at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, with help from philanthropist Kathryn Sullivan Bowld, broke ground for a new \$2.5 million music library to be built at the school.

The Kathryn Sullivan Bowld Music Library is being named for Bowld, a music graduate from the Fort Worth, Texas, seminary. She first came to Southwestern in 1930 to study music and wanted to be an "evangelistic pianist."

When the 30,000 square-foot building is completed, Southwestern will have one of the most up-to-date music libraries in the United States. The library will provide storage for printed and recorded music, as well as reference materials. There will be seminary rooms, a piano and browsing room, master and doctoral carrels, reading areas, listening areas, and necessary support space.

The library is the first phase in a three-phase renovation and construction program. Second phase in the project will be the complete renovation of Cowden Hall and the last phase will be the addition of a music education facility.